

Chapter 65

Season 2010

President- J.B.Shackleton

Chairman- Warren Butterworth

Hon Secretary- Tessa Pike, Hon Treasurer- R.Bradley

Captain 1st X1- J.Schofield

Captain 2nd X1- J.Viveash

Captain 3rd X1- M.Coles

Captain 4th X1- K.Schofield

Peter Thomas



1935-2010

It is with deep regret that Abergavenny CC announces the death of Peter Thomas aged 74 years. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth and his two daughters Catrin and Rhian.

Peter was born in Maesteg into a cricketing family, his father opened the batting for Maesteg Town in the old South Wales League he also captained the team for a number of years until his retirement in 1938. Peters brother played for Bangor, Trojans of Southampton and Camden in Cambridge he opened the bowling for Cambridgeshire whilst resident there in the fifties. Peter himself played for Bala Cricket Club and was chosen to represent Merioneth in a North Wales Counties competition. Brought up in the Bridgend area and attended Bridgend Grammar School, he continued his education at University College of Wales Aberystwyth . Peter qualified as a teacher and later became a Schools Inspector based in The Welsh Office in Cardiff.

He moved to live in Abergavenny in 1968 work commitments prevented him playing for the club until 1973. He played for the club at many levels and did play some first team cricket in the great 1975 league winning side. His finest hour was his maiden century (101*) for the club against Colwall in 1977. He was Honorary Secretary from 1978 – 1982 and until the AGM of 2009 was a very popular and highly regarded 200 Club Secretary having served in that office for 25 years since 1985. Making his final draw as 200 Club Secretary at the 2009 AGM was his final contribution to a club he had served for 37 years



Pictured with Elizabeth at the 150th Anniversary Dinner

Abergavenny are singing in the rain

THE new look Division One of the Thomas, Carroll Glamorgan and Monmouthshire League started with wins for Abergavenny, Blackwood and Bridgend Town.

Abergavenny entertained Pentyrch and Mike Barber scored a fine 91 in the Pentyrch total of 220-7. A rain delay meant that Abergavenny had to get 176 in 30 overs and they made it in 28 thanks to a blistering 50 by Greg Fury and 51 by Andrew Jones.

Blackwood were put in at home to Penarth and opener Chris Rogers set the tone for the inning with a fine 79 but the fireworks came from Rob Birch who cracked three sixes and seven fours in a quickfire 57. Huw Wilcox got an unbeaten 52 in the home total of 244-8.

Penarth struggled from the start and only Matt Thomas

(30no) offered much resistance as they were bowled out for 136.

Chepstow scored 227-7 in their 50 overs at Tondy with Jason Dobbie scoring 67. Nic Miles took 4-33.

Ryan Owen made 43 when Tondy batted but a middle order collapse meant that Tim Woolls (36no) and Jamie Williamson (31no) had to bat steadily to get a draw.

The game at Croesyceiliog was abandoned, while Panteg didn't get the start they wanted, losing by three wickets at much fancied Bridgend Town.

Panteg scored 175-6 with Barney Worrad top scoring on 52. Former Sully players David Goodway (62) and former Glamorgan quickie Andrew Davies (61) paced the Bridgend reply to perfection with the winning runs coming with two balls to spare.

Final Ball (Friendly) Victory

Thirteen needed off the final over, with Abergavenny's opening bowlers at the crease two fours, a brilliant save on the boundary to prevent a third, then the next ball through the legs of the same fielder and a scrambled 1 off the last ball earned a victory for the home side over Premier League side Ynysygerwyn. A great game a great finish.

Earlier the away side had got away to a fine start scoring at a run a ball but a fine catch by Alex Denning off Nathan Byrne and the introduction of the spinners Andy Timpson and Mike Baillon restrained the scoring rate. G. Atkins riding his luck and aided by some lack lustre fielding reached 92 and the batting side had reached 219-5 at the end of their 40 overs.

Abergavenny were given an excellent start by team captain Ryland Wallace and Mike Baillon, each matching each other run for run and 92 runs were on the board when Wallace was LBW for 40. Nick Kinman 23 helped add 50 for the 3rd wicket and whilst wickets fell at the other end Baillon batted majestically on reaching 98 before being bowled attempting to drive the leg spinner through the offside. Alex Denning took over the run chase and with the help of Byrne drove the home side to victory.

An enjoyable game, with the 'volcano' Blorengge smoking in the background but plenty of planes in the sky.

Furious Assault Sets Up First League Win Of The Season

Abergavenny got their season off to a great start with a 5 wicket win against Pentyrch on the opening day of the season.

On a wet day, Abergavenny won the toss and decided to bowl first in a game initially reduced to 45 overs a side, gambling on a rain reduced second innings playing into their hands later on. They got off to a steady start as Ryan Watkins bowled tightly first up and picked up the wicket of Holmes for 2. The first part of the innings ebbed and flowed as Abergavenny picked up 2 further wickets through Chris Hartland and Watkins, while for Pentyrch, opener Barber looked solid and kept the runs coming at a good rate. The turning point came when Alex Denning was introduced into the attack and removed opposition skipper Wadlan for 22, just as he was looking dangerous. At that point Pentyrch were well set to kick on and finish with a big score.

However, some excellent disciplined bowling from Denning, Byrne, Hartland and Watkins kept a lid on the scoring and Pentyrch finished on 220-7 off their 45 overs.

With the tea interval came the showers, and a further reduction in play. Fortunately the rain relented just enough for the minimum 30 overs to be played. With the league now having introduced the fairer Duckworth/Lewis method, Abergavenny's task was pushed from 5 runs an over off 45 overs, to 6 runs an over required from 30. Faced with this, Aber sent Greg Fury in to open with Andrew Jones to get the innings off to a flyer. They tore the Pentrych bowling apart, reaching 93 in the 10th over before Jones was dismissed for a rollicking 51 off just 42 balls, his innings ended by a brilliant catch from Wadlan. Fury continued at an even faster pace, smashing 7 fours and 4 sixes on his way to 73 off just 46 balls. Abergavenny were well set at 130-2 in the 13th over, and the run rate understandably slowed a little with the required run rate reduced to just 2 an over. However, the loss of Watkins (7), Fury, James Schofield (3) and Gavin Heritage (25) made the finish a little more edgy than it could have been, and it was left to Chris Hartland, who toyed with his teammates emotions by leaving and blocking the first few balls, before releasing the pressure with a four to win the game in company with his brother Dan.

An excellent start to the season from Aber, who will be looking to challenge strongly this year in the revamped league. Next up is a trip to Sudbrook, who just missed the cut to make it into the Swalec Premier League last year

Two From Two As Abergavenny Continue Fine Form

Abergavenny 1st XI made it two wins from two games beating a youthful Croesyceiliog side by 7 wickets at Avenue Rd. They have begun the season strongly, after also being in a great position last week against Sudbrook before the rains intervened.

Croesy won the toss and chose to bat first on a good track with a tinge of green. Abergavenny's bowlers were a little off-line, and, after an early breakthrough as Ryan Watkins removed opener Herring to a smart catch behind by Greg Fury, Croesy rollicked along at more than 5 runs an over with the help of a large number of wides, dropped catches, and some lusty blows from Croesy's other opener Jones. The game changed with the introduction of the evergreen Andy Timpson, who, after turning the first ball, settled into his cricketing form of Chinese water torture and tied the batsmen down completely, finishing his 10 over stint with 3-21. With Ryan Jones producing a wicket in his first over, and also bowling an extremely miserly 5 over spell, Abergavenny were now right on top, and it became a question of when they could pick up maximum bowling points. Once Timpson had bowled out, Craig Barnsley came on to bowl a nagging length, getting some lovely movement through the air. He too picked up 3 wickets in a 7 over spell costing 22 runs. After a cautious period of containment by Abergavenny, Watkins was then reintroduced to go for the jugular, and bowled an aggressive 5 over spell, demonstrating a masterly control of swing, and returning figures of 3-11 in his second stint to wrap up the innings with Barnsley as Croesyceiliog finished on 148.

Abergavenny's reply was dominated once again by Greg Fury, who continued his excellent early season form, with his third consecutive score of 60 or more, all made at better than a run a ball. After James Schofield departed early for 10, misjudging a ball and chopping on, Watkins entered, and carefully played himself in while Fury continued the attack. The partnership progressed to 66 before Watkins sliced one up in the air to be caught, having made 30. Fury followed shortly after for 62 and it was left to Dan Hartland to continue his run of not having been dismissed so far this season, to see Abergavenny home in the company of the ever-reliable Gavin Heritage, who made an assured 29 not out.

Another good win for Aber, who nevertheless have areas for improvement - in particular the number of wides and the dropped catches - and will look to continue the momentum next week as they face a trip to Tondur

Table-topping Abergavenny easily dispose of Tondur

HIGH scores were the order of the day in the Thomas, Carroll Glamorgan and Monmouthshire League although some teams were affected by the Cardiff City Wembley exodus.

Division One table-toppers Abergavenny had an easy win over struggling Tondur at Bryn Road, amassing 280 all out in which Greg Fury and ex-Glamorgan star Ryan Watkins both scored 83, Gavin Heritage 44 and Chris Hartford 37. Youngster Craig Townsend scored 29 on his first team debut but Tondur collapsed to 117 all out.

Chepstow maintained their unbeaten start at Penttyrch who decided to go in first and 16-year-old opening bat Greg Holmes scored a sparkling 104.

Fortunately for Chepstow, the best of the rest were Mike Grossett (30) and Bashir Malik (24) and Penttyrch's total of 200 all out in 48 overs was certainly within Chepstow's range.

Carwyn James gave Chepstow a positive start with 43 before Alex Winter (32), Malith Madurasinghe (30) and Dave Bennett (30) all chipped in and led Chepstow to a five wicket victory in the 39th

over.

Croesyceiliog jumped off the bottom of the table with a win over Blackwood.

Blackwood made a useful 267 all out thanks mainly to Matthew Evans (76), Simon Davies (53) and Neil Reardon (47). Rhys Jones finished with 4-50 off 10 overs for Croesy and Stuart Roden 2-42 off 10.

Roden then scored 78, Cameron Herring got 47 and Ieuan Wakefield 28 as Croesy chased down the target for the loss of seven wickets. Reardon took 2-37 off 10 overs for Blackwood.

Panteg amassed a massive 354-4 going in first after winning the toss at Penarth.

Mohammed Ali Bukari made a superb 117, Ian Bird 92 and Actar Baloch 65.

Penarth were then contained to 199 all out in which Andrew Sims top scored with 45 and Chris White took 4-33 for Panteg.

Sudbrook lost their unbeaten tag to Bridgend Town at the Deepweir after failing to get enough runs when they opted to have first knock.

Mark O'Leary made 50 not out to save the innings which ended on

148 and next best scorer was extras with 28.

Ex-Glamorgan quickie Andrew Davies polished off the tail for his 3-29 while Adam Weaver got top order batsmen in his 3-29 and player coach Mike Jones had 2-20.

Grant Humphries set Bridgend on the road to victory with 30, James Steptoe got 24 and new father Richard Morgan was 23 not out when Bridgend reached 150-6 in the 36th over.

Rob Thorne took 2-18 for Sudbrook, John Lewis 2-25 and Dean Wallace 2-29.



Opening Bat Greg Fury on his way to 83 v Tondur





Top-Player/Coach Ryan Watkins (83)
 Middle- Craig Barnsley and Chris Hartland
 Bottom- The Skipper James Schofield looks on as the team amass 280



Tondur –Pavilion

A very successful weekend for the club with all three teams winning(Beavers without a game)The first team amassed 280 at Tondy with leading scorer Greg Fury and Ryan Watkins each scoring 83 runs and Chris Hartland marshalling the lower order with a hard hit 33.Tondy were dismissed for 117 with spinners Mike Baillon 4-20 and Andy Timpson 2-11polishing off the tail .We are now level on points with Chepstow at the top of the table.

The seconds outdid the firsts by scoring 309-3 with captain Johnathan Viveash carrying his bat for 130 and Nick Kinman just failing to score successive hundreds when he was bowled for 97.Owain Bradley took the bowling honours with 3-37 backed up by Nathan Byrne and Mike Devoy who each took 2 wickets.

Crickhowell beat tough opponents Garnons in a game which continually see-sawed by 14 runs. Nick Francis was the leading scorer with 41 and he also took 2 wickets. Captain Mark Coles followed his 23 with 2 wickets and brother Andrew claimed 3-38 to round off an excellent game of cricket.

3rd Time's A Charm For The Seconds

Abergavenny 2's claimed their first win of the season with a relatively easy win at Avenue Road against Tondy 2nds. On a glorious day, Skipper John Viveash lost the toss and opposition captain Clive Holmes asked the Beavers to have a bat.

Veteran batsman Nick Kinman, fresh from his 102 not out for the 4ths last week, scored the first runs of the match in the first over with a well timed four straight down the ground. But fellow opener William Morris wasn't so lucky as he pulled the ball to square leg with the score on 5. J Viveash joined Kinman at the crease and soon started to repair the early damage. Kinman was on form as he hit 13 fours and 2 sixes in a superb knock before he was bowled for 97. 158-2 soon became 161-3 with Tom Viveash out for 1 bringing Ryland Wallace to the middle. J Viveash continued to play his shots while Wallace kept on rotating the strike, never playing the big shot. The pair put on an unbeaten 148 for the 4th wicket as Aber posted 309-3 off 50 overs with J Viveash scoring 130 not out including 9 fours and 2 sixes whilst Wallace finished on 51 not out.

Tondy's innings started in a similar fashion to the Abergavenny innings, as Nathan Byrne removed the opener lbw in the third over. Mike Devoy then bowled the number 3 bat and this was quickly followed by Alex Denning claiming a caught behind with the visitors struggling on 54-3 after 15 overs. Slow bowler Owain Bradley was brought onto bowl at the Avenue Road end bowling his 10 overs straight through picking up 3-37 with two maidens. Young Greg Spencer was brought on without any luck as was Colin Knight and Morris. Byrne came back into the attack and immediately claimed a wicket with Devoy also returning and picking up a wicket. Tondy finished on a respectable 236-8 with the Beavers knowing they could easily bowl the visitors out.

A multitude of fielding errors and dropped catches cost the Beavers the maximum 22 points. However it was an improved performance compared to the opening two games. With Blackwood at home next week, the Beavers will look to follow up this improved performance.

Abergavenny 2nd X1 v Bridgend 2nd X1
June 5th 2010



Bridgend C.C. Club House/Pavilion



Owain Bradley, Ryland Wallace, Ben Pike & Mark Winstanley

Winning start comes to an end

Abergavenny's winning start to the season came to an end at the hands of Bridgend Town on Saturday in a close encounter at Avenue Rd.

Winning the toss, visiting skipper Andrew Davies rather surprisingly decided to bowl first. Greg Fury immediately set about attempting to show the folly of that decision, racing to 28 off just 15 balls as he continued to show his excellent striking form - his 28 included three 6's, the first of which was an absolutely sumptuous shot flicked off his pads, clearing the clubhouse with ease. Unfortunately he failed to reach 50 for the first time in the league this season, but he had given Abergavenny the start they wanted. Andrew Jones and Ryan Watkins set about consolidating that start, but the innings was transformed in the space of 2 balls as Jones and Gavin Heritage both perished in the 12th over. For much of the rest of the innings, batsmen got themselves in and then got themselves out - Dan Hartland made a solid 20, Chris Hartland made an aggressive 26, but along with the rest of the middle order, contrived to get themselves out as the innings lost momentum, reaching 199 for 8 in the 42nd over. Watkins played well for his 64, holding the innings together, but was one of 3 wickets to fall to Mike Jones. With the innings in danger of foundering, Craig Barnsley and Nathan Byrne both played and ran extremely intelligently and put on 56 for the last wicket in 8 overs, finishing with 27 and 24 not out respectively.

The Bridgend reply got off to a decent though not spectacular start, with Humphries leading the way as they reached 50 off the first 12 overs. Nathan Byrne bowled a very good set off 10 overs on the bounce, finishing with 1-33. Andy Timpson and Craig Barnsley were introduced for the middle overs, and picked up 3-83 off 19 overs between them, bowling with good discipline. This was turning into an absorbing contest between bat and ball, as Bridgend stayed there or thereabouts, while Abergavenny bowled well but didn't manage to raise the run-rate or take as many wickets as they would have liked. As they entered the final 10 overs, Bridgend required 72 runs with 6 wickets in hand and Andrew Davies at the wicket. Skipper Schofield turned to Watkins and Heritage to bowl the last 10 overs, and Heritage brought immediate rewards, picking up a wicket in each of his first 3 overs, leaving Bridgend 221-7, needing 35 off the final 5 overs. It could have gone either way, but unfortunately for Abergavenny, Bridgend No 8 Russell played an excellent cameo, with some very good shots off both bowlers, and led Bridgend to victory with one over to spare.

A first setback for Abergavenny this season who will hope to return to winning ways with another big game away to Chepstow next week

Abergavenny bounce back at Chepstow

Abergavenny's 1st XI returned to winning ways with a fine victory by 31 runs at 2nd placed Chepstow on Saturday.

Chepstow won the toss and put Abergavenny in to bat on a typical Chepstow wicket - a good pitch, with the suggestion of some assistance for the bowlers. Greg Fury once again got the innings off to a brisk start with a quickfire 32 before falling to opposition skipper Luke Sellers in the 10th over with the score on 56. That brought Ryan Watkins to the wicket to join James Schofield. Watkins' batting form has flourished in recent matches, and he continued his fine form, making 51 from 59 balls, with some excellent shots as the second wicket partnership added 73. When Watkins fell sweeping, Heritage came out and immediately got off the mark with two fours from his first two balls. With Heritage going well, and Watkins and Fury scoring quickly, Schofield had been able to drop anchor and try and play his way into some form and mixed some solid defence with some scratchy attacking shots on his way to 53. He eventually fell in the 37th over with the score on 182, to be immediately followed by Heritage. Chepstow fought back a little at this point as Abergavenny's middle order went cheaply, before Nathan Byrne, in the company of Will Morris this time, played another lovely cameo, both finishing with more than 20 to their name to propel the innings to a final score of 255-7.

Watkins and Byrne opened the bowling and with Watkins in particular bowling a superb first spell against the in form opening batsman Carwyn James, an absorbing opening left the score on 35-0 off the first 10 overs. Heritage was then introduced into the attack and he struck immediately, removing Jones for 10. James continued to go well, and the score advanced to 64 as he was joined by Sellers, until Timpson began his first over. He too struck immediately, having Sellers caught behind. That brought Madurasignhe to the wicket and

the pair kept Chepstow up with the rate as Abergavenny fought hard in the field. A potentially key moment came when James was lured from his crease by Timpson on 49, only for him to survive the stumping as the bails failed to be dislodged. With the score on 129 in the 27th over and the game in the balance, Schofield turned to Watkins for a short burst to try and break the partnership. In two overs, Watkins turned the game in Abergavenny's favour by removing Madurasinghe and Pass. When he was taken out of the attack, yet another bowler struck in his first over, as Ryan Jones had Evans stumped. Jones bowled an excellent 6 over spell, taking 3-21 including the crucial wicket of James, who finally fell for an excellent 106 off just 97 balls. With that wicket, and Chepstow on 172-7 off 37 overs, the game was safe for Abergavenny and the game meandered towards the close. Timpson finally picked up a deserved wicket and an extra bowling point for Abergavenny as Chepstow finished on 224-8.

Next up is another big game at home to Panteg when Abergavenny will hope to continue their fine form this season with another win

Battling Bishop denies leaders crucial victory

IT'S getting tight at the top of Division One with five clubs breaking away from the rest.

Abergavenny had the better of a drawn game at Chepstow and remain top of the table.

Abergavenny went in first and totalled 255-7 in their 50 overs, with John Scourfield making 53, Ryan Watkins 51, Gavin Heritage 32, Greg Fury 31 and Nathan Byrne 28 not out.

Malith Madurasinghe took 3-31 for Chepstow and Tom Jackson 3-39.

Carwyn James scored a brilliant 106 when Chepstow

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went in but lacked support and only a battling 33 not out by young wicket-keeper Phil Bishop saved the day.

Bridgend Town beat Blackwood at Newbridge Fields to move up to second place.

Blackwood were dismissed for 100, with Gareth Berry making 42, Simon Davies 41 and Rob Birch 33.

Adam Weaver came back on for a second spell and took a

hat-trick with his first three balls to end the Blackwood innings. Weaver finished on 6.3-2-32-4 while Jamie Russell returned 10-4-25-2 and James Steptoe 10-3-28-2.

Bridgend got the runs in 36.5 overs, with Brendon Joubert scoring 97, Stuart Morris 39 and player/coach Mike Jones 30 not out. Panteg topped the 300 mark once again when they batted first at home to Croesyceiliog

and finished on 307-5.

It was the in-form Ian Bird who led the way with a brilliant 158 while Actar Baloch made 40 and Mohammed Ali Bukari 39.

Callum Herring made 59 and Mike Beacham 44 when Croesy went in but Chris Mee took 2-37, Baloch 2-40 and Bukari 2-51 to get them all out for 221.

In a highly-competitive division, Tondur surprised Panteg, batting first and reaching 221 all out.

Jamie Williamson hit his first century for the Waterwheelers, finishing with a superb 105

while Ross Stenner made 25 and Tim Woolls 23 not out.

For Panteg, ex-Tondur player Bradley Wadlan took 2-24 off 10 overs, Peter Grossett 2-30, Tony Smith 2-37 off eight, Steve Hood 2-38 off nine and Lewis Coates 2-50 off nine.

Bashir Malik made 51 and Bradley Wadlan 36 but Panteg collapsed to 147 all out as Ryan Owen took 3-41 off eight overs for Tondur, Stenner 2-18 off 10, Paul Grabham 2-41 off eight and Brett Wadlan, Bradley's younger brother, 1-15 off three.

Sudbrook had the better of a

drawn game at Penarth and remain in third place.

Matt Kinchin scored 86, Ross Lewis 63 and Carl Morgan 54 in Sudbrook's innings of 319-6. Santos Singh took 3-46 for Penarth and Mark Thomas 3-66.

It was Peter Docherty who salvaged a draw for the Seaside with a battling 91 not out and next best was Andrew Sims with 28 as Penarth finished on 238-7.

Morgan took 3-48 for Sudbrook and Dean Wallace 2-35.



Ian Bird Panteg Captain



Gavin Heritage (93*) and Nathan Byrne



Captain & Coach

Sudbrook are new leaders after Abergavenny slip up at Panteg

IT was all change at the top of Division One as leaders Abergavenny were beaten by Panteg.

Abergavenny were put in having lost the toss and scored 206-8.

Mohammed Ali Bukari took 3-33 for Panteg, Chris White 2-26 and Lewis Parfitt 2-58.

Ian Bird (33) and Barney Worrad (29) led Panteg to 72 for two and Bukari (53), Actar Baloch (53no) and James Reid (21no) finished it off.

Sudbrook are the new leaders after they beat Pentyrch at the Deepweir.

Sudbrook were struggling until a fifth wicket stand between Mark O'Leary (64) and Chris Archer (52) added 113.

Earlier, Ross Lewis scored 44 and Sudbrook finished on 240-7.

Pentyrch were soon in trouble and collapsed to 123 all out in 35 overs as Mike Shaw took 3-20 for Sudbrook, O'Leary 3-29 and Martin Norton 2-18.

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Bridgend Town won their local derby against Tondy to remain in second place.

Tondy batted first and were all out for 194. Ryan Owen made 58 and Jamie Williamson 44 but their middle order collapsed and they were all out for 194.

Bridgend didn't find it easy but Brendon Joubert scored a fine 73 and player/coach Mike Jones 56 and they got there in the 48th over.

Chepstow won at Blackwood to keep their title chances alive.

Blackwood were dismissed for 128. Spinners Mitchell Harris (4-27) and Tom Jackson (3-9) did most of the damage, helped by Luke Sellers (9-1-37-2). Chepstow reached their total with three wickets to spare.



Panteg's Ali in action

Fury Fireworks Light Up Scorching Win

Abergavenny travelled to Penarth on the hottest weekend of the year so far as temperatures in the Capital topped those found in the popular Spanish holiday destination, Malaga. With the Beaver's club captain James Schofield away for the weekend, his responsibilities were passed onto Gavin Heritage, who got off to a good start by promptly losing the toss.

Abergavenny were asked to field in the heat by opposing captain Sam Docherty, and due to work commitments, and traffic problems Abergavenny were only able to field nine players for the early overs. However the Beavers' grit and determination shone through, as only 19 runs came off of the first nine overs, with a wicket a piece for the opening bowlers, Ryan Watkins and recent returnee Jon Denning. Nevertheless, despite Abergavenny now having a full complement of fielders, Docherty and opening batsman Mark Thomas seemed untroubled, and, unfazed by their poor start, began to attack the bowling. After 20 overs, Penarth had raced to 100-2, and were looking set to post a big total. Heritage turned to veteran spin bowlers Andy Timpson and Mike Baillon to make a breakthrough, and was duly rewarded as they each picked up two wickets, leaving Penarth 6 down. Nathan Byrne and Ryan Watkins were then introduced into the attack, and

both responded with two wickets apiece, leaving Penarth stranded on 220 all out off just 43 overs. Abergavenny's bowling display was helped by a decent fielding performance, including an excellent catch from John Viveash, the long-suffering 2 XI skipper and hero, to remove the Penarth number 10 and ensure Abergavenny came away with maximum bowling points.

With a lightning fast outfield, a flat track and a long batting lineup, Abergavenny were confident that 221 was easily gettable provided they batted sensibly. In the event, Abergavenny used nothing like the full 54 overs available to them, as they were treated to a batting masterclass from Greg Fury, which saw the Beavers home with over 20 overs to spare.

Fury and Baillon opened up, with Fury looking extremely comfortable in both attack and defence. Baillon never really got out of the blocks, and was superbly caught for 6. Ryan Watkins joined Fury at the crease, and they built up their partnership, seeing the score past the 100 mark. Both batsmen played some glorious shots off the Penarth opening bowlers, who persisted gamely, but couldn't break through their defences. Fury, demonstrating the form he has been in for much of the season, reached the sumptuous century he has threatened all summer, as he smote the ball to all parts of the ground. The Penarth spinners, James Docherty and Thomas were brought into the attack to try to change the game, and picked up the wickets of Watkins (38) and Heritage (4) quickly, but couldn't dislodge Fury, who continued his imperious innings. Jon Denning arrived at the crease, desperate to prove his worth as a batsman, and with only 20 runs required for victory, played some lovely shots to finish on 9*. But the undoubted star was Greg Fury, who carried his bat for 161* off only 90 balls. The innings was a joy to watch for all the Abergavenny team and supporters. This score now puts him at the top of the League runs chart with 501 runs at an impressive average of 71.71.



This resounding win gave Abergavenny maximum points, which helps them to maintain their 3rd position in the league, and keeps them in a strong position to push for promotion in the second half of the season in an extremely competitive league.

Pentrych Edge Low Scoring Game

Abergavenny lost for the second time in three games in a game determined to a large extent by the toss - the only difference this time was that skipper James Schofield won the toss and chose to bat first after gambling that the pitch would not get better. Despite this misjudgement, Abergavenny still pushed Pentrych mighty close and were still favourites to win when they reduced the home side to 72-7 chasing 139 to win.

The game started well for Abergavenny as the in form Greg Fury continued from where he left off against Penarth and dispatched the opening bowlers around the park as he and Schofield advanced the first wicket partnership to 43 in quick time, before Schofield fell for 10 in the seventh over. Fury made a rapid 44 and Ryan Watkins made 15 before Pentrych introduced spin into the attack. They made full use of a capricious pitch off unpredictable bounce and spin and put a straightjacket on the Abergavenny innings. Gavin Heritage and Mike Baillon resisted well for 20 overs but understandably found runs hard to come by, and once they

were dismissed the innings subsided with only Craig Barnsley reaching double figures as Abergavenny were dismissed for 138.

However, despite defending a low total, Abergavenny came out fired up believing they could cause Pentyrch problems on a still difficult wicket. Outstanding new ball bowling from Watkins and Jon Denning left Pentyrch on 22-3 in the 10th over before spin was introduced into the attack. With fielders clustered round the bat, Baillon posed an immediate threat and eventually picked up his first wicket, aided by an outstanding catch by Heritage under the helmet at leg slip. Baillon picked up a further wicket and Andy Timpson continued his good season in snaring two more wickets, leaving the home team on 72-7. At this point Abergavenny were on top and had high hopes of a superb win. Unfortunately, the pitch was just starting to flatten out, and posed few alarms for the remainder of the game, and despite Abergavenny rotating the bowlers round, Coates and Smith saw Pentyrch home, scoring the remaining 67 runs comfortably.

Next week, Abergavenny face leaders Sudbrook, and a win will pull Sudbrook back into the mix as well as maintaining Abergavenny's title aspirations

Bowlers Set Up Thumping Win

Abergavenny bounced back after defeat to Pentyrch by bringing league leaders Sudbrook down to earth with a bang. Abergavenny's bowlers set the win up, before the batsmen, led by Andrew Jones completed the job in double quick time.



Gavin Heritage and James Schofield

Under heavy skies, Abergavenny won the toss and asked Sudbrook to bat. From ball one, opening bowlers Nathan Byrne and Jon Denning were spot on, bowling a demanding line and length, giving the batsmen nothing. After 13 overs Sudbrook were reeling at 36-3. From this position of strength, Abergavenny could have the luxury of introducing Ryan Watkins and Gavin Heritage into the attack. Watkins in particular bowled excellently, removing danger man Mark O'Leary for a duck, well caught by Jones at slip. Watkins also removed Spencer, while Heritage picked up Lewis, with Sudbrook even further in the mire at 55-6. Abergavenny kept the pressure on all innings and Byrne was reintroduced to great effect, removing Carl Morgan, another perennial thorn in Abergavenny's side. Mike Baillon was belatedly introduced into the attack, and immediately snared 2 wickets in his first over, before Watkins wrapped up the innings by bowling Wallace. Sudbrook ended on 105 in 35.4 overs.



Gavin Heritage & Nathan Byrne

Any thoughts Sudbrook might have entertained of doing similar things when their turn came to bowl were quickly dispelled as Abergavenny came out all guns blazing. Jones raced to 19 off the first two overs, and Greg Fury wasn't far behind. Fury fell for 16 to a sharp catch at slip, but Jones was intent on making a statement and scorched his way to 44, before holing out to square leg after a loose shot. It was left to Watkins and Heritage to finish the innings, knocking off the remaining 33 runs in style. Abergavenny used just 14 overs in reply, and as a result completed their crushing win without using any of their own overs up. With Bridgend tying with Penarth, this win opens the league up again as Abergavenny head into a run of 3 winnable fixtures, starting away at Croesyceiliog next week

Battered Sudbrook lose spot at the top

It was all change at the top of Division One as leaders Sudbrook lost at Abergavenny and Bridgend Town tied with Penarth.

Put in by Abergavenny, Sudbrook were dismissed for 105 in 35.4 overs and only Carl Morgan (20) offered much resistance as Ryan Watkins took 3-19, Nathan Byrne 3-37 and Mike Baillon 2-13.

Abergavenny got the runs in just 14 overs, with Andrew Jones making 44 and Watkins 25 not out.

Bridgend Town's dramatic tie with Penarth at Newbridge Fields began when they were put in by the visitors. Player-coach Mike Jones scored a fine 83, Brendon Joubert (46) and David Goodway (26). Richard Skone took 3-34 off 10 overs for Penarth and Gary Davies 3-56 off 10.

Skone (58) and James Docherty (53) led the Penarth run chase and Rhys Morgan (32) was still there for a dramatic final over, which ended with Penarth getting two runs off the final delivery with one wicket in hand. Penarth needed 11 to win with two wickets left, but lost one and

GLAMORGAN AND MONMOUTHSHIRE LEAGUE
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■ Abergavenny's Ryan Watkins came to the penultimate ball needing seven to win.

After being put in by visitors Panteg, Chepstow reached 317-7 thanks to the efforts of Zac Watson (98), Jake Kings (67) and Carwyn James (39). Lewis Parfitt took 3-47 off seven overs for Panteg.

It was a tall order, but Panteg made it with two wickets to spare, thanks to a brilliant 137 by Ian Bird, 81 by Mohammed Ali Bukari and 22 by Barney Worrad.

Rob Hopkins took 4-68 off 9.5 overs for Chepstow.

Blackwood inserted visitors Penttyrch and got them all out for 150, with Richard Matthews taking 4-39 and Huw Wilcox 3-15.

Blackwood fared even worse and only Wilcox (23) defied the Penttyrch attack for any time as Tony Smith took 6-39 and Brad Wadlan 2-12. They collapsed to 84 all out.

The basement battle at Croesyceiliog saw visitors Tondy batting first and they reached 257-7, with Gavin Vigus getting 71, Craig Townsend 46, Tim Woolls 41 and veteran Clive Holmes 35.

Rhys Jones took 3-40 off 10 overs for Croesy, Stuart Roden bowled a tight 10-over spell for 23 runs and Ieuan Wakefield took 1-53 off 10 overs.

Roden then led the run chase with a superb 136. Callum Reid made 39 and Owen Worsfold was still there on 43 not out when they reached the target. Ross Stenner took 2-50 for the Waterwheelers.



Abergavenny 2nd X1 Action

Abergavenny move up to third and close gap on leaders Sudbrook

Abergavenny won at Croesyceiliog to move up to third place.

Andrew Jones and Ryan Watkins both scored 100 and they shared a second-wicket partnership of exactly 100 as well.

Abergavenny closed on 317-7 and Croesy collapsed for 154.

JAndW Dropping Performance

Croesy Crushed

A unique achievement by Andrew Jones and Ryan Watkins who each scored 100 runs helped Abergavenny to post a total of 317-8 and lay the foundations of a convincing away win over Croesyceiliog. The home side were delighted when they won the toss and asked Abergavenny to bat on a wet wicket but their joy was short lived as though they obtained the wicket of leading scorer Greg Fury with the score on 32 it was another 150 runs before the next wicket fell when Jones hit a full toss down deep mid wickets throat. Acting Captain Gavin Heritage batted steadily with Watkins and a further 84 runs were added before the latter, having just reached his ton, failed with an attempted reverse sweep and was bowled. Four wickets fell quickly as Aber hit out for quick runs, with Heritage being caught and bowled by former Abergavenny player Mike Beacham for 46.

Croesyceiliog's very promising young openers, Herring and Reid, got the home side off to a good start before Jon Denning claimed both their wickets. Beacham and Miles took the score to 92 before both were dismissed and only Jones offered further resistance. Mike Baillon's off spin accounted for three wickets and third change bowler Ryan Watkins another two.

This win enables Abergavenny to put further pressure on the top two and as they face each other next week a victory for Abergavenny at Tondy could put them right in the mix.

Four out of Four

A very successful day with all four sides winning their games. The firsts were put into bat on a damp wicket but aided by round hundreds from Andrew Jones and Ryan Watkins reached 317-7 and dismissed Croesyceiliog for 154 and managed to close the gap on leaders Bridgend who lost to Penttyrch. The seconds inserted Pontypridd and then chased down 228 with 5 wickets in hand. Crickhowell won at home and the Beavers passed the Ross total with 7 wickets down.

Beavers Get Dizzy With Success as Gillespie Visits Avenue Rd



On a day Abergavenny will never forget as Australia test match bowler Jason Gillespie visited Avenue Rd, Abergavenny continued their hot streak of form as they bowled Blackwood out for a paltry 81, before winning by 9 wickets for the second game in a row.

Sticking with the formula that has worked so well recently, Abergavenny asked Blackwood to bat first on a decent looking pitch. They reached 36-1 with few alarms, before Gavin Heritage got to work. He bowled his 10 overs straight through, finishing with the exemplary figures of 4-14, with 6 maidens, and, in partnership with Ryan Watkins (6-3-13-3), destroyed the Blackwood line-up. From 36-1, Heritage and Watkins left the innings in tatters at 69-8. Both bowled superbly, but Heritage in particular bowled with real venom and excellent command of lines and lengths. When he came off, it was left to Mike Baillon to wrap up the innings with a wicket and a run-out, as Blackwood subsided to 81 all out in the 32nd over.

Abergavenny came out to bat after a quick turnaround and Fury got the innings off to his customary rapid start, with 3 sixes in the first 3 overs, before being bowled by a good ball from Rob Matthews for 25. Andrew Jones and Craig Barnsley joined forces to see Abergavenny home, both playing some lovely cover drives, as the run chase ended on 82-1 after 13 overs and 1 ball.

Abergavenny will hope to take their red-hot form into their crucial match away to Bridgend next week in a game that could have a huge bearing on the destination of the title.

They will also take with them the best wishes of Jason Gillespie, who sat in the bar for 3 hours after the game, sharing experiences with the side, to complete a memorable day for the Beavers!



Greg Fury reaches 1,000

When he reached 58 on Wednesday 27th July against touring side Hythe Lobsters 'Greg Fury achieved the rare feat of scoring 1000 runs for the club in a season, in fact at present we think he may be the quickest to 1000 runs ever. This achievement has not blunted his wicket keeping skills as he also has 33 victims, 26 caught and 7 stumpings. He is also leading run scorer in league games with 592 runs at an average of 53.82 and highest score of 161 n.o.

Baillon Pulls Out

Due to personal reasons, Mike Baillon has pulled out of remainder of Abergavenny's fixtures this season. He wishes the club well, particularly the first team who remain in the hunt for the title, despite last week's cancellation at Bridgend.

Abergavenny March On....Just!

Jon Denning was the hero on Saturday as Abergavenny edged an enthralling encounter with in form Chepstow at Avenue Road.

After the disappointment of last week's cancellation at table topping Bridgend, Abergavenny faced another tough game against Chepstow, themselves in supreme form, with their run of recent victories including an impressive demolition of Sudbrook and taking them to third in the table.

Despite the rain on Friday night, the pitch remained hard and good, and Chepstow decided to bat first on winning the toss. The league's leading run scorer Carwyn James got the innings off to a good start, albeit with an innings strewn with some good fortune along the way. Abergavenny's seamers bowled well, but without luck, and spin was introduced into the attack as early as the 12th over to try and pose some different questions. James looked troubled by the ball turning away from the bat and was fortunate not to have been dismissed before he eventually succumbed for 49, stumped after waltzing down the wicket and missing the ball. Off spin also accounted for Watson (24), and Dobbie (13), while slow left arm resulted in the downfall of Jake Kings (12), as Abergavenny squeezed hard in the middle period. The spinners finished with combined figures of 4 for 57 off their 20 overs. Ryan Jones was then introduced with his canny seamers and cutters, and picked up the wicket of Bennett (4) as well as deflecting the ball on to the stumps at the non-strikers end to run out Jones (2). Rain arrived with seven overs still to bowl, and when the teams went back out, skipper James Schofield turned to Ryan Watkins and Denning to close the innings out. They did a tremendous job, and only 37 runs were scored off these 7 overs for the loss of three wickets, as Chepstow closed on a below par 196-9.

Abergavenny were supremely confident of another convincing win and made a bright start as Andrew Jones and Greg Fury took Abergavenny to 30 off seven overs. Both departed in quick succession, however, as Jones (14) smashed a long hop to deep square leg and Fury (17) advanced down the wicket and was bowled. Watkins (18) and Gavin Heritage (28) steadied the innings and kept the run rate up, before they too fell in surprising fashion, caught on the boundary off poor balls. With the top four all gone, Abergavenny's middle and lower order were asked questions of their temperament and character for the first time in six games. Schofield and Jon Viveash began cautiously before Viveash fell to give Kings his fourth wicket. Denning arrived at the crease, and after a period of consolidation in which few runs were scored, both he and Schofield began to attack Chepstow's young spin attack. However, Schofield attempted one shot too many and was bowled for 19, before Aber lost yet another wicket to leave them on 126 for 7 off 37 overs, as Craig Barnsley joined Denning. With 71 still needed off the remaining overs, Abergavenny's strength in batting showed, as they still had two frontline batsmen at the crease. Neither has had the opportunities that their abilities merit, restricted by the excellence of Abergavenny's top four, but both showed their quality and character as they kept the run chase going. They put on 35 to take Abergavenny to 161 for 8, before Barnsley was dismissed for 14. At this stage, Abergavenny now needed 36 off the last 5 overs as Ryan Jones

walked out to bat. The pair managed to reduce the equation to 20 off 3 overs, before Denning took the bull by the horns, playing some excellent shots of flair and invention, scooping Dobbie over fine leg, and smashing Sellers over extra cover. A boundary to third man off the last ball of the 49th over meant that just two runs were required off the last over. A scrambled leg bye and a single off the first two deliveries sparked jubilant celebrations from the home dressing room and supporters balcony. Denning walked off to rapturous applause, accompanied by Jones, whose role in the ninth wicket partnership cannot be underestimated.

In an absorbing game for the neutral, Abergavenny showed their fighting spirit, as well as showcasing their strength in depth, as players who have not been called upon for a few games stepped up to the plate when it came to the crunch. They maintained the pressure on Bridgend at the top of the table, and can still entertain serious hopes of pipping their rivals to the title.

Abergavenny & Watkins Sign Off In Style

Abergavenny went into their final game of the season still entertaining hopes of a Bridgend slip up which would give them a chance of stealing the title. However, Bridgend's demolition of Chepstow ended their dreams and left them just behind in second after an otherwise extremely successful season.

On Saturday they rounded off the season against Penarth in the same vein as they have played in the last two months, as Ryan Watkins thrilled the home crowd with his second hundred of the season and Greg Fury went to the top of the league run scorers. Abergavenny were asked to bat first after losing the toss and got off to an outstanding start against a poor Penarth attack. Fury and Andrew Jones got off to a flyer with a superb opening stand of 123 made from just 21 overs. Jones went to 50 in a flurry of boundaries before departing caught and bowled for 57. Fury carried on the form he has displayed for most of the season and on reaching his own 50, went past Chepstow's Carwyn James as the league's top run scorer. He eventually fell for 86, bowled by Docherty. Watkins had entered at the fall of Jones's wicket and was clearly determined to make the most of the good start and give the crowd something to savour. He was joined by Heritage and together they put on 89, as Heritage went past 400 league runs before falling for 34. By now Watkins was on 67 with 5 overs remaining as James Schofield walked out. In that time the pair put on 58, of which Watkins scored 41 to finish on a brilliant and chanceless 108 not out. Aber ended on 309-3 from their allotted overs.

Abergavenny did a thoroughly professional job in the second innings against opponents who were clearly demotivated and in the full knowledge that Chepstow had a challenge on their hands to overhaul Bridgend. Jon Denning and Nathan Byrne set the tone as so often in the latter part of the season and reduced Penarth to 25 for 3 in the ninth over with Byrne picking up two wickets and Denning one. The club's premier off-spinner was then introduced into the attack in the 14th over and immediately caused problems on a turning track, persuading Peter Docherty to sky a sweep shot to short fine leg. In 10 overs of artistry, he picked up 4 for 42 to take his league tally to 21 wickets at an excellent average to cap an excellent season. That left Penarth 143 for 7 after 32 overs after some good resistance from Sims and some excellent clean striking from James Docherty. The end was close and with the introduction of Watkins (bowling with the assistance of the wind) and Heritage, 3 wickets fell in the next 3 overs and the innings subsided to 151 all out in the 35th over.

So a highly satisfactory end to a very good season in which a number of players have achieved some personal success of which to be proud. In a division that is likely to be just as interesting and competitive next year for the relegation of teams from the Premier league, Abergavenny have high hopes and a steely determination to go one better next time and secure the title

Presentation Night September 24th 2010

CHAIRMANS AWARD

Brian Fury

THE COLIN WOODS MEMORIAL TROPHY

Nick Kinman

1ST TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR LEWIS WHITE MEMORIAL CUP

Greg Fury

2ND TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Richy Morris

3RD TEAM (CRICKHOWELL) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Nick Francis

4TH TEAM (ABERGAVENNY BEAVERS) PLAYER OF THE YEAR ROBERT PRICE CUP

Lewis Holley

YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR MALCOLM NASH CUP

Dan Cooke

MOST PROMISING YOUNG PLAYER ABERGAVENNY FIRE STATION CUP

Ellis Jones

