

Abergavenny Cricket Club History

Season 1997

President- J.B.Shackleton
Chairman- Ken Williams
Hon Sec-C.Cotterill,Treasurer-Ian.Bailey
Captain 1st X1- Paul Sussex
Captain 2nd X1- Stuart Eccles
Captain 3rd X1-Terry Mead

First X1 Runners-up Three Counties League [TCL] Cup Final
2nd X1 Winners [TCL] Cup



*Standing John Phillips,Owen Dawkins,Gareth Meredith,Matthew Hall, Ben Powell, Ian Harris,
Mike Baillon
Seated Michael Powell, Paul Sussex(Capt) Ryland Wallace, Brad Murphy.*

The warm up for the season started with friendlies against Pontymister and Tewkesbury. A massive score of 304-4 against Pontymister saw J.Phillips (35) Owen Dawkins (83) Mike Powell (94) and Mike Baillon (65) all get off to a good start. In reply Pontymister were bowled out for 115, Mike Baillon 3-13 and Sam Timpson 2-27. A further 35 over friendly against Llanwern resulted in victory. Abergavenny 198-2. J.Phillips (92*) Mike Powell (87) Llanwern 177 all out.G.Meredith 5-13, O.Dawkins 3-47 and M.Powell 2-19

Tewkesbury were dismissed for 72 with newcomer Jamie Hancock taking 3-19, L.James 3-7 Andy Timpson 2-8 were the other wicket takers. Abergavenny reached their target for the loss of 2 wickets.

Abertillery were next and Owen Dawkins(117) helped himself to a ton. Abergavenny 261-6. M.Baillon (69) A.Fury (36) in reply Abertillery were 164-7. Blaina were bowled out for 161 L.James 2-17, Sam Timpson 2-15, this was in response to 194-6 with Graham Jay (90) and R.Wallace (70)

For the First Time the TCL was split into two Divisions at 1st Team level and the serious cricket started with the 1996 Champions Hereford against the 1996 runners-up Abergavenny, this resulted in a great win for Abergavenny who made 252-6 Owen Dawkins (106) Mike Powell (79) Brad

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Abergavenny Cricket Club History

Murphy (20) Dawkins and Powell plundered the Hereford attack despite the negative 7-2 leg side field set by Richard Skyrme the Hereford skipper the pair of youngsters put on 175 for the 2nd wicket. Leighton James and Paul Sussex only conceded 25 runs in the first 10 overs before Sussex limped off with a pulled muscle. Hereford 137-9, Ian Harris 'Slider' 3-36 Gareth Meredith 3-13. The 3rd X1 started off with a 9 wicket victory over Pontnewynydd 3rds in the Glamorgan and Gwent Conference, looking to improve their 3rd place finish in the league last season. Fielding a side with five players with an average age of 15 years, two of those youngsters Nick Hancock (6-27) and Sam Timpson (2-17) bowled their full allocation of overs finishing with six and two wickets respectively. A special mention for 14 year old wicket keeper Jon Jeffries. Pontnewynydd all out for 60 runs. Tony Charrington (2 for 2) Abergavenny 61-1 Ian Bailey (13*) and Chris Cotterill (14*) 15 year old G.Williams (15)

The rainy season took over then for a few weeks before Usk were soundly beaten. Abergavenny 189 all out M.Powell (52) John Phillips (51) Usk 161-8 M.Baillon 3-58.

Young Mark Wallace hit the headlines next with a century for the 2nd X1 against Brockhampton and followed this with his maiden 1st X1 century against Sudbrook. Abergavenny 218-3 Wallace (106) Brad Murphy(56) Sudbrook could not reach their target Jamie Hancock taking 3-25.

Into June Abergavenny were still unbeaten, Abergavenny 215-4 John Phillips (87) Mike Baillon (30) Brad Murphy (36). Pershore in reply were all out for 115, Ian Harris 3-47, Paul Sussex 3-53, L.James 2-2 and M.Baillon 1-1.

A defeat by Pontypridd followed. Abergavenny 169 all out Pontypridd 170-7 L.James 2-45, M.Devoy 3-25. Mike Powell meanwhile was scoring a debut double hundred against Oxford University for Glamorgan.

Local Rivals Village side Llanarth were the Cup opponents, they managed 165-9 with Mike Powell taking 5-15 and Paul Sussex 2-24, it proved a stroll with Owen Dawkins (86) and John Phillips (50).

A first defeat in the TCL was inflicted by Clevedon with Kevin Jarvis 7-46 in fine form the ex Kent CCC bowler, who also played for Panteg for a while. Clevedon 175-6 P.Sussex 3-26, Ian Harris 2-77. Abergavenny 120 all out with only Owen Dawkins (31) showing any form. The match with Winget was a wash out. Bridgend were easily beaten in the Welsh League. Then Hereford were crushed by 9 wickets to complete the double over them. Hereford 114, Paul Sussex 5-54, M.Baillon 5-38. John Phillips (37*) and Mike Powell (71*). Usk were then beaten in the TCL Cup 142 all out O.Dawkins 4-29 Baillon and Sussex 2 wkts each. Baillon also scored 51 and R Wallace 37 as victory came by 4 wkts.

A last over thriller saw Abergavenny chase 213 scored by Cirencester who included the West Indian Marlon Blaggrave from Barbados, he finished the season in 3rd place in the bowling averages. R.Beaumont 5-57. M.Wallace (42) M.Powell (95) and B.Murphy (38) including a six of Blaggrave into the tennis courts for a nail biting 1 wicket win. John Phillips scored his maiden century in the TCL in the Cup quarter final against Pershore, who scored 226-7, Ian Harris 3-43 and Owen Dawkins 2-33. Abergavenny reaching their target for the loss of 2 wickets (J.Phillips 110*, O.Dawkins 34, Mike Powell 46 & M.Baillon 35*)

Title hopes were dented away to Colwall as Abergavenny were all out for 99 M.Powell 28 Colwall won by 9 wickets. Usk were beaten for the 3rd time Abergavenny 213-6, Owen Dawkins (46) B.Murphy (48) and Mark Wallace (37)

Both 1st and 2nd X1's reached the Cup Finals. The 1st X1 beat Cirencester, who were bowled out for 176 with Richard Beaumont taking 5-39. Abergavenny won by 6wkts M.Powell(74) J.Phillips(45) Matthew Hall (24)

Brockhampton inflicted another defeat, Abergavenny 172-9, B.Murphy (43) M.Powell (28) O.Dawkins (23) Brockhampton 173-6 Slider Harris 5-80.

Skipper Sussex was injured and all hopes of the league title disappeared at Pershore who decisively won despite chasing 193.

Winget beat Abergavenny in the Cup Final, chasing 208-5 with Nick Hancock 2-43 and Rob Parker 2-43. Abergavenny required 38 off the last 3 overs but were 193 all out, losing by 15 runs.

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Abergavenny Cricket Club History

The 2nd X1 were more successful in their Cup Final beating Panteg. Abergavenny 125 -10 M.Devoy (44) Panteg 107 all out with 2 wickets each for P.Christie,L.James,M.Coles and M.Devoy.



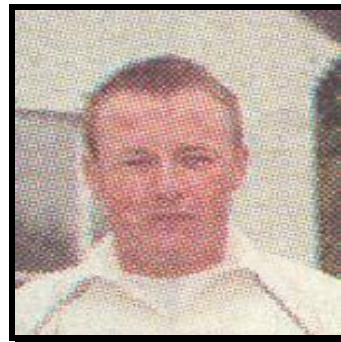
The Alligators winners of the Bank Holiday Six a Side competition 1997
A.Coles,M.Coles, L.James,M.Wallace, B.Powell and M.Hall



Abergavenny Under 15's Winners of the Gwent League, with the Club coaching staff. Terry Mead,Adil Gatrad and Brad Murphy

Abergavenny Cricket Club History

TCL Annual Dinner, Guest Speaker Colin Metson who enjoyed a Benefit match at Abergavenny



Abergavenny Cricket Club History



Pictured above Gareth Williams- Most Improved Player of the Year Mark Wallace- Young Cricketer of the Year John Phillips- 1st X1 Cricketer of the Year Steve Brown-2nd X1 Cricketer of the Year



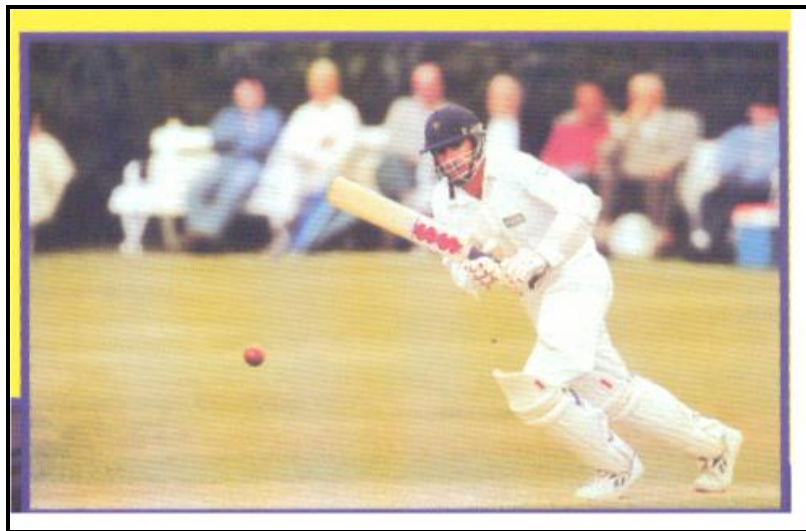
Glamorgan v Northants Avenue Road August 20th-23rd 1997

This was to be the last time Glamorgan play a Championship match at Avenue Road. Ironically they won the match with Mike Powell hitting the winning runs This was to be the last time Glamorgan play a Championship match at Avenue Road. Ironically they won the match with Mike Powell hitting the winning runs

Abergavenny Cricket Club History



A future Abergavenny player J.A.Didcote topped the Glamorgan Under19/Colts X1 bowling averages in 1997. Jon Hughes another who will play for Abergavenny in the future was playing for the Glamorgan Under 17's who played against Wiltshire on July 17th at Avenue Rd.



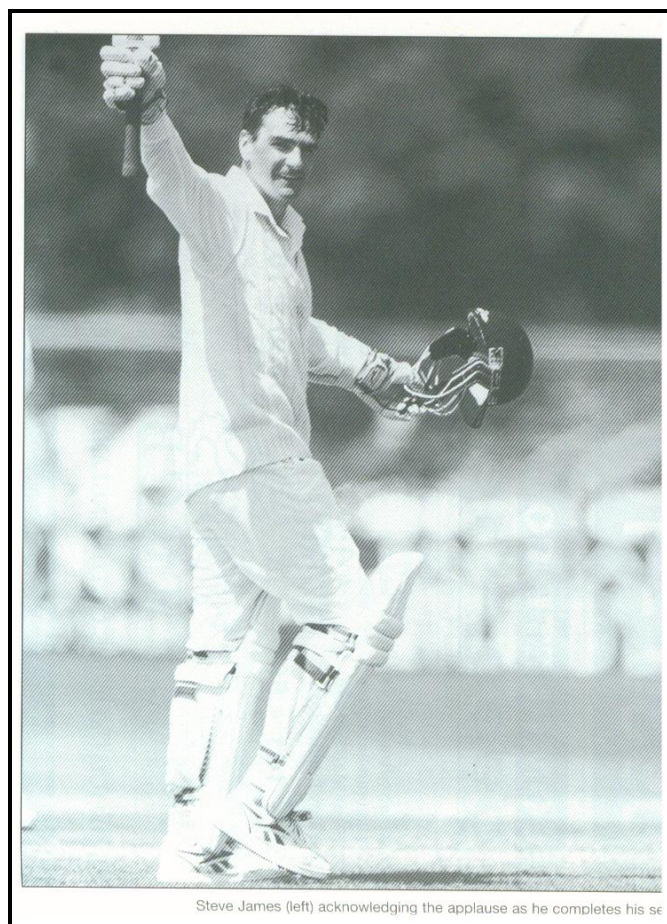
Steve James sets off for a run v Northants at Avenue Road 1997 he went on to score a hundred in both innings. This the ground where 2 years earlier Kent had put every fielder behind the bat with 3 men crouched at gully. Waqar Younis took 6-56

Abergavenny Cricket Club History



Abergavenny Cricket Club History

1997 Glamorgan C.C.C. Squad



Steve James salutes the crowd as he celebrates his 2nd Century of the match



Above Waquar lets fly

World Events

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Abergavenny Cricket Club History

Tiger Woods wins Masters aged 21 yrs in his first yr as professional. Tony Blair wins a landslide election victory. British Rule in Hong Kong dating back 160 years ends. Princess Diana killed in a car crash in Paris. Michael Hutchence lead singer of INXS found dead. Royal Yacht Britannia de-commissioned. Lee Westwood beats Greg Norman in a play off to win the Australian Open. Mother Teresa dies aged 88 yrs in India. Europe defeat America in Spain to win Ryder Cup