

## Club stalwarts

### Ray (Reggie) Hamer



Despite people thinking otherwise, Ray who did spend his early years living in England where he represented Luton Schoolboys in junior football, is a very proud Welshman born in the capital – Cardiff in the forties. It is fair to say his main sporting prowess was in football and many will remember him as a very tough central defender who didn't take prisoners. However, he played a lot of cricket in the Welsh Hospital Cup Competition, the Abergavenny Mid week League and the Crickhowell Mid week league in a very strong Pen-y-Fal team, a team that proved very successful in those competitions. Like his son Darren, he did represent the cricket club on a number of occasions including on tours to Alton in the eighties, where he opened the batting facing a Hampshire Under 25 fast bowler. He also played on the Scotland tour arranged by Brad Murphy in 1996 . As well as for Abergavenny veterans X1. His greatest contribution to the club has been off the field, where for many years he has been the lead person for all maintenance work carried out during the winter months as well as working tirelessly on the Ground Committee for many years. Spending many hours on the mower cutting the outfield, as part of the 'Last of the Summer Wine Gang' He volunteered to open his home to the Club Professional Brad Murphy and his wife Kate from Brisbane for the duration of their stay in 1997. He has served on the Committee for a number of years and as Vice Chairman from 2003-2006. He was elected a vice President in 2006 and later, in 2010 elected as a Life member. Not surprisingly he was voted Clubman of the Year on two occasions 1997 and 2001. No one is a more vociferous supporter of the Teams both when doing well or not so well. Unfortunately at present due to his health he follows the teams remotely with regular updates from his many pals. No one is more delighted than Ray to see the First X1 on the brink of Premier Division 2 and the great strides some of our junior cricketers are making.