

Abergavenny Cricket Club History

Season 1981

President-E.G.Nash,
Chairman-Ken Williams
Hon Sec-P.Thomas

Treasurer- R.Thomas Captain 1st XI-Richard Brown Captain 2nd XI-Mike Bradley

APATHY COULD DESTROY CLUB

A WARNING that apathy could destroy the Abergavenny cricket club came from chairman Ken Williams at the annual meeting on Friday.

In a hard-hitting report Mr Williams said: "There is too much apathy from club members at the moment. A lot of you do not seem to realise the tremendous amount of work done by the backroom boys."

"We now have a club with a turnover of between £15,000 and £20,000 a year and we need a lot of voluntary help from all club members. We have got to build on what has been achieved in the past, otherwise this club will go downhill," warned Mr Williams.

His plea for more help comes at a time when the club is preparing for the first John Player League match to be played on the town's Avenue Road ground, a singular honour in the club's 145-year-old history. The match between Glamorgan and Worcestershire, set for Sunday, May 10 is expected to attract more than 4,500 spectators.

Mr Williams said Glamorgan's 2nd XI three-day fixture at Avenue Road last year had helped get the John Player League fixture. "This is a tribute to Abergavenny's wicket and its groundsman David James," he said.

Mr Williams said there had been occasions last year when discipline on the field had dropped below the normally high standards set by the club.

"This lack of discipline must be stamped out. Abergavenny has a good name and we cannot afford to lose that good name by the activities of a minority," he added.

The 1981 season promised attractive cricket with the First and Second XI's playing in the Three Counties League and the Third XI playing in the Gwent League. The club would also be experimenting with a mid-week Thursday XI, which would give those members who were unable to regularly play at weekends a chance of a game.

Last season the First XI finished fourth in the first division of the Three Counties League, while the Second XI ended the season in the middle of its league and the third XI were third in division five of the Herefordshire and District League.

Three long-serving members of the club committee Mr G. H. Lewis, Mr Don Griffin and Mr Derek Havard were made life vice-presidents and President Mr Ted Nash reminded the meeting that Mr Havard had been a

member of the general committee for 25 years, but had never played a game of cricket in his life!

There was a special tribute to the ladies' section of the club led by Mrs Barbara Shackleton, which in the past year had donated more than £800 to club funds.

Mr Nash was re-elected president in his 58th year as a member of the club and Peter Thomas was re-elected secretary. Captain of the First XI for 1981 will be Dick Brown, Second XI Mike Bradley and Third XI Paul Bowen.

AGM Report

Pictured below Abergavenny First XI – 1981, Runnersup -John Macey Knockout



Back Row L-R

C.Cox,B.Mohammed,K.Holmes,A.Morris,R.Rossiter,G.Loder,K.Watkins,M.Bloor,C.Coggins.

Front Row L-R M.Powell,R.Brown,A.Charrington,GH Lewis.

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Abergavenny fought their way to the Monmouthshire Knock Out (20 Over) Cup Final, having beaten Chepstow in an exciting semi-final, the victory secured by tight bowling from Stuart Lennox, Kyle Holmes, Keith Watkins and Paul Sussex who restricted Chepstow to 94-5. In reply with 4 overs left Abergavenny needed 26 to win this was achieved with the fourth ball of the 20th over with Mike Bloor (20*) and Paul Sussex (19*) still there at the death.

The Final was played at the Newport Athletic Ground adjacent to the Newport Rugby Stadium. The cricket pitch is pictured below.

Abergavenny lost in the Macey Shield Final played on July 24th 1981 at Newport Athletic Club Rodney Parade. Malpas batting first totalled a moderate 97-7 in their 20 overs. Abergavenny seemed doomed early on as quick wickets fell but Mike Powell and skipper Dick Brown steadied the ship and victory looked assured with 82 on the board in the 18th over, leaving 16 runs to win off the last two overs. Powell was spectacularly run out by Malcolm Gumbs and Mike Heames restricted Abergavenny to 3 runs off the penultimate over. That left 13 required from the last which proved too much, Skipper Dick Brown finishing on a valiant 29 not out.

Malpas

P.Edwards N.Kinman M.Gumbs G.Scott R.Jenkins R.Gregg D.Carlyle L.Robinson M.Heames (capt)

B.Nagle M.Davies 12th man R.Hughes

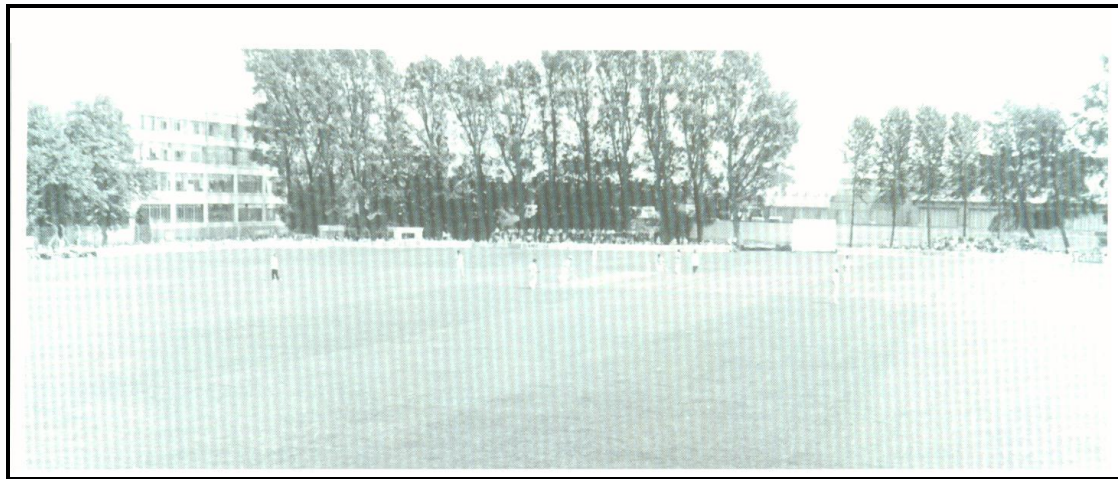
Abergavenny

M.Powell, R.Brown (Capt) D.Griffin, K.Holmes, P.Scott S.Hughes, M.Bloor

P.Sussex S.Lennox P.Bowker P.Watkins 12th man G.Loder

Man of the Match- M.Heames adjudicated by Malcolm Nash

Pictured below Newport C.C. Ground



Abergavenny Cricket Club History



In April the Club held their Annual Dinner at the Club House. This was the 1981 Season Annual Dinner but held in 1982 at the clubhouse, John Chadd the Guest of Honour presented the awards. Clubman of the year, The William Hancock Cup went to Paul Sussex. The Firemen's Cup for the best young player of the year went to Mark Rossiter, this award was presented by the Mayor Councillor Peter Coleman. Pictured Left Mark Rossiter and Councillor Peter Coleman with Chairman Ken Williams

The Malcolm Nash Cup for the most improved player went to Gary Thomas. The Ladies Committee treasurer Polly Mead presented a cheque for £500 to the Cricket club. It was announced that former Glamorgan player Kim Norkett would join the club for the 1982 season

Pictured below is the top table that evening, P.Thomas, M.Nash, K.Williams, M.Nash, R.Williams, E.G.Nash & E.Thomas.



Early on the April 11th game against Mumbles was rained off, but the Club opened with a new competitive spirit, wickets for Net practice had been cut on the Avenue Road side of the ground. The early start against on April 12th. Cardiff HSOB produced a tie, as Abergavenny played themselves into the record books, with the earliest start to a season recorded in Wales and England. Against Cardiff HSOB a tie was recorded Cardiff HSOB made 95-8 Bappi Podder took 4-27. In reply Abergavenny were all out with 3 balls to go for the same score. Newcomer Bashir Mohammed (20) and Paul Sussex (21) almost pulled off the victory.

The May 9th Caerleon 1st and 2nd X1 and Mendip Acorns – May 4th matches were all rained off but the Winget game on May 2nd at home was lost by 5 wickets.

May 2nd Abergavenny 1st X1 lost at home to Winget by 5 wickets, the 2nd X1 beat Winget 2nd X1 – Abergavenny 233-4 M.Bradley (86) M.Rossiter (39) Winget 168-8

May 16th Abergavenny 2nd X1 v Worcester 2nd X1- Young Mark Rossiter makes his mark in a fine win. Abergavenny 2nd X1 – 132-5 M.Bradley (34) M.Rossiter (38*) Alan Davies (25) M.Drake (22) P.Sussex (5) Worcester 2nd X1-67-8 P.Watkins 1-17, J.Roberts 1-11, P.Sussex 0-12, A.Goldsworthy 2-16, M.Bradley 1-4.. Three of the clubs matches the 1st X1 against Worcester and Cheltenham and the 2nd X1 away at Cheltenham were rained off. The 3rd X1 start their season on May 23rd against Rumney Legionnaires

Having washed out 3 more fixtures taking the total games lost to rain this season so far to sixteen, one bright spot was the 2nd X1 on May 30th romping home as Tewkesbury 2nd X1 were defeated, Tewkesbury 127 all out P.Sussex 4-32 P.Watkins 3-42 Abergavenny 131-3 M.Bradley (34) Bashir Mohamed (28) Alan

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Davies (29) Mark Rossiter (16) and Phil Watkins (21 not out) However the May 30th - 3rd X1 away to Maesycwmer had a disastrous start to their season beaten by 135 runs. Skipper Paul Bowen blamed dropped catches and poor fielding. Tony Paton 5 for 49 had the Maesycwmer top scorer dropped off his bowling three times. Maesycwmer 167-8, Abergavenny 3rds 32 All out.

A defeat by local village team came next on June 6th, Llanarth 147-7 K.Holmes 4-55 Abergavenny 127 all out with Roscoe Powell a stalwart of Llanarth cricket taking 7-44

Rain then spoiled a few more games, when the weather did improve on June 13th Ross were 'thumped' at both 1st and 2nd Team level. Ross 1st X1 were 74 all out with S.Lennox 6-26 and A.Charrington 3-31 Abergavenny 75-3 won by 7 wickets Ross 2nd X1 were 135-8 with P.Sussex taking 3-35 chasing an Abergavenny total of 215-7 with A.Davies (70) Mark Rossiter (49) and P.Sussex (42) The 3rd X1 beaten by Beaufort 169-8 Abergavenny 3rds 80 all out. T.Paton 3-48. Paul Bowen (16) Tony Coles(26)

June 20th Abergavenny then succumbed once again to Hereford despite a stylish (90) from Kyle Holmes, Abergavenny only managed 184-5 Dick Brown chipped in with (29) Hereford knocked the runs with very little fuss.



June 27th In the home game against Cirencester Mike Powell carried his bat for (134*) That was the highest not out score in the league, the best opening batsman score for Abergavenny since the war and the Abergavenny total of 232-1 was their highest ever League score. David Griffin supported Powell with (58*). In reply Cirencester only managed 139-8 with K.Watkins 4-42, S.Lennox 1-23 K.Holmes 1-17 and P.Sussex 2-10 all chipping in. In contrast the following week Abergavenny were all out for 120 and Winget scraped home for the loss of 7 wickets. Abergavenny 120-9 Winget 121 -7 K.Watkins (Pictured Left) 4-30, K.Holmes 2-29, A Charrington 1-36.

July 18th Chepstow were then well beaten at Avenue Rd Chepstow 86 all out A.Morris 3-34, K.Holmes 2-28, D.Dyer 2-8, P.Sussex 2-8 Abergavenny 88-0 won by ten wickets.

July 25th Tewkesbury at Home, Tewkesbury folded to the bowling of Stuart Lennox & Keith Watkins, given Abergavenny their fifth successive win. Tewkesbury 73 All Out . S.Lennox -6-26, K.Watkins 4-38. In reply Abergavenny 74-4. M.Powell (9) L.Wilcock (7) D.Griifin (34*). The next day July 26th away at Stroud a Western League side. Stroud 148-5 A Goldsworthy 2-37, B.Podder 2-38 and one wicket for Andrew Morris. Abergavenny in reply 152-4 G.Williams (15) Dick Brown (37) K.Holmes (74*) Paul Sussex (14*)

July 29th Royal Wedding Day the 3rd X1 played an all day game against Maesycwmmmer

On August 1st A good all round performance by Viji on August 1st helped Abergavenny gain their next victory Abergavenny 178 all out R.Viji (81) Stinchcombe 171-9 R.Viji 5-55 S.Hughes 3-32. A draw with Monmouth followed on August 2nd. Monmouth 150-8 A.Goldsworthy 4-45 Abergavenny 119-8 R.Viji (23) Then on August 15th a sound defeat by Ross. Ross 179-9 K.Holmes 4-35 K.Watkins 3-48 Abergavenny 84 all out. The next game meant to be a Pick-me-up again ended in a bad defeat away at Newport Fugitives who made 139, Keith Watkins 3-33 and Mike Drake 3-16. Abergavenny only Viji with (18) managed a score.. He next Day August 23rd saw a 9 wicket defeat to Hereford and Abergavenny all out for a meagre 64 their lowest score of the season, only Gary Thomas with (12) reached double figures. The Hereford wicket was taken by S.Lennox.



Abergavenny 3rd X1 had a better time, despite being six players short on the Friday prior to the game, but skipper Paul Bowen managed to cobble together a team weak in batting but strong in spirit. Abergavenny 3rd X1 -109 with skipper Paul Bowen (45) in reply Panteg were 87-4, Martin Mason (Pictured Left in batting mode) was given a bowl and he immediately uprooted the middle stump of the top scorer for Panteg from that point Bowen and Mark Davies cleaned up Panteg all out 102. Mark Davies with 3 wickets and Bowen with four. Keeper Keith Morris took 3 catches taking his tally to 18 for the season

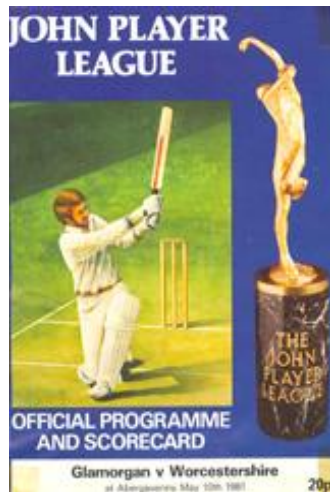
Usk 165 S.Lennox 5-66 Andrew Morris 3-41 Abergavenny 1st X1 -103 then on Sunday the worst of a drawn game with Pontnewydd

May 10 1981

Abergavenny hosted Glamorgan v Worcestershire in the John Player Sunday League

Abergavenny Cricket Club History

Glamorgan skippered by Malcolm Nash saw the game relayed live on BBC Wales Television, unfortunately Worcester won. The fact the match was played at all was down to the hard work of ground staff mopping up the water using blankets.



Glamorgan

A.Jones
J.A.Hopkins
D.A.Francis
Javed Miandad
N.G.Featherstone
R.C.Ontong
G.C.Holmes
E.W.Jones +
M.A.Nash *
E.A.Moseley
A.A.Jones
R.N.S.Hobbs

Worcester

G.M.Turner *
P.A.Neale
Younis Ahmed
E.J.O.Hemsley
S.P.Henderson
J.A.Ormerod
D.J.Humphries
J.Birkenshaw
N.Gifford
J.D.Inchmore
A.P.Pridgeon
D.N.Patel

Worcester scored 170-7 with (M.Nash taking 2-31) Glamorgan 152 with only (R.Ontong 30) making a significant contribution. The umpires were W.E.Alley and D.J.Halfyard
In what was Glamorgan C.C.C. Diamond Jubilee Year 1921-1981

The Club also hosted a Second X1 game against Worcester C.C.C. 2nds. This was played on June 24, 25, 26th Glamorgan 136 all out (R.Ontong 38, A.L.Jones 29) and 186 all out (A.Francis 79, Terry Davies 29) lost by 9 wickets to Worcester 289 all out (A.A.Jones 4-51) and 34-1. The wicket was described as a slow turner.



Glen Turner



Pictured Left is David James the man responsible for the wickets at Avenue Road. These wickets have always been excellent for batting in recent times.

Attractive ground

THE Avenue Road cricket ground is one of the most attractive in South Wales. The ground is owned by the Cricket Ground Company of which Abergavenny Cricket Club is the major shareholder. Other shareholders live around the ground and the Bowling Club is also a shareholder.

Although it has a comparatively short boundary on the Pen-y-pound end, it has one of the best squares in South Wales.

It is a good batting strip and also has a reputation for taking some

spin. So it is a good cricket wicket, also helping the bowlers.

Groundsman David James has been at the club four years and has been hard at work preparing the wicket for the big match.

As he prepared the pitch for Sunday, Mr James said, "It has been bad weather for preparing wickets and at the moment it is a bit spongy. We want several days of fine weather now. But I have no fears about the strip."

● Groundsman David James is pictured above using the heavy 30-cwt roller as he prepares the pitch.



Alan Jones

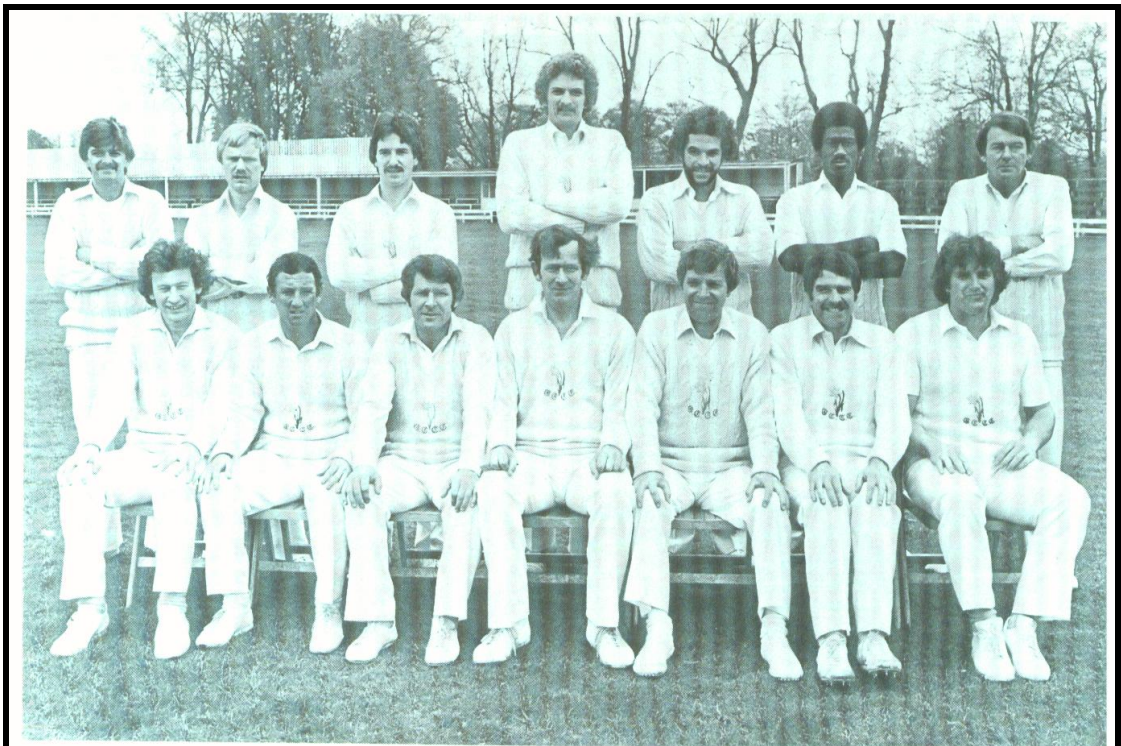
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Preparation almost Complete, TV gantry in place



Eifion Jones in action behind the stumps



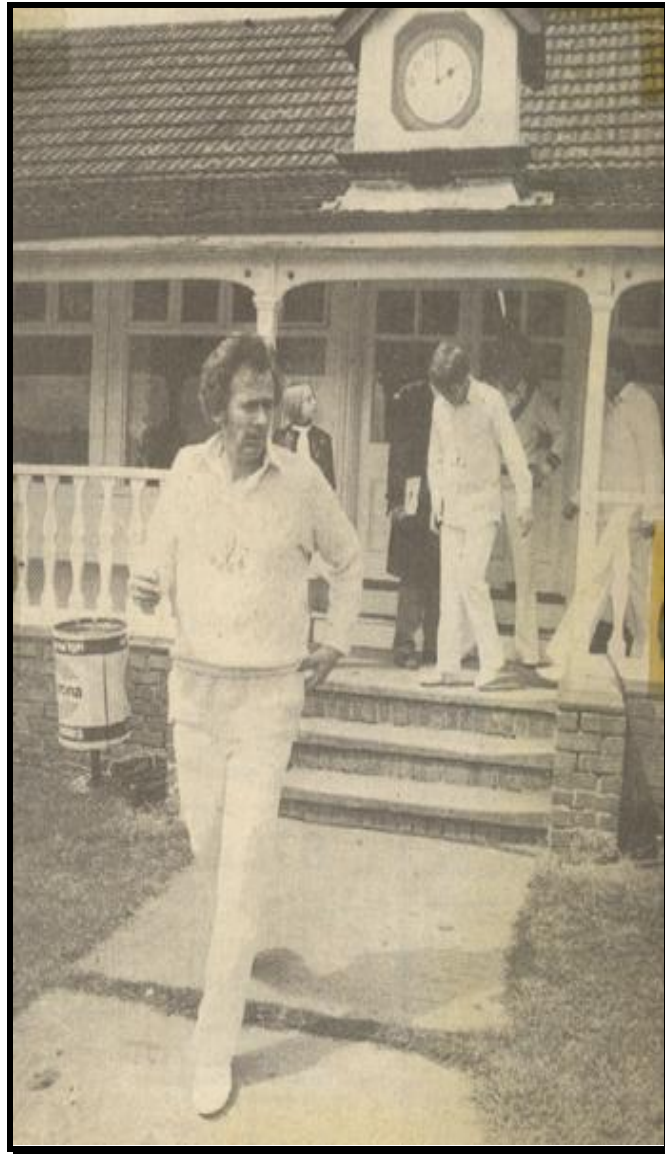
GLAMORGAN C.C.C. 1981

Back: G. C. Holmes, D. A. Francis, A. L. Jones, A. A. Jones, R. C. Ontong, E. A. Moseley, R. N. S. Hobbs.
Front: B. J. Lloyd, K. J. Lyons, E. W. Jones, M. A. Nash, A. Jones, J. A. Hopkins, M. J. Llewellyn.
(Absent: N. G. Featherstone, Javed Miandad)

Abergavenny's Malcolm Nash poses proudly as Captain of Glamorgan C.C.C.
 Pictured Above is the Glamorgan C.C.C. First X1 of 1981 Significant in that the Captain is Abergavenny's own Malcolm Nash who nurtured his talent at Avenue Road in the early sixties.

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Malcolm leads out the Glamorgan side



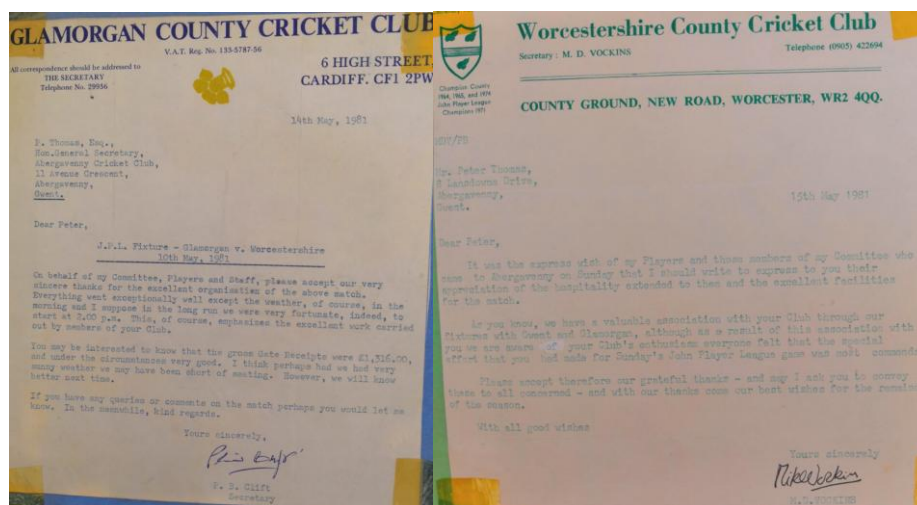
World Events

Susan Brown becomes the first woman cox in the Oxford and Cambridge university boat race in England, steering the Oxford crew to victory. In nine days the English runners Steve Ovett and Sebastian Coe establish three new world records for the mile; Joe Louis, US world heavyweight champion boxer 1937–49, dies in Las Vegas, Nevada (66). Charles, Prince of Wales, marries Lady Diana Spencer in St Paul's Cathedral in London, England. Television coverage attracts 39 million people, the largest British audience to date. Australian publisher Rupert Murdoch buys The Times group of newspapers in Britain. François Mitterrand becomes the first Socialist president of France.

Abergavenny Cricket Club History



Mid and Early Season Social events



Letters of thanks from Phil Clift and MD Vockins following the JPL game Glam v Worcester

David Griffin enjoyed a great weekend with runs against Pontnewydd and Cirencester as Abergavenny won both games David took his season tally to 9 short of 400 and Keith Watkins went to 40 wickets at this mid point of the season

Kyle Holmes scored (38*) for Gwent v Gloucestershire 2nd X1 at Usk



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Abergavenny Cricket Club History

SEASON 1981

Capt. R. Brown V. Capt. P. Sussex

No Benefit Match - J.P.L. Glam V Worcester

Hythe 159 - 7 Dec. Abergavenny 99 M. Buller 8 - 40

Gwent K.O. Finalists - Lost to Malpas

BATTING

	Inns	N.O.	H/S.	Total	Av.	Tons -		
M. Powell	26	1	134	631	25.24	M. Powell	-	1
S. Lennox	15	11	27	140	35.00	Fifties		
D. Griffin	20	3	58	296	17.41	M. Powell	-	1
R. Brown	21	6	37	277	18.46	D. Griffin	-	1
B. Mohammed	6	0	20	37		K. Holmes	-	1
K. Holmes	19	3	90	270	16.87	G. Thomas	-	2
G. Thomas	19	0	78	380	20.00	G. Loder	-	1
P. Sussex	12	1	25	114	10.36	M. Bloor	-	1
G. Loder	14	4	61	157	15.70	R. Viji	-	1
M. Winstanley	11	2	30	72	8.00	P. Bowker	-	1
P. Watkins	9	1	16	41				
S. Hughes	14	2	38	166	13.83			
K. Watkins	12	4	21	65	8.12			
M. Bloor	21	0	54	255	12.14			
P. Scott	14	2	39	139	11.58			
R. Viji	18	1	81	375	22.05			
P. Bowker	13	0	57	228	17.53			

Also Batted:- A. Davies, R. Rossiter, B. Shackleton 2.0.11 14 B. Poddar, A. Morris, L. Roberts, G.H. Lewis, A. Cole, M. Drake, A. Charrington, L. Watts, P. Jones, S. Thomas, D. Dyer, M. Davies, M. Bradley, C. Drake, P. Thomas, A. Goldsworthy, M. Mason, P. Havard, M. Rossiter 3-1 42-75.

BOWLING

	Overs	Mdns.	Best	Runs	Wkts.	Av.
A. Charrington	149.4	34	9-61	442	34	13.00
K. Holmes	135.4	24	5-22	438	27	16.22
P. Sussex	120.3	20	6-63	435	26	16.73
S. Lennox	229.3	59	6-26	645	28	23.03
K. Watkins	182.2	28	4-30	597	31	19.25
S. Hughes	50.3	5	3-32	249	6	41.50
P. Watkins	89.2	14	4-41	295	13	22.69
R. Viji	100.5	4	5-55	452	19	23.78

Also Bowled:- M. Mason, P. Jones, A. Goldsworthy, D. Dyer, G. Loder, A. Morris, B. Poddar, P. Havard, P. Scott, B. Mohammed, R. Brown, L. Watts, P. Bowker, M. Bradley, C. Drake, M. Drake.

CATCHES

S. Lennox	-	14	A. Goldsworthy	-	2
P. Bowker	-	9	P. Watkins	-	2
M. Powell	-	10	S. Hughes	-	2
P. Scott	-	8	A. Davies	-	
G. Thomas	-	14	A. Morris	-	
P. Sussex	-	8	M. Drake	-	
K. Holmes	-	8	P. Jones	-	
A. Charrington	-	7	P. Havard	-	
M. Bloor	-	5	B. Thomas	-	
K. Watkins	-	5	M. Bradley	-	
R. Viji	-	4	G.H. Lewis	-	
R. Brown	-	3	S. Thomas	-	
G. Loder	-	3	L. Watts	-	
D. Griffin	-	3			

STUMPINGS

G. Thomas	-	7	Highest 1st Wicket Partnership	
P. Scott	-	2	128 R. Brown & G. Thomas v Colwell (R. Elcock 0 - 65)	

Profit from the JPL for the Club £1,044 A proposal to start a new Sunday Competition The South East Wales Sunday League