

Beneficiaries at Abergavenny Cricket Club

1950

George Lavis

The highlight of the season was the Benefit Match for George Lavis who had played for Glamorgan from 1928 until after the Second World War, when from 1946 Lavis acted as Glamorgan`s coach. Many young players duly benefitted from his wise words and the long hours of patient guidance in the club`s indoor school at Neath, and the nets in corridor of the North Stand at the Arms Park.



The Monmouthshire-born player had made his debut in 1928 as a right-handed batsman and seam bowler, and became a regular member of the side in the early 1930`s. His finest hour as a player came in 1934 when he hit a career best 154 against Worcestershire in 1934, and shared in a partnership of 236 for the fourth wicket with Cyril Smart. However, he had rather modest season with bat and ball in 1936 and again in 1937, and left the county`s playing staff to pursue a playing and coaching career in Scotland. Lavis subsequently played for Dundee and Forfarshire in 1938 and 1939, before joining the R.A.F. during the Second World War.

With Glamorgan re-building after the War, Johnnie Clay persuaded Lavis to return to Glamorgan as the club`s coach, and with the club also being short of players, Lavis also agreed to turn out for the county again. He played his final game for the club in 1949 and was awarded a Testimonial in 1950

George Lavis XI 179 all out. Abergavenny 129 all out.

GEO. LAVIS'S XI.	
E. Whitfield c Stock b Parry.....	19
Roy Davies c Adams b White.....	64
L. Muncer b Parry.....	33
B. Hedges lbw b Parry.....	0
Haydn Davies c Parry b White...	8
G. Lavis st Hill b White.....	6
J. Webb c Williams b White.....	7
Ross Johnson b Brain.....	6
Graham Storey not out.....	29
Ken Wride st Hill b White.....	2
K. Lewis st Hill b Parry.....	2
Extras.....	1
<hr/>	
Total.....	179
G. B. Shaw did not bat.	
ABERGAVENNY	
T. Adams c Davies b Lewis.....	4
K. Williams run out.....	2
L. White c Davies b Shaw.....	6
L. G. Jones c Hedges b Lewis.....	70
G. Alderton c Hedges b Shaw.....	0
H. Brain c Davies b Shaw.....	29
C. Berrington b Muncer.....	3
R. Jennings b Muncer.....	0
W. Mayo b Muncer.....	0
S. Stock c Muncer b Whitfield...	4
J. Hill b H. Davies.....	0
D. Parry not out.....	6
Extras.....	5
<hr/>	
Total.....	129

Scorecard-George Lavis XI v Abergavenny

1951

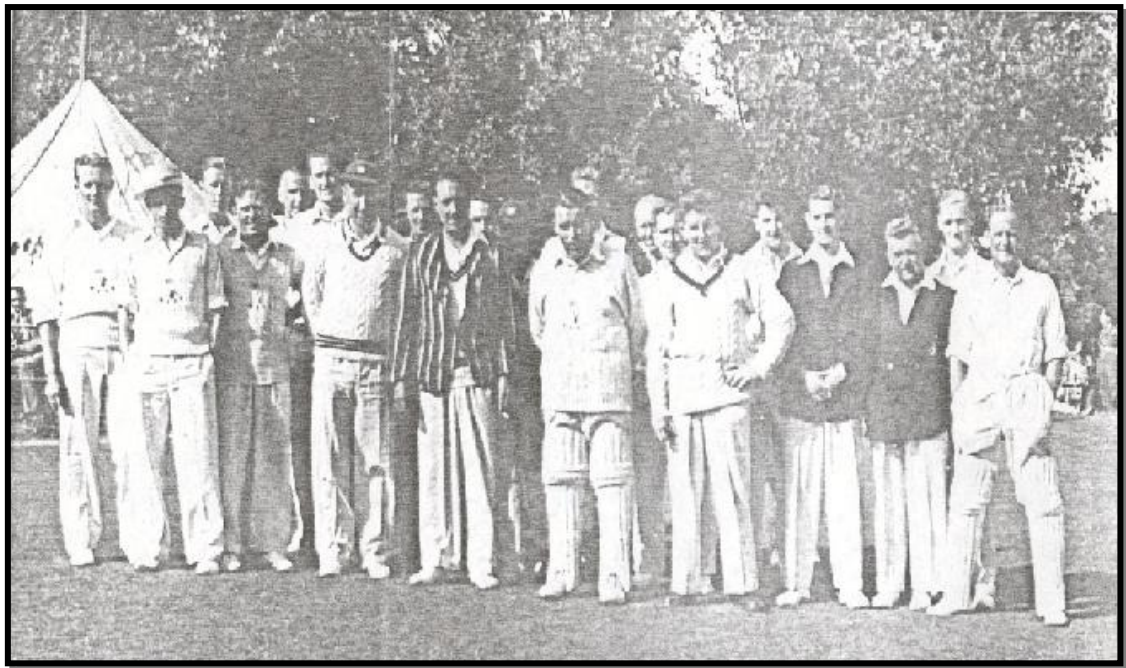
Haydn Davies

The combined Glamorgan/Somerset X1 for Haydn Davies's Benefit (which is listed below) scored 188 all out with Tommy Adams taking 4-57 Syd Stock 2-8, White 2-47 and W.Williams 2-22.

Abergavenny made 170 with W.Mayo (60*) B.Jennings (26) E.Sandford (25) H. Hazel took 6-47



Hazel and Gimlett can be seen in this Somerset Team photograph Back row extreme left and right



Benefit Match Teams- Scorecard [Below]

	J. Hill not out.....	8		
	Extras.....	1		
	Total.....	70		
	Abergavenny v. Glamorgan & Somerset			
lost	Played at Abergavenny on Sunday and won by Glamorgan and Somerset by 18 runs. Scores :—			
so far are :—	GLAMORGAN AND SOMERSET			
orchy heads	B. Hedges c Sanford b Stock.....	3		
	J. McConnon c White b Stock...	9		
	M. Tremlett c Hill b Adams.....	6		
	H. Buse c Alderton b Adams.....	22		
	A. Watkins c Alderton b Adams	25		
	P. Clift st Hill b Adams.....	26		
	H. Davies c Hill b White.....	30		
Fugitives on Somerset.	L. Muncer b Williams.....	18		
	H. Hazell st Hill b White.....	11		
	N. Hever lbw b Williams.....	17		
	K. Lewis not out.....	15		
	Extras.....	6		
	Total.....	188		
	ABERGAVENNY			
ad another and several place in the	L. White c Lewis b Hazel.....	26		
lost opening only 15 on ship between	W. H. Sadler b Lewis.....	2		
ington took	L. G. Jones b Lewis.....	0		
owkett was	W. Williams b Lewis.....	1		
as joined by	T. Adams c Buse b Clift.....	8		
as were up	G. Alderton c Tremlett b Hazell	11		
caught. In	R. Jennings b Hazell.....	26		
Berrington	W. Mayo not out.....	60		
ood at 163	E. Sanford c Lewis b Hazell...	23		
34. When	S. H. Stock c Lewis b Hazell.....	7		
the score	D. Parry b Buse.....	1		
78	J. Hill c Clift b Hazell.....	3		
	Extras.....	2		
	Total.....	170		
	Abergavenny 2nds v. Usk 2nds			

Scorecard for the Benefit Game



Haydn Davies Glamorgan C.C.C

1953

W.E.Jones

Benefit Year

Combined Glamorgan/Middlesex will play the Club June 26th

Fred Titmus and Lew White spin their webs

The highlight of the season was another Benefit Game for W.E. 'Willie' Jones. His team were bowled out for 170 with Lew White taking 5 wickets. The team included: J.Pleas, S.Montgomery, W.E.Jones, H.P.Sharp, S.M.Brown, J.T.Murray, P.Clift, J.J.Warr, F.Titmus, L.Muncer, K.Lewis.



W.E.Jones

In reply Abergavenny only managed 49 with Middlesex and England star bowler Fred Titmus taking 6 wickets.

1954

Len Muncer

Benefit Game

COMBINED XI		
A. Hamer c Williams b D. Jones	32	
T. Kelly c Sadler b Workman	19	
J. Pleass c Williams b D. Jones	4	
A. Revil c Berrington b D. Jones	12	
A. Watkins c P. Jones b Williams	10	
L. Muncer b Jennings	19	
B. Edrich c Alderton b Jennings	7	
C. Gladwin c D. Jones b Jennings	22	
G. Wyatt b Williams	0	
J. McConnon not out	63	
E. Smith c Williams b Jennings	46	
R. Carter c and b D. Jones	10	
Extras	5	
Total	249	

Jim McConnon scored (63) and broke a windscreen. The Combined X1 as seen above scored 249 and Abergavenny replied with 165 -5
W.Binding (69) G.Alderton (28) W.Williams (23)



Len Muncer who played with distinction for both Middlesex and Glamorgan

1955

Allan Watkins

Allan (Albert John) Watkins, cricketer, born 21 April 1922; died 3 August 2011

Benefit Match-July 1955

Alan Watkins Benefit Game. Glamorgan X1 233-6 Abergavenny 171-3
G.Alderton(68) L.White (73*) Some of the players playing for
Glamorgan: Harold Gimlett Ex England and Somerset, Allan Watkins,
Jim Pressdee, Gilbert Parkhouse, Trevor Ford. The Abergavenny Team
that day: S.Workman, G.Alderton, L.White, C.Berrington, R.Jennings,
E.Tovey, D.Jones, B.Shackleton, M.Stock, R. Hodson, J.Hill

Born in Usk, Monmouthshire, he first played for Glamorgan at the age of 17. His closest friend was a fellow Usk cricketer, Phil Clift, and his idol was the England and Yorkshire batsman Maurice Leyland, a fellow left-hander of stocky build.



In 1948/49 Allan Watkins became Glamorgan`s first Centurion in Test cricket, scoring 111 in the Fourth Test against South Africa at Johannesburg. In all, Watkins won 15 caps for England and for many years this stood as the Glamorgan record for the most number of appearances in Test matches for England.

The all-rounder gave yeoman service to Glamorgan from 1939 until 1961, and in his early years, he mixed county cricket with professional football for Plymouth Argyle and Cardiff City. Watkins was a solid and enterprising left-handed batsman, who could also bowl left arm seam and cutters, and his all-round skills made him one of the most valuable members of Wilf Wooller`s squad. His energetic efforts and never-say-die attitude made him a popular figure with Glamorgan`s supporters and a highly respected figure on the county circuit. His qualities were also recognised by the England selectors who appointed him as senior professional on their tour to India, Pakistan and Ceylon in 1951/52. He wholeheartedly undertook the role of stock bowler and also finished the tour as the leading run scorer in the Test series with India. His determination was also to the fore during a nine hour innings in the First Test at Delhi and his 137* helped to save England from defeat.

In 1954 and 1955, Watkins performed the Double, before serving as Senior Professional on the M.C.C. `A` tour to Pakistan in 1955/56. This proved to be his final tour in England colours, as by the mid-1950`s Trevor Bailey of Essex became established as England`s leading all-rounder. But Watkins continued to be a heavy scorer at county level, passing 1,000 runs in every season bar one from 1947 until 1960, as well as taking over 50 wickets in seven out of eight seasons between 1949 and 1956. 28 of his 29 centuries for Glamorgan were in Championship fixtures, whilst in both 1947 and 1949, Watkins hit four centuries in the season.

Inevitably, these stoic efforts took their toll, and by the early 1960`s Watkins was increasingly troubled by asthma. He retired on medical advice mid-way through the 1962 season, and subsequently became a popular coach at Oundle School.

1956

George Tribe

Benefit Match Abergavenny v Northants-July 22nd



Born October 4, 1920, Yarraville, Melbourne, Victoria

Died April 5, 2009 (aged 88 years 183 days)



1957

Gilbert Parkhouse

Benefit Match



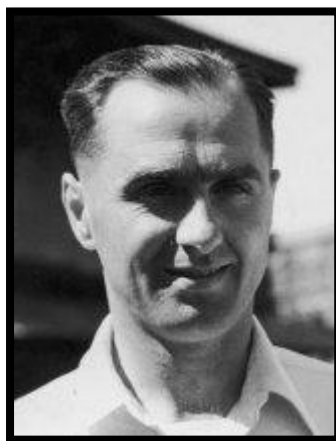
12 October 1925 – 10 August 2000

The Glamorgan team was: W.Davies, R.Edrich, B.Hedges, L.Devereaux, A.Watkins, G.Parkhouse, J.Pressdee, P.Walker, R.Edwards, D.Evans.

1958

Dennis Brookes

Benefit Match held on August 31st 1958



A NORTHANTS XI. v. ABERGAVENNY . 1958



J. Manning, R. Bellis, B. Shackleton, E. Hughes

V. Jenkins (Umpire), C. Nash, N. Darby, R. Jennings, M. Pritchard, A. Lightfoot, R. Subba Row, K. McGibbon, G. Alderton, M. Allen, Nazir Ali
B. Hayward, E. Tovey, Lewis White (Capt.), Dennis Brookes (Capt.), G. Tribe, D. Barrick, F. Tyson, B. Reynolds
K. Andrews P. Arnold (Umpire).

NORTHANTS	
A. Lightfoot b Bellis.....	50
M. Allen b Nasir Ali.....	4
G. Tribe b Pritchard.....	4
R. Subba Row c and b Bellis...	28
D. Barrick b White.....	30
D. Brookes run out.....	23
B. Reynolds st Tovey b White...	3
F. Tyson not out.....	27
K. Andrew c P'chard b White...	15
L. McGibbon not out.....	19
ABERGAVENNY	
N. Darby b Manning.....	1
G. Alderton c Brookes b Allen...	42
Nasir Ali b Manning.....	6
L. White st Andrew b S-Row...	12
R. Bellis st Andrew b Tribe.....	2
C. Nash st Andrew b Subba Row	7
R. Jennings b Tribe.....	11
B. Shackleton b Subba Row...	4
E. Hughes st Andrew b S-Row	3
E. Tovey b Tribe.....	27
M. Pritchard not out.....	2
B. Hayward b Tribe.....	0
Extras.....	9
Total.....	126
* * * * *	

Dennis Brookes was an English cricketer who played for Northamptonshire between 1934 and 1959. He also played in one Test match for England against West Indies in 1948. Brookes was President of Northamptonshire from 1982 to 1984

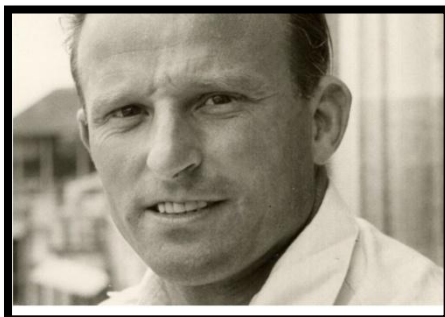
Born 29 October 1915

Leeds, Yorkshire, England Died 9 March 2006 (aged 90)

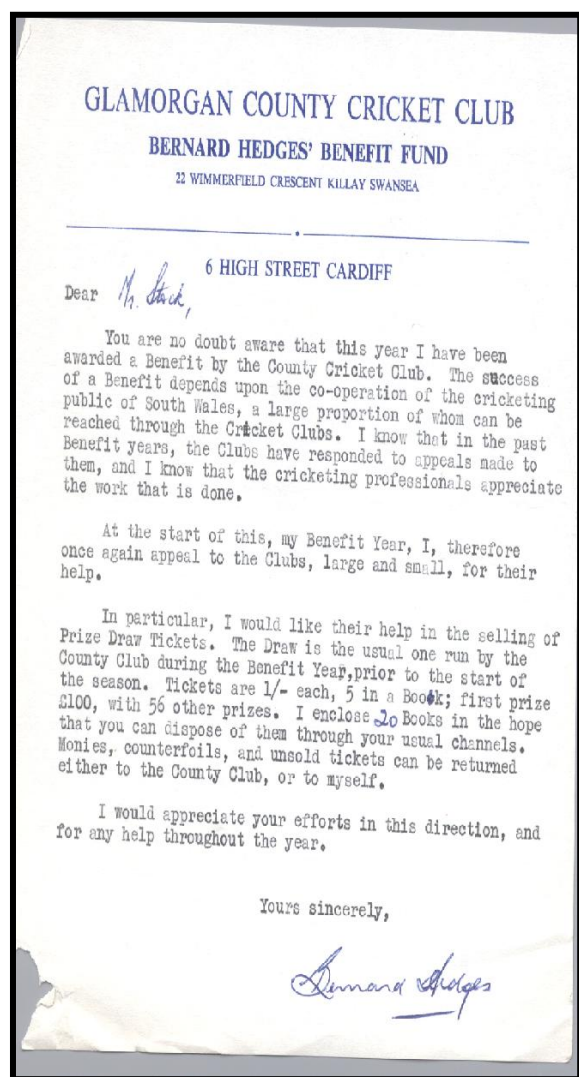
1963

Bernard Hedges

10 November 1927 – 8 February 2014

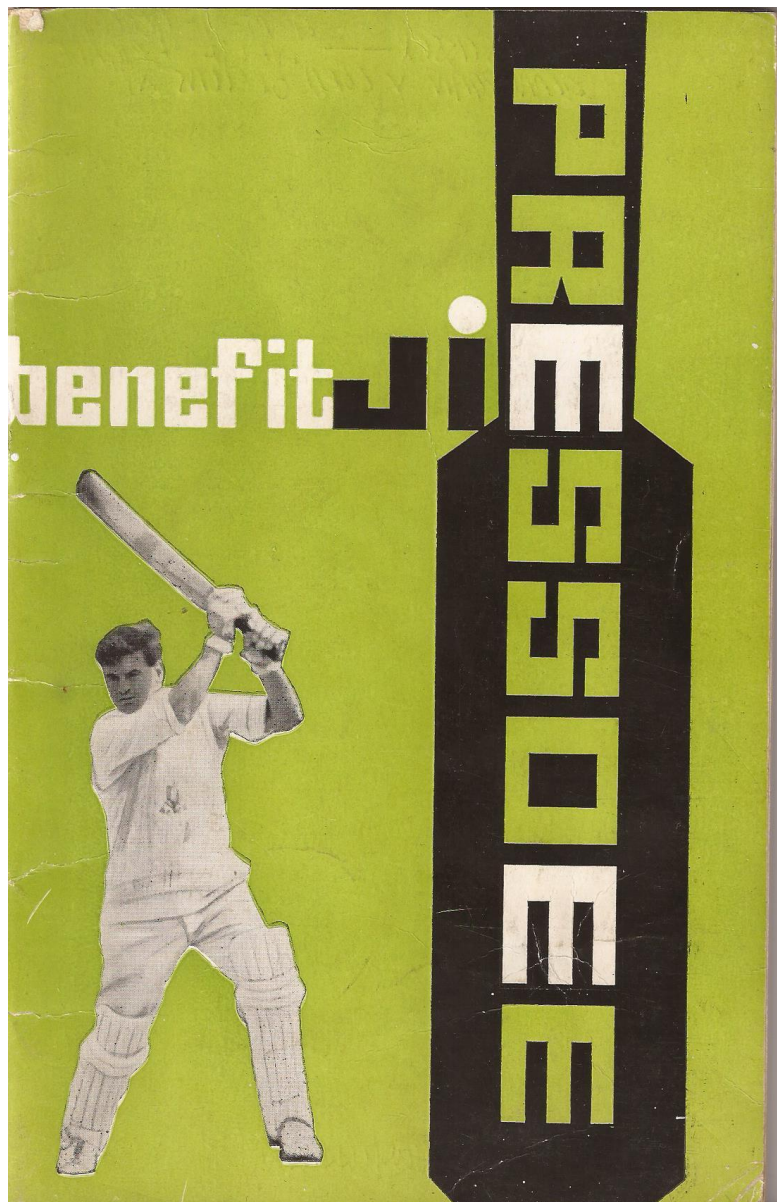


He had an eighteen-year career in first-class cricket, during which time he amassed 17,733 runs in 422 appearances for the Welsh county, and struck 21 centuries



1964

Jim Pressdee



Front Cover of Benefit Brochure

1969

David GL Evans



A benefit match for Glamorgan Wicket Keeper David Evans (pictured above).

The all star team included: Glamorgan C.C.C. off spinner George Shaw, Harlech Televisions' Peter Tomlinson, Brian Lewis of Glamorgan C.C.C, Roy Booth of Worcestershire and Bernard Hedges of Glamorgan C.C.C.

David Evans X1 154-9. Mike Farr 3-26, Dave Griffin 3-44. Abergavenny 157-4 John Powell (16) Robin Williams (99*) P.Grattan (23*) Robin Williams needed a six off the very last ball of the match to make a century unfortunately he hit a four to finish on 99 not out.

10 THE ABERGAVENNY CHRONICLE, THURS., JULY 3, 1969.

Williams needs six for century —hits four



ROBIN WILLIAMS

WELSH schoolboy rugby international, Robin Williams, came within yards of scoring the first century of the season for Abergavenny when he cracked a brilliant unbeaten 99 to lead his side to a six-wicket win over David Evans' Benefit XI on Sunday.

Number five batsman Williams' score stood at 95 when Abergavenny needed two runs for victory and he tried to hit a six to complete his century. But his shot bounced short of the boundary before going for four.

Williams is the second Abergavenny batsman to be robbed of a century this month.

Mike Powell earlier scored 95 not out against Insingers but was forced to retire because of a knee cartilage injury which ended his courageous knock.

But on Sunday Abergavenny looked to be heading for

David Evans XI		Ledbury	
R. Saunders b Williams	2	M. Byson b Lloyd	
B. Lewis b Farr	25	R. Hale bow b Ellaway	
G. Shaw run out	10	D. Barnett b Ellaway	
C. Carpenter b Farr	3	D. Smith b Ellaway	
P. Tomlinson c Griffin b Jennings	15	C. Williams c Jones b Lloyd	
B. Williams c and b Griffin	6	E. Barnes run out	
R. Booth c Lloyd b Griffin	25	G. Sammons b Lloyd	
D. Ellaway b Farr	1	G. Box c J. Powell b Lloyd	
B. Hedges c J. Powell b Griffin	50	C. Morris b Williams	
		C. Wilkins not out	
		B. Massam b Lloyd	

POWELL TAKES 5-38

STAR of Llanarth's win

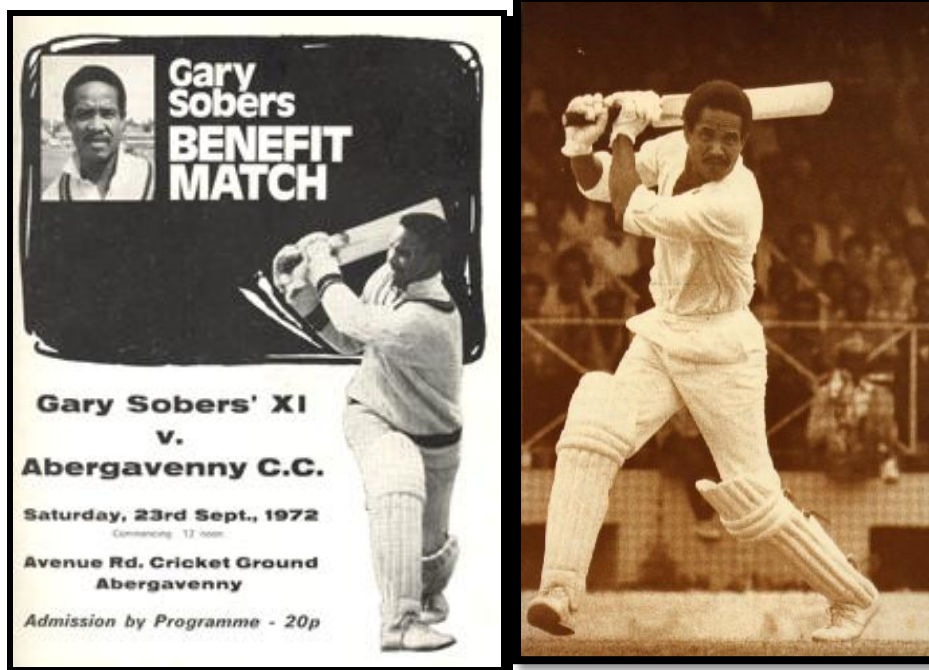
1972

Garfield Sobers

Gary Sobers Benefit

The highlight of the season was a Benefit match for Gary Sobers, the greatest all round cricketer of all time. John Arlott wrote in 1979: “the finest all-round player in the history of cricket”

Sir Don Bradman after Sobers scored 254, for the Rest of the World against Australia in 1971 in Melbourne wrote: “I believe Gary Sobers’s innings was probably the best ever seen in Australia” He was a triple-purpose bowler with seam, orthodox finger spin and wrist spin. A master batsman and an exceptional fielder. On top of all this, Trevor Bailey in his biography of 1976 described him as: “an ‘interesting’ captain”. For mere mortals in Abergavenny to brush shoulders with him at the ground and in the town centre betting `office was a privilege that they probably didn’t truly appreciate.





Gary Sobers signs autographs for youngsters, he didn't actually play in the team but his presence was enough to make the town buzz, as the World's greatest all-rounder



Four years earlier (1968) Sobers had dispatched Nash for 6 sixes in one over in an end of year encounter against Nott's at Swansea.

Thus becoming the first ever cricketer to reach this milestone

Malcolm Nash was experimenting with slow left arm (Derek Underwood type)



Pictured at the bar, Doug James, Don Merritt, Jackie Mead and Dorina Merritt with the great man himself.



Pictured above at the start of the match for Gary Sobers Benefit is
Mike Smedley captain of the Gary Sobers X1 leading his team out at
Avenue Road to play Abergavenny C.C

The team included seven of the Nottingham C.C.C. staff, Gerry Sobers
(Garys brother) Tony Saunders the Nottingham Secretary and ex
Abergavenny player, David Brown of Warwickshire and England and
David Evans the ex Glamorgan C.C.C. wicketkeeper.

Batting first the Gary Sobers X1 scored 267 for 6 wickets declared. In
reply Abergavenny C.C. put up a good show with leading run scorer Mike
Powell making (56) and Ken Williams (34) the main contributors.

It was in this match that Mike Farr took his 1000th wicket for the club
when he dismissed non other than Warwickshire's David Brown.

1972

Alan Jones



1973

David Brown Benefit Game

Warwickshire v Abergavenny



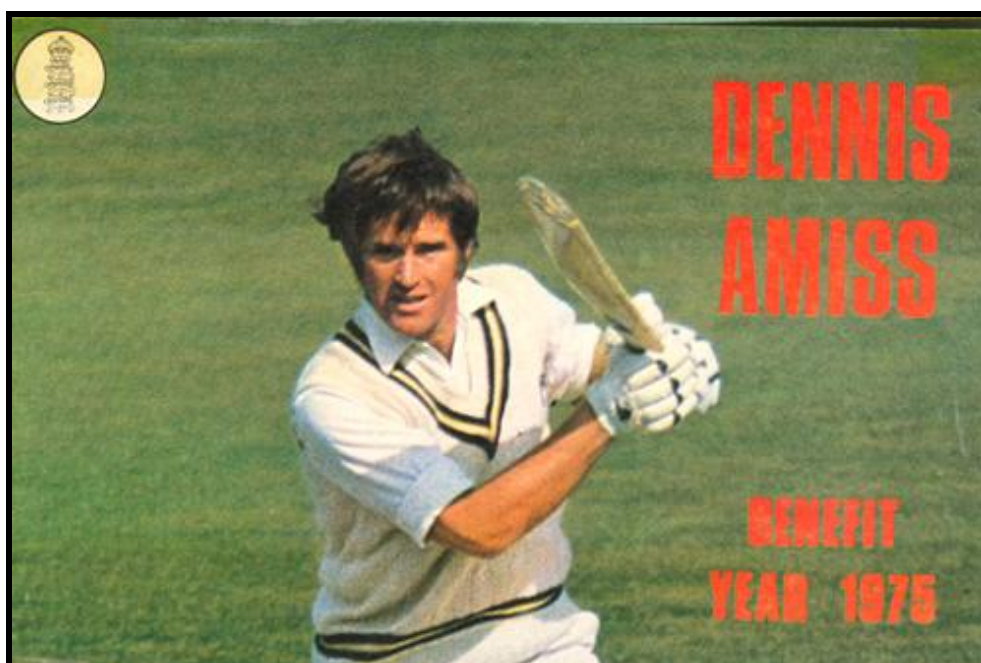
BackRow L R

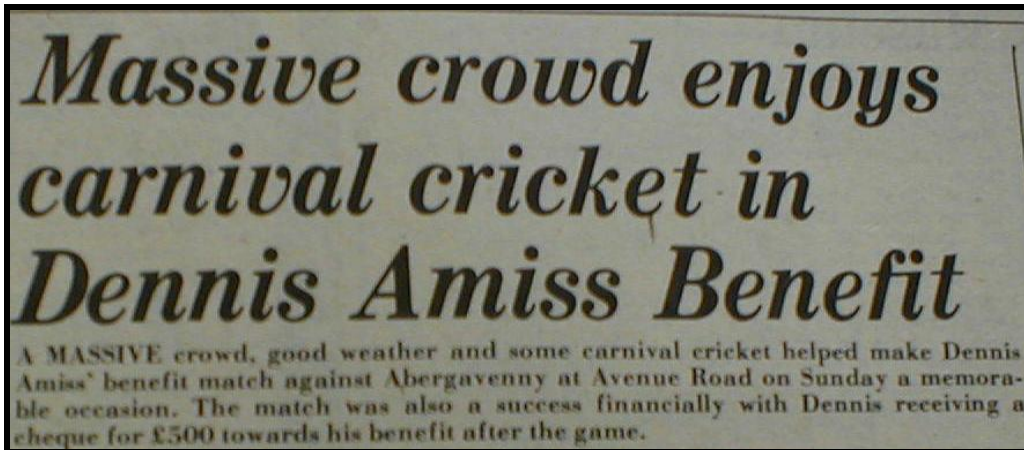
*C.Cox, S.Hamer, E.Hemmings, W.Powell, D.T.Lloyd, P.Butterfield, R.Brown,
C.MacPherson, K.Watkins, B.Shackleton, L.White.*

Front Row L-R

*J.Powell, G.Edwards, J.Jameson, P.F.Jones, D.Brown, K.Williams(Capt)N.Abberley,
J.Whitehouse,M.Powell,B.Jennings*

1975





Dennis Amiss Benefit 1975 Abergavenny v Warwickshire

Back Row L-R

J.Morgan,K.Watkins,E.Hemmings,P.F.Jones,R.Brown,L.Wilcock, K.Holmes,D.Jones,D.Brown,B.Williams,
C.Coggins,D.Murray,D.Evans,A.N.Other,D.Griffin,E.Hughes,D.Harries,S.Perryman,B.Bourne,S.Lennox.

Front Row L-R A.Kallicharran, M.Powell, J.Jameson, B.Shackleton, D.Amiss, R.Kanhai, J.Powell,
P.Barrett(Scorer)

1977

Tony 'Speedy' Cordle

July 9th 1977

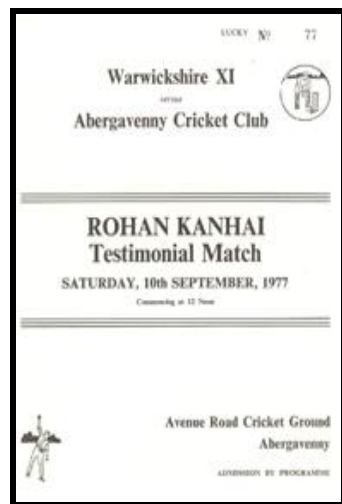
Joint benefit Tony 'Speedy' Cordle and Tony Brown



Teams

Glamorgan A.Jones J.Hopkins A.Francis G.Richards C.King R.Ontong E.Jones E.Jones M.Nash M.Llewellyn
T.Cartwright Gloucester- A.Stovold Sadiq M.Proctor D.Shepherd J.Foat A.Brown D.Graveney J.Shackleton
M.Vernon J.Davey

Rohan Kanhai Testimonial Match-Sept 10th

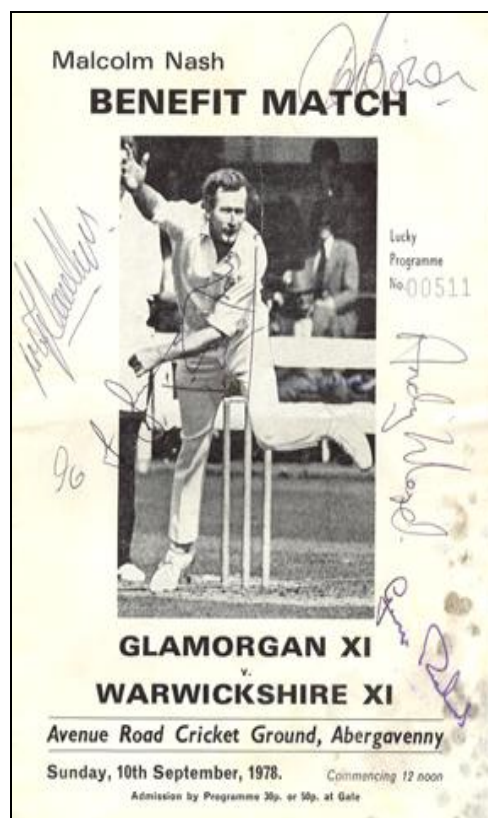


1978

Malcolm A Nash

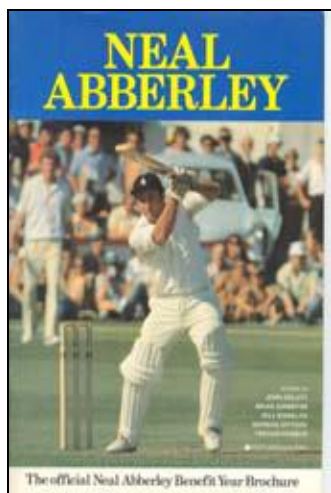


The Mayor and Mayoress and other Council Dignitaries at the Malcolm Nash Benefit Match



1979

Neil Abberley Benefit Match (Saturday) June 23rd



Above-Mike Powell tosses the coin with Neal Abberley watched by Cliff Cox with Paul Sussex in the background

1980

Alan Jones

Testimonial Year

**GLAMORGAN v
The Vic
Lewis
"All Stars XI"**

(PROCEEDS IN AID OF ALAN JONES
BENEFIT FUND)

Sponsored by HILL HOUSE INSURANCE

at Abergavenny C.C.'s
Avenue Road ground
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.
12 noon until 6 p.m.

Admission by programme 50p.
Admission at the gate £1
OAP's and schoolchildren 50p.
at the gate.

LUCKY PROGRAMME No. WINS POLAROID 1300 CAMERA 54

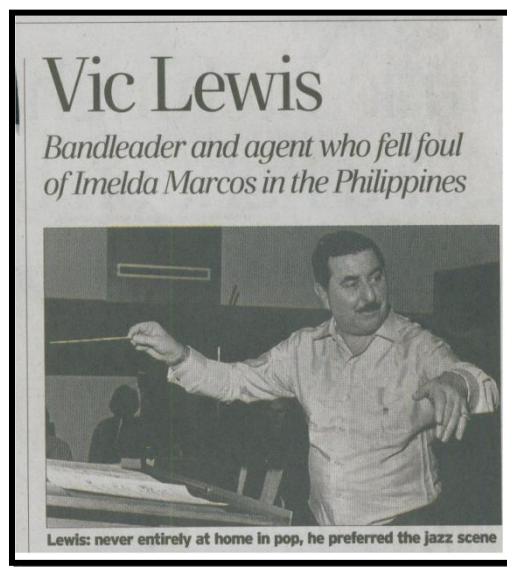
Rain stopped play!

**Licensed Bars
Refreshments
Car parking**

Rain stopped play at Avenue Road cricket ground Abergavenny on Sunday so did rattle the clouds. Stars of television and sport had turned up to watch the Glamorgan opening batsman Alan Jones. But heavy rain made the ground soft for play. Alan did not lose out on the day as he took the presentation of having spent rain. Pictured above are (from the left) Tony McFar, Julian Halliwell, Andy Bryson, Chris Stokes and balling Alister Mainwaring Roberts.

Pictured above are the Official Programme for the Alan Jones Testimonial Match and some of the star names who agreed to take part in the All Stars X1

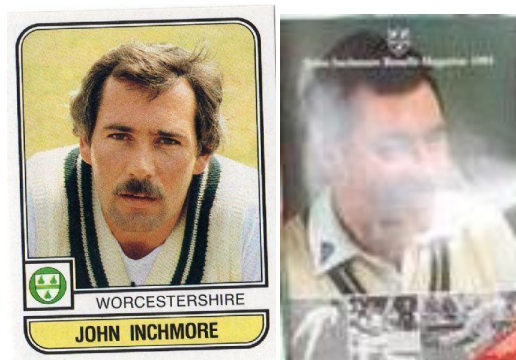
The scheduled match in aid of Alan Jones's Testimonial was called off because of rain. Alan's side was due to include Malcolm Nash, Phil Bennett, Gareth Davies. The opposition would have been provided by an All Stars X1 raised by bandleader and cricket fanatic Vic Lewis. Among the All Stars will be Tom Adams (Enigma File) Chris Blake (Mixed Blessings) Peter Davison (Tristan in all Creature Great and Small)



His twin passions, for jazz and cricket, brought him success as a bandleader and the satisfaction of raising an estimated £3 million through charity matches mounted by his own Vic Lewis Cricket

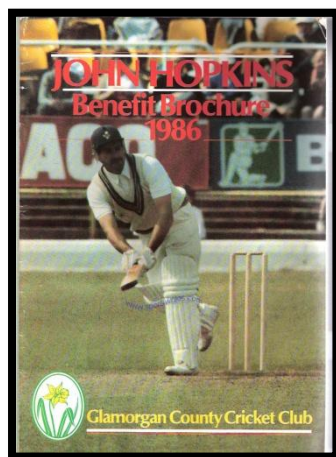
1985

John Inchmore- Worcester CCC

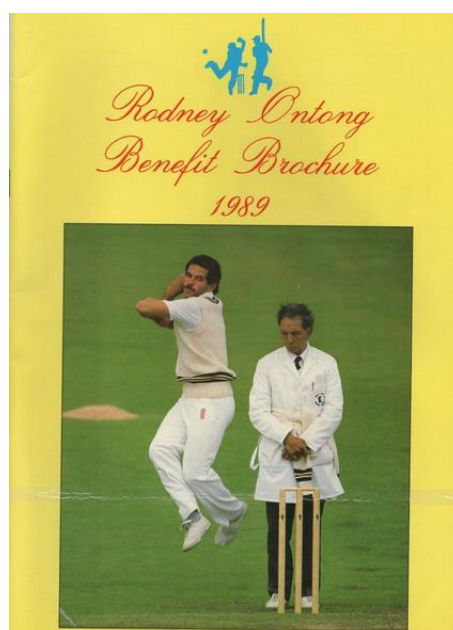


1986

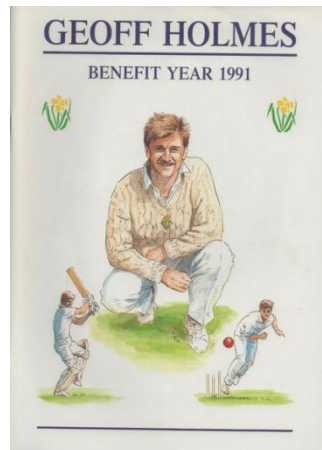
John Hopkins



1989

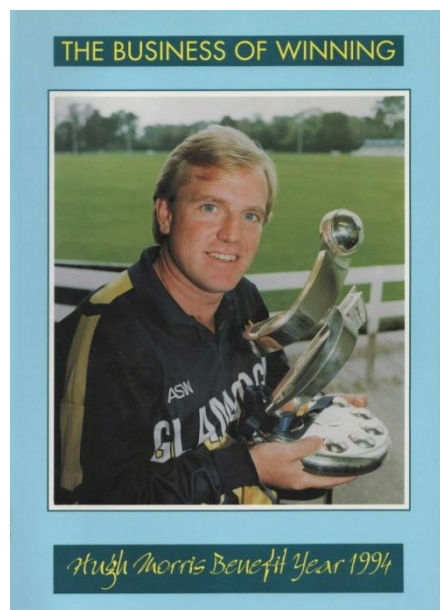


1991



1994

Hugh Morris



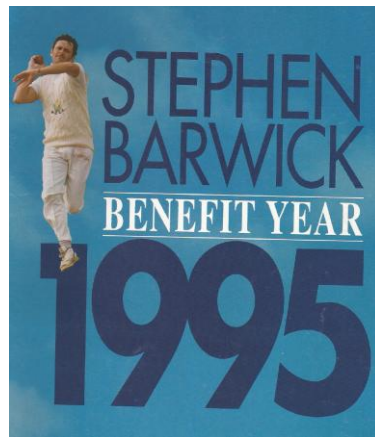
1995

Stephen Barwick

The Briton Ferry legend

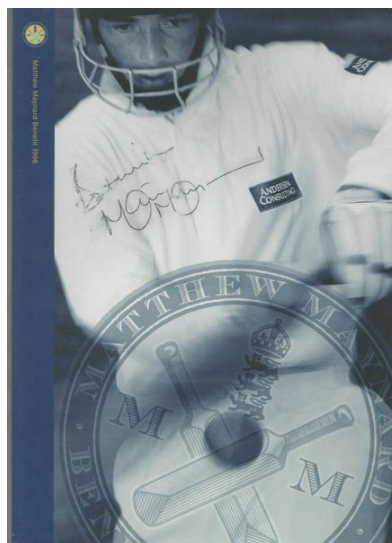


Dinner held at Abergavenny CC on Friday June 2nd 1995



1996

Matthew Maynard



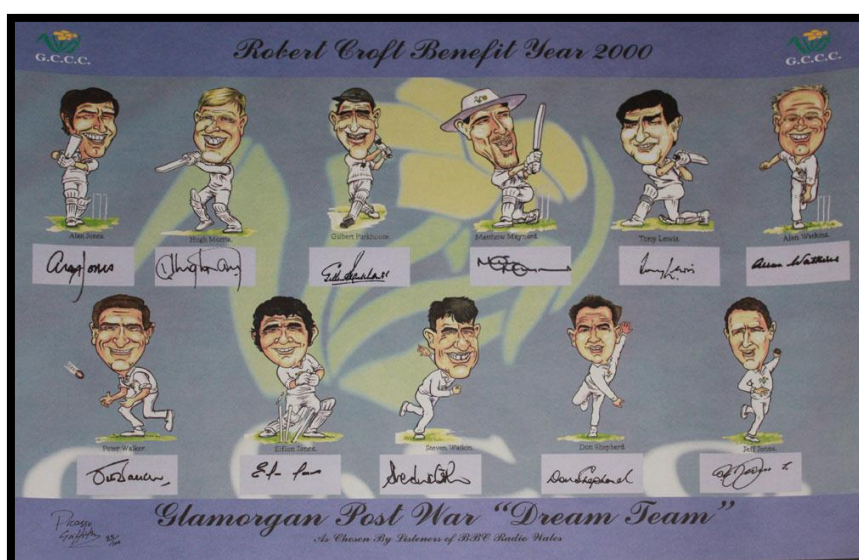
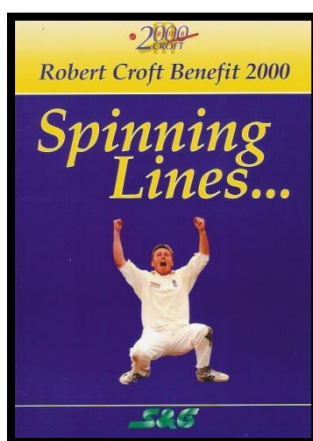
1997

Colin Metson



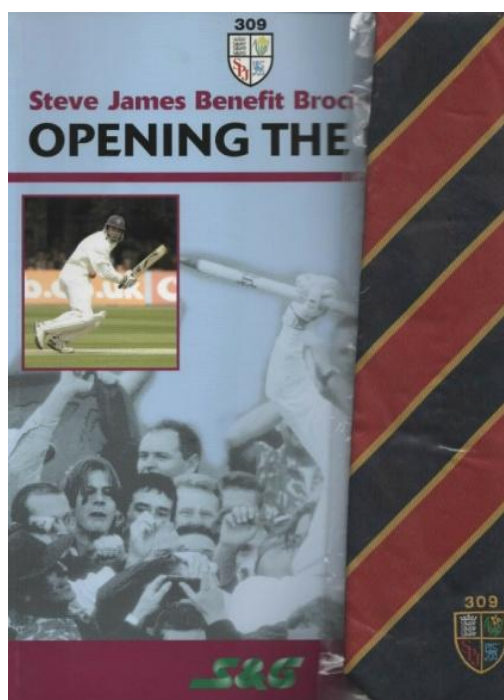
2000

Robert Croft



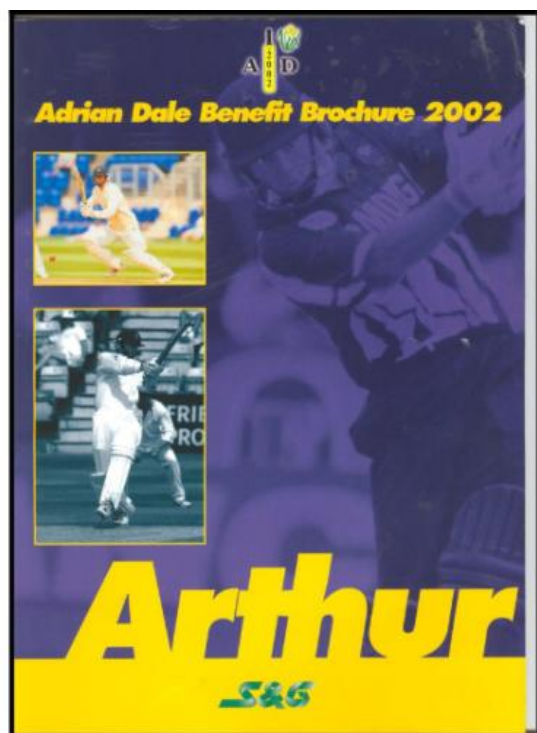
2001

Steve James



2002

Adrian Dale- The event was held at The Bear Hotel Crickhowell rather than at the Club



2011

Mike J Powell



2013

Mark A Wallace

