1940 Season President – JR Jacob Hon Secretary- SRC Thomas Hon Treasurer-Captain 1<sup>st</sup> X1- HL Kendall Vice Captain 1<sup>st</sup> X1- H.Sharpe 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 Captain- CFR Price 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 Vice Captain- EG Nash Thursday Capt- END Williams Thursday Vice Captain- AL Pragnell

The 2<sup>nd</sup> World War broke out in September 1939 and the 1940 AGM held at the Greyhound Hotel was a glum affair. The club agreed to carry on for a while with a reduced fixture list, but other more weighty matters intervened. The Committee decided to dispense with the services of a groundsman this year.

The 1940 season opened in early May with a game between H.Sharpe's X1 and HL Kendall's X1. This was followed by a game against the 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment Brecon, when spectators saw Desmond Eager the 1939 Oxford Captain, make (84) runs and take (4) wickets.



**Desmond Eager** 

(8 December 1917 – 13 September 1977) was an English first-class cricketer who as secretary and captain of Hampshire was instrumental, through organisation, captaincy and recruitment, in raising the county team from perennial also-rans to the point where, in the seasons after he retired from playing, it was runner-up and then, in 1961, the champions in the County Championship for the first time in its history. As a cricketer, he was a right-handed middle-order batsman who bowled occasional slow left-arm orthodox spin, and a fearless fielder at short leg.[1]Eagar was educated at Cheltenham College and played for Gloucestershire from 1935 to 1939, and for Oxford University in 1938 and 1939. During the Second World War no first-class cricket was played in England. It was therefore seven years before Eagar resumed his county career with Hampshire, for whom he played between 1946 and 1957, captaining the side for those twelve seasons.Eagar retired from first-class cricket at the end of the 1958 season after playing for the Marylebone Cricket Club. He died in 1977 in Kingsbridge, Devon, at the age of 59.

The cricket photographer Patrick Eagar is his son

Scarcely had the season begun before the success of the German offensive in western Europe dashed all hopes of a cricket season of any substance. In August 1940 Abergavenny CC came to an end for 5 years (seasons) The ground was requisitioned by the army and not released until May 1946



Sad death of WH Robinson (Sen) Pictured Left in 1930 was reported in 1940

Compiled by Paul DW Sussex-Club Archivist

Compiled by Paul DW Sussex-Club Archivist