

# SUFFOLK CRICKET



SUFFOLK  
COUNTY  
CRICKET  
HANDBOOK  
2018



*Suffolk batsman Jaik wins award*



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*All addresses and phone numbers can be found on the Suffolk website: [www.suffolkricket.org](http://www.suffolkricket.org)*

Dear Member,

Welcome to the 2018 Suffolk Cricket Handbook which hopefully will be informative of all the activities of Suffolk Cricket.

Writing this shortly after another disappointing Ashes series, the forthcoming season will, I am sure, provide interesting and attractive cricket in our home county.

Last season, the first with Adam Mansfield as our captain, started very promisingly with wins against Wiltshire and Bedfordshire in the group stage of the Trophy which enabled us to reach the quarter final stage of the competition. Away to Berkshire we were beaten by the eventual Trophy winners.

In the Championship we finished runners up in the Eastern Division and were in contention for the Championship right until the final game. Jaik Mickleburgh starred with the bat, scoring over 800 runs and winning the Wilfred Rhodes Trophy for the top Unicorns batsman of the season.

Looking forward to the coming season we have home matches with Bedfordshire, Norfolk and Lincolnshire in the Unicorns County Championship and the winner of Buckinghamshire and Cambridgeshire in the first round of the Unicorns Trophy. There will also be a Unicorns T20 competition where Suffolk will compete with Norfolk, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire, playing each county twice. The home matches will be at Woolpit and Bury St. Edmunds.

As always, your positive support at our matches is very much appreciated by the players.

I would like to thank our main sponsors, Greene King, for their continued support of cricket throughout the county and also the valuable support of our match ball sponsors, JLS Catering. Without their support Suffolk Cricket would find it extremely difficult to support our existing county structure.

Once again, I would like to thank the many volunteers who freely give of their time to support cricket at all levels within the county. The reports and features in this Handbook is a testament to their valuable work. Long may it continue.



Norman Atkins, MBE,  
Chairman,  
Suffolk County Cricket Club

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*Nick Garnham, Editor:*

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*COVER: Jaik Mickleburgh's year of success.*

*See feature on page 5*

# Minor Counties Championship Leading Averages 2017

**BATTING:** Qualification 6 innings

Player	County	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	Player	County	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Ave
<b>JC Mickleburgh</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>218*</b>	<b>116.40</b>	S Harvey	Cornwall	9	1	248	54	31.00
K Ali	Staffordshire	11	0	772	148	70.18	S A Kazmi	Hertfordshire	11	3	246	79	30.75
S R W Gale	Hertfordshire	11	0	758	227	68.91	J Cater	Oxfordshire	9	2	213	99	30.43
M Lineker	Lincolnshire	11	1	625	138	62.50	M Payne	Buckinghamshire	9	2	211	99	30.14
C. Rowe	Cheshire	11	2	495	95	55.00	S Gumbs	Buckinghamshire	9	0	268	115	29.78
C Peploe	Berkshire	10	3	372	103	53.14	N Clark	Wiltshire	11	0	325	124	29.55
<b>MG Cull</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>52.00</b>	L Sabin	Oxfordshire	11	0	283	64	29.55
M G Pardoe	Herefordshire	10	0	518	127	51.80	W White	Cheshire	10	2	230	88*	28.75
T Maxfield	Staffordshire	11	0	498	130	45.27	M Hill	Staffordshire	11	1	287	50	28.70
P Wilshaw	Staffordshire	11	0	482	144	43.82	J S Dawborn	Cambridgeshire	9	4	143	53	28.60
M H McKiernan	Cumberland	11	4	447	100	63.86	J E Southgate	Hertfordshire	11	1	283	64	28.30
G Pratt	Cumberland	10	2	447	143*	55.88	<b>AP Mansfield</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>27.71</b>
D Freeman	Lincolnshire	11	2	421	86	46.78	M Whaley	Northumberland	9	0	237	113	26.33
R Zelem	Cumberland	11	2	418	92	46.44	M Robins	Cornwall	11	0	286	76	26.00
G Park	Buckinghamshire	9	2	322	163	46.00	D Leech	Cheshire	11	1	247	100	24.70
Zac Bess	Devon	9	2	313	75*	44.71	R Coates	Staffordshire	11	1	246	78	24.60
N A Hammond	Herefordshire	6	0	268	93	44.67	W Parton	Shropshire	10	1	218	73*	24.22
D Brown	Lincolnshire	9	1	351	120	43.88	J Ludlow	Bedfordshire	10	0	242	47	24.20
<b>BD Shepperson</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>43.20</b>	J McIver	Shropshire	9	2	164	62	23.43
B Howgogo	Bedfordshire	10	0	432	118	43.20	A Eckland	Dorset	9	1	187	57	23.38
S G Leach	Shropshire	11	1	429	86	42.90	D O Conway	Herefordshire	9	6	70	23*	23.33
P I Burgoyne	Herefordshire	11	1	425	117	42.50	RAL Moore	Cheshire	10	0	233	61	23.30
S Collins	Dorset	9	0	370	129	41.11	L R Bruce	Cambridgeshire	10	0	232	57	23.20
P Castleden	Buckinghamshire	11	1	396	166*	39.60	<b>T W W Rash</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>51*</b>	<b>23.13</b>
J Voke	Wales MC	10	0	393	96	39.30	C Taylor	Wales MC	9	1	181	54	22.63
J Du Toit	Northumberland	10	0	391	150	39.10	J Thompson	Northumberland	11	1	226	60	22.60
TS Roberts	Wales MC	9	1	305	103	38.13	T Sikandar	Hertfordshire	9	0	200	53	22.22
A Reynoldson	Bedfordshire	11	1	363	83	36.30	M Golding	Devon	10	2	177	68	22.13
Lee Dixon	Cheshire	9	1	289	118*	36.13	S Tindale	Northumberland	10	2	175	45*	21.88
A Simpson	Northumberland	10	1	323	76	35.89	A Hodgson	Cornwall	9	0	195	55	21.67
L Kimber	Lincolnshire	9	1	285	70	35.63	L Robinson	Cheshire	10	1	191	94	21.22
C Brown	Norfolk	9	3	206	69*	34.33	T Hewison	Northumberland	9	1	167	68	20.88
J Morris	Berkshire	7	1	201	79	33.50	B a T S Ellis-Dabrowski	Herefordshire	9	0	186	73	20.67
J Naik	Dorset	9	3	192	62*	32.00	J Spelman	Norfolk	10	1	183	61	20.33
S Griffiths	Wales MC	11	0	351	83	31.91	A Morrison	Wiltshire	9	2	141	32*	20.14
J Bess	Devon	10	1	285	90*	31.67	<b>K Young</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>19.44</b>

**BOWLING:** Qualification: 8 wkts:

Player	County	Ov	M	Runs	Wkts	Ave
T Bulcock	Cumberland	261.3	82	601	45	13.36
<b>M A Comber</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15.50</b>
A Willerton	Lincolnshire	182.4	54	415	26	15.96
C Brown	Norfolk	185.0	41	489	26	18.81
A Carter	Lincolnshire	177.0	36	517	27	19.15
<b>H A Douglas</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>124.0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21.05</b>
S Brar	Northumberland	56.3	11	204	9	22.67
R Gordon	Cambridgeshire	111.4	32	341	15	22.73
B France	Norfolk	215.4	43	652	28	23.29
P Byrne	Staffordshire	245.4	62	663	28	23.68
D Brown	Lincolnshire	137.5	35	460	19	24.21
B A Waring	Hertfordshire	301.3	79	921	37	24.89
J Goodwin	Wiltshire	55.3	7	201	13	25.62
B Stolzworthy	Norfolk	62.4	7	205	8	25.63
L B Grey	Cumberland	72.4	16	232	9	25.78
M Panesar	Bedfordshire	251.0	67	646	25	25.84
D Freeman	Lincolnshire	79.0	14	286	11	26.00
J Naik	Dorset	207.3	69	479	47	26.49
A Watson	Norfolk	64.2	14	239	9	26.56
J Burden	Buckinghamshire	108.0	22	375	14	26.79
T Brett	Bedfordshire	295.2	45	1055	39	27.05
P J McMahon	Cambridgeshire	104.0	25	299	11	27.18
G Willott	Staffordshire	114.0	19	389	14	27.79
<b>J E Poulson</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>28.50</b>
E C W Wharton	Hertfordshire	98.0	19	345	12	28.75
Z Bess	Devon	49.2	16	119	10	29.60
A J Syddall	Cumberland	116.0	26	361	12	30.08
S Tindale	Northumberland	136.1	18	573	19	30.16
<b>T W W Rash</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>160.4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30.50</b>
M Spencer	Staffordshire	77.5	10	339	11	30.82
M Rance	Buckinghamshire	149.1	22	539	17	31.71
D G Ball	Herefordshire	47.4	8	159	9	31.78
E Woods	Berkshire	59.3	17	155	11	32.45
L R Bruce	Cambridgeshire	204.5	34	750	23	32.61
C Taylor	Wales MC	153.5	48	443	28	32.96
O Wilkin	Berkshire	61.0	14	204	11	33.27
R Taylor	Norfolk	155.1	31	505	15	33.67
<b>K Young</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>34.09</b>
<b>J Wakelin</b>	<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>169.0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>34.71</b>

## Suffolk C.C.C. Championship Averages 2017

Name	M	In	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	0	Ov	M	Runs	Wkts	Ave	BB	10m	5i	C/St
Batch D.P.	1	2	0	95	72	47.50	0	1	0	6	0	15	0	-	-	-	-	-
Beaumont J.A.	2	3	1	35	24	17.50	0	0	0	38	6	116	4	29.00	2-37	-	-	1
Comber M.A.	6	9	0	112	46	12.44	0	0	1	65	15	186	12	15.50	7-59	-	1	1
Cull M.G.	6	11	1	520	100	52.00	1	4	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Douglas H.A.*	5	3	2	37	16*	37.00	0	0	0	124	20	421	20	21.05	6-39	-	1	5
Ironside D.*	3	5	2	197	125*	65.66	1	0	0	66	8	283	2	141.50	1-60	-	-	1
Mansfield A.P.	6	9	2	194	40*	27.71	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Mickleburgh J.C.*	6	11	4	815	218*	116.42	3	4	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Oxley A.G.*	3	5	1	98	53	24.50	0	1	1	1	0	4	0	-	-	-	-	1
Parker B.J.	1	1	0	8	8	8.00	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poulson J.E.	3	4	1	74	36	24.66	0	0	0	90	36	228	8	28.50	4-74	-	-	2
Rash T.W.W.	6	10	2	185	51*	23.12	0	1	0	160.4	32	488	16	30.50	4-94	-	-	2
Reece B.J.	1	1	0	18	18	18.00	0	0	0	18	5	46	3	15.33	3-36	-	-	-
Shepperson B.D.	6	10	0	432	129	43.20	1	1	0	17	1	68	1	68.00	1-18	-	-	6
Wakelin J.B.	6	7	3	36	18*	9.00	0	0	0	169	36	486	14	34.71	3-54	-	-	4
Young K.*	5	9	0	175	49	19.44	0	0	1	100	19	375	11	34.09	4-62	-	-	5
Sub	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

\*Debut

## Suffolk C.C.C. One Day Averages 2017

Name	M	In	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ov	M	Runs	Wkts	Ave	BB	C/St
Batch D.P.	5	5	0	134	60	26.80	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Beaumont J.A.	3	2	1	20	16	20.00	-	-	20	0	107	5	21.40	5-41	-
Comber M.A.	4	4	0	86	63	21.50	-	1	21	1	127	7	18.14	4-64	1
Cull M.G.	5	5	0	167	93	33.40	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Douglas H.A.	2	1	0	0	0	0.00	-	-	16	2	94	0	-	-	-
Hunn M.D.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.3	0	41	2	20.50	2-41	1
Ironside D.	2	1	0	0	0	0.00	-	-	4	0	19	0	-	-	-
Mansfield A.P.	5	5	2	33	28	11.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Mickleburgh J.C.	4	4	0	188	124	47.00	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Parker B.J.	3	3	0	33	18	11.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Rash T.W.W.	5	5	2	168	82*	56.00	-	1	41.5	2	239	5	47.80	2-36	6
Salisbury M.E.T.	4	2	1	43	33*	43.00	-	-	33.4	2	176	6	29.33	3-15	1
Shepperson B.D.	4	4	0	179	81	44.75	-	2	3	0	16	0	-	-	1
Wakelin J.B.	4	4	0	24	23	6.00	-	-	35	1	152	8	19.00	2-28	1
Wareing M.B.	3	1	1	2	2*	-	-	-	20	1	117	2	58.50	1-34	1
Young K.	1	1	0	23	23	23.00	-	-	10	0	63	2	31.50	2-63	-
Sub	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

## Minor Counties Championship 2017 Final Tables

EASTERN DIVISION	P	W	L	D	A/T	Pts
Lincolnshire	6	4	0	2	0	117
<b>Suffolk</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>92</b>
Staffordshire	6	2	0	4	0	85
Cumberland	6	2	0	4	0	83
Norfolk	6	2	1	3	0	80
Cambridgeshire	6	1	1	4	0	67
Hertfordshire	6	1	2	3	0	66
Buckinghamshire	6	0	2	4	0	45
Bedfordshire	6	0	4	2	0	33
Northumberland	6	0	4	2	0	29

WESTERN DIVISION	P	W
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# Side are finally showing signs of success

*Captain's report by ADAM MANSFIELD*



*The Suffolk side that faced Buckinghamshire in the opening Unicorns Championship fixture of the season at Bury St Edmunds. Back row, left to right: Andy Broome (scorer), Jack Beaumont, Ben Shepperson, Kyran Young, Mike Comber, Hugo Douglas, Matt Wareing, Darren Ironside, Andy Northcote (coach). Front row: Ben Parker, Jake Wakelin, Tom Rash, Adam Mansfield, Martyn Cull, Jaik Mickleburgh*

DURING the winter of 2016, Andy Northcote offered me the chance to lead Suffolk during the upcoming season. Although still relatively inexperienced at Minor Counties level, this was an opportunity I could most definitely not turn down.

However, the hard work soon began. A small squad of players were invited to train at Ipswich School and thanks to Andy Squire a weekend away at Serious Cricket (Basingstoke) was also included into pre-season. During this period it was also announced that Jaik Mickleburgh would be joining us as our professional during the 2017 season and I'm sure you will read plenty about him throughout the handbook.

Our season started away at Hertfordshire for the first MCCA Trophy fixture. Being asked to bat first, Jaik Mickleburgh led from the front with a super 124 helping us to what we felt was a match-winning total of 284-6. However, Herts batted well throughout and it went down to the last ball with one needed. Unfortunately for us they managed to achieve this and we began the campaign with a loss.

We managed to bounce back with a win due to a brilliant bowling display at Ipswich School. Batting first, Martyn Cull reminded us that age is just a number and made a fantastic 93. It was the start of what was to be a fantastic summer for him.

We managed to bowl Wiltshire out for 162 thanks to Matt Salisbury (3-15) and Matt Hunn (2-41). Matt Hunn was coming back from injury and thankfully Kent gave him permission to play. It's always great to see him and he has become a top professional.

The Buckinghamshire game was one to forget; batting first

we only managed a total of 160 and that was mainly thanks to Ben Shepperson, who made 81. Bucks managed to chase the score two down and it was on to a winner-takes-all in the last group game.

We played Bedfordshire knowing that a win would take us into the quarter finals. Being asked to bat first, Tom Rash (82 not out) and Darren Batch (60) took responsibility and got the side to a competitive 261. Jack Beaumont led the bowling with his first 5-fer for the county, however an unbelievable tenth-wicket partnership of 111 brought the game to an exciting finish. Needing just seven to win, Matt Salisbury stepped up to take the final wicket and we all breathed a massive sigh of relief.

Onto the quarter finals, and we travelled to Berkshire who I believe are one of the best Minor Counties on the circuit. It wasn't to be and we lost by 57 runs. However, it was great to see a good mate of mine, Mikey Comber, back at his best with 4-64 and a brisk 63. Mikey is a massive part of our team and it's great to see him lead from the front.

After losing all four group games the previous season, to make the quarter finals can be seen as a move in the right direction. Both myself and Andy know we have a long way to go in becoming a good one-day side, but the signs are there. We had started to become a group of players who wanted to win for each other and I hoped this was to continue during the Championship season.

Championship cricket is tough, both physically and mentally. Andy spoke to us before the first game and reminded us all that we are picked for what we do at club level and nothing should change when representing Suffolk. Andy doesn't ask for much apart from us to turn up on time and be ready to perform, and this has given us

the freedom to enjoy our cricket and allowed us to perform at our best.

We began the Championship season at home to Buckinghamshire. Hugo Douglas, making his Championship debut, produced figures of 4-19 helping us bowl Bucks out for 260. Then the formidable opening partnership took over, Martyn Cull (98) and Jaik Mickleburgh (108 not out) set us up for a total of 394-6. With a win in our sights the rain unfortunately came and Bucks finished on 92-5, still 42 behind.

After a strong performance first up, we made the long trip up to Northumberland. For me this trip away is one of the best and this was no different. Winning the toss we chose to bat first, and up stepped the best Minor Counties batsman of 2017, Jaik Mickleburgh. Jaik went on to score 218 not out in of a total 424-4.

However, taking 20 wickets is always tough and up stepped Mikey Comber. Running in after a cocktail of painkillers, Mikey took 7-59 in one of the best spells I have seen. Being so far behind our first innings total we made Northumberland follow on. We bowled them out for a second time with them just three in front and Martyn Cull finished the game with a boundary. This game must also be remembered for the debut of young Alex Oxley. Aged just 16, he is one of Suffolk's best youngsters and I look forward to seeing his career progress.

On to the fixture at Copdock which was a game dominated by the batsmen. Ben Shepperson, Martyn Cull and Jaik all made hundreds, with Ben's being his first for the county. I've known Ben for a long time now and it was great to see him back in the Suffolk team. He's always had the ability to be a quality batsman and was now starting to show it. Unfortunately, we fell just short in an exciting chase and the game ended in a draw.

The local derby was next. Norfolk is a difficult place to play and conditions always suit their bowlers. Batting first, we made 300. This was mainly thanks to Martyn Cull who made a brilliant 96 and he was well supported by youngster Alex Oxley, who scored his maiden Championship fifty. Being a seam bowler light, all-rounder Kyran Young bowled superbly and took four first-innings wickets. Kyran, playing in his first season for the county, was fantastic, he fitted straight in and has the ability with both bat and ball to produce match-winning performances. A long rain break took time out of the game and left us with no choice but to bat out the last day.

Still with a chance to win the Eastern Division, we moved on to Ipswich School to face Cumberland. Jaik Mickleburgh led the way again with 96 and Darren Batch made 72. Darren, playing in his first Championship fixture for seven years, proved that given the chance he has the ability to perform at Minor Counties level. James Poulson (4-74) and Jake Wakelin (3-54) bowled superbly to leave the scores even after the first innings. Jake played a major role throughout the season as our leading spin option. A typical Essex lad who always puts a smile on your face, he was a pleasure to captain and always did the job asked of him. Jaik again showed us his class with a 99, helping us set



*Suffolk skipper Adam Mansfield after being presented with his cap during the final match of the season away to Bedfordshire.*

Cumberland 304. When the rain fell Cumberland were 163-5 with an exciting finish in prospect and with that a draw took away our hopes to finish top.

We travelled to Bedfordshire for our last Championship fixture. This was to be remembered for a maiden Championship hundred from Darren Ironside. Darren came to Suffolk asking for an opportunity to play Minor Counties cricket. He showed us his commitment throughout the winter by making the long journey from Buckhurst Hill and deserved his chance. Hugo Douglas started the ball rolling with his first Championship 5-fer and after two hard-fought days we were set 319 to win. Up stepped Darren, who made 125 not out and we finished the season with a win.

During the Beds game Mikey Comber, Jaik Mickleburgh and myself were awarded our county caps. Tom Rash presented the caps and gave a speech that just reminded us all what it means to play for Suffolk. Tom is a top bloke and is someone you can always rely on to give you 100 per cent.

Finally, I am proud of all the players who have played during the year and I hope people around the county are pleased to finally see us showing signs of success. A lot of credit must go to Tom Huggins, Justin Bishop and Bob Flack, who in recent years have led Suffolk and shown what it means to represent this great county.

Andy Northcote has been fantastic again, he has created an environment that allows us to perform at our best and I know the players love his crazy warm-up ideas.

Personally, I would like to say a big thank you to the committee for allowing me to lead the side last year – it was a challenge I thoroughly enjoyed. The season was one of the best both on and off the pitch and I am looking forward to see what the 2018 season has in store.



# Batting award tops off outstanding season

JAIK Mickleburgh topped off an outstanding season for Suffolk by winning the Wilfred Rhodes Trophy.

The award is made annually to the batsman with the highest average in the Minor Counties Championship, and the 27-year-old finished top of the pile with 815 runs at 116.43 to claim the award.

He followed in the footsteps of Stuart Westley (1977), Timur Mohammed (1979) and Tom Huggins (2013) in becoming only the fourth Suffolk player to win the award since its introduction in 1955.

Mickleburgh, who signed for Suffolk before the start of last season after being released by Essex nine years after making his first-class debut, enjoyed a prolific summer.

He compiled three centuries, with a highest score of 218 not out against Northumberland, and four fifties that included two scores in the nineties as Suffolk finished runners-up in the Eastern Division.

Mickleburgh's 815 runs were just two more than Lincolnshire's Matt Lineker – who scored 188 of his tally in the play-off final defeat to Berkshire – but Lineker's came at a significantly lower average of 67.75.

Staffordshire's Kadeer Ali, brother of England all-rounder Moeen Ali, was runner-up to Mickleburgh, scoring 772 runs at an average of 70.18.

Mickleburgh was presented with his award by former ECB Chairman Lord MacLaurin, who is now president of the MCC, at the Minor Counties Christmas Lunch at Lord's in early December.

After hearing of his success Mickleburgh said: "I was not even aware there was an award, so it is obviously a great honour to win it, and I am very grateful.

"I worked hard over the course of the season, so to win an award is always nice as no-one can score your runs for you.

"The team did well this year and it was pleasing being able to put in performances consistently throughout the season and contribute to that, although it would have been nice to win the group and reach the play-off final."

Martyn Cull, Mickleburgh's opening partner, finished fifth



*Jaik Mickleburgh is pictured after being presented with the Wilfred Rhodes Trophy at Lord's in early December.*

highest run-scorer in the Eastern Division with 520 runs at an average of 52.00, while a third Suffolk batsman, Ben Shepperson was 12th, scoring 432 runs at an average of 43.20.

Mickleburgh was subsequently appointed as the new professional cricket coach at Brentwood School in November.

After informing Suffolk that this would limit his availability in the first half of the season, the county started looking elsewhere for a professional for the 2018 season.

However, Mickleburgh left the door open by saying he would still play for Suffolk if required.

He said of his new role: "When you finish playing you want to give as much back as you can.

"If I can turn a decent player into a very good player then it is all worthwhile. Hopefully I can help to produce a future Essex player."

## Live updates - ball by ball

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**[www.totalcricket scorer.com](http://www.totalcricket scorer.com)**

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***It's just like sitting next to Andy Broome in the scoreboard!***

# Record-breaker sets sights on fruitful career

RECORD-BREAKER Alex Oxley has set his sights on a long and fruitful Suffolk career.

The 16-year-old schoolboy became Suffolk's youngest player since the Second World War when he made his debut in the Unicorns Championship match against Northumberland last June. Oxley was almost selected 12 months prior to making his bow when he was included in the squad for the 2016 season opener against Cumberland at Carlisle. Had he been picked then Oxley would have become the county's youngest-ever debutant, but Copdock & Old Ipswichian batsman Jed Cawkwell got the nod instead.

However, Oxley's big moment arrived when he was handed his first start in the match at South Northumberland CC.

He was aged just 16 years and 60 days old on the opening day of the match, eclipsing the record held by Nadeem Shahid, who went on to play for Essex and Surrey.

Shahid was 17 years and 79 days old when he made his bow, against Cambridgeshire at Fenner's in July 1986. Oxley played his part in Suffolk's ten-wicket success, batting at No.3 and scoring 39 from 99 balls including four boundaries before being run out.

His dismissal brought to an end a second-wicket stand worth 85 with opening batsman Jaik Mickleburgh, who went on to compile an undefeated 218 in Suffolk's 424-4 declared.

Speaking after the match the Culford School student said: "My team-mates were so supportive and made me feel so welcome from the moment I walked into the dressing room.

"They made me feel like I was one of them all through the three days. I was really excited to bat at No.3 and it was a great opportunity for me as a youngster, especially to bat with Jaik Mickleburgh.

"To be able to watch how he approaches his innings and how he plays different bowlers was unbelievable. He was exceptionally calm and very collected and it was a great experience for me to bat with a player of his quality."

Oxley added: "Everything at that level comes much faster – there is no thinking time – and it is much more intense than at school level, which is much more relaxed.

"But after experiencing it I want more, so I will keep working and training hard and doing the little one per centers to get better and better and maybe another opportunity will come along."

He did not have to wait long, appearing in the next



*Alex Oxley is presented with a Suffolk cap by coach Andy Northcote on the day he became the county's youngest debutant since the Second World War*

Championship match, against Hertfordshire at Copdock, before re-writing the record books just a fortnight later.

The Bury St Edmunds batsman became the youngest player ever to score a half century against Norfolk when he made 53 in Suffolk's first innings of the Championship match at Manor Park.

He said: "It was good to be given the opportunity to bat at No.3 and it came off for me.

"I enjoyed working hard for the team and having Martyn Cull at the other end was extremely helpful as he has a wealth of experience and knowledge.

"Hopefully it will be the first of many big innings I play for the county."



# Toby's 25 years as secretary is honoured

SUFFOLK secretary Toby Pound's quarter-of-a-century's dedicated service was honoured at a celebration luncheon.

Sixty guests attended the event which was held on the second day of the Unicorns Championship match against Hertfordshire at Copdock.

Ex-Essex cricketer Don Topley stood in as guest speaker at short notice after Suffolk's former Minor Counties captain Phil Caley was unable to attend.

Toby, who took over as secretary of Suffolk



County Cricket Association in 1992, was presented with an engraved plate to mark his 25 years' service.

He said: "If you live in Suffolk and have a passion for cricket, there is no better job than being county secretary.

"It has been a great privilege to fill that role for 25 years and I have enjoyed playing a part in organising Minor Counties cricket and seeing our best young players progress alongside established former Test players."

## SUFFOLK CCC FIXTURES FOR THE 2018 SEASON

All home matches are printed in bold type. All matches start at 11am unless shown. A full list of fixtures for all the county's teams can be found on the website at [www.suffolccc.play-cricket.com](http://www.suffolccc.play-cricket.com)

### UNICORNS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

**JUNE**  
Sun-Tues 24-26 v Staffordshire at West Bromwich Dartmouth C.C.

**JULY**  
Sun-Tues 8-10 v BEDFORDSHIRE at Bury St Edmunds C.C.  
Sun-Tues 22-24 v NORFOLK at Copdock & O.I. C.C.

**AUGUST**  
Sun-Tues 5-7 v Hertfordshire at North Mymms C.C.  
Sun-Tues 19-21 v LINCOLNSHIRE at Ipswich School

**SEPTEMBER**  
Sun-Tues 2-4 Cambridgeshire at Saffron Walden C.C.

### UNICORNS KNOCK-OUT TROPHY

**MAY**  
Sun 20 1st Round – Match 2  
v BUCKINGHAMSHIRE or CAMBRIDGESHIRE at Ipswich School

**JUNE**  
Sun 10 Quarter finals  
Match W: Winner 4 v Runner-up 6  
Match X: Winner 5 v Runner-up 7  
Match Y: Winner 1 v Runner-up 3  
Match Z: Winner 8 v Runner-up 2

**JULY**  
Sun 1 Semi-finals  
Winner Match Y v Winner Match W  
Winner Match X v Winner Match Z

### AUGUST

Wed 29 Final at Wormsley  
Thurs 30 Final Reserve Day

### UNICORNS T20 COMPETITION

**MAY**  
Sun 6 v NORFOLK at Woolpit C.C.  
Mon 7 v Cambridgeshire at Peterborough C.C.  
Sun 27 v BEDFORDSHIRE at Bury St Edmunds C.C.

**JUNE**  
Sun 3 v Hertfordshire at Harpenden C.C.

**AUGUST**  
Sun 26 Finals Day  
Mon 27 Finals Reserve Day

### FRIENDLIES

**APRIL**  
SUN 9 v Essex II Away  
Sun 22 v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY at Sudbury C.C.

### 2nd XI EAST OF ENGLAND CRICKET DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION

**JULY**  
Wed 11 v NORFOLK at Woolpit C.C.

**AUGUST**  
Thurs 23 v Huntingdonshire Waresley C.C.  
Thurs 9 v BEDFORDSHIRE at Copdock & O.I. C.C.  
Thurs 16 v Essex Billericay C.C.  
Thurs 23 v Cambridgeshire at Saffron Walden C.C.

# Hertfordshire C.C.C. v Suffolk C.C.C.

At North Mymms CC, April 23, 2017

Competition: Unicorns KO Trophy

Umpires: P. Nicholls and R. Parker

Scorers: A.C.S. Gibbs and A. J. Broome

*Suffolk won the toss. Result: Hertfordshire won by 2 wkts. Hertfordshire 2pts, Suffolk 0pts*

## Suffolk suffer last-ball loss in opening fixture



SUFFOLK'S opening Unicorns KO Trophy fixture ended in the agony of a last-ball loss to hosts Hertfordshire.

After winning the toss and opting to bat first, Suffolk were indebted to a century on debut from opener Jaik Mickleburgh for setting their opponents 285 to win. Mickleburgh shared an opening partnership of 63 with Martyn Cull in 13 overs, and was then the dominant batsman in stands of 51 and 42 with Darren Batch and Ben Parker respectively. He was eventually

*Jaik Mickleburgh who scored 124 off 120 balls on his Suffolk debut.*

dismissed in the 43<sup>rd</sup> over, after contributing 124 off 120 balls with 13 fours and two sixes.

It was left to Tom Rash (48 off 35 balls) and Jake Wakelin (23 from 21 deliveries) to push Suffolk towards their eventual total in a sixth-wicket stand of 53 inside seven overs.

Hertfordshire openers Steve Gale and Jamie Southgate put on 65 before being separated in the 11<sup>th</sup> over as Rash claimed the breakthrough.

Southgate completed a half-century and was then run out by Matt Salisbury, but Hertfordshire continued to chip away at their target.

Danny Blacktopp (47), Tanveer Sikander (41) and Reece Hussain (38) all added useful runs in the middle order.

When Hussain fell to the first ball of the 45<sup>th</sup> over, a further 44 were required, but skipper Ben Frazer (39 off 36 balls) took Hertfordshire to the brink of victory. Eight were required from the final over, and although James Leather and Frazer fell to Michael Comber's first and third balls, Ed Wharton struck a four off the final delivery to see Hertfordshire home.

SUFFOLK C.C.C.					HERTFORDSHIRE C.C.C.				
M.G. Cull	lbw	b Waring	24		S.R.W. Gale	c Comber	b Rash	33	
J.C. Mickleburgh	lbw	b Sikandar	124		J.E. Southgate	Run Out	(Salisbury)	55	
D.P. Batch	c & b	Waring	17		D.J. Blacktopp†	c Sub			
B.J. Parker	c Gale	b Southgate	15			(Manthorpe)	b Wareing	47	
M.A. Comber	c Frazer	b Southgate	10		T. Sikandar	lbw	b Wakelin	41	
T.W.W. Rash	Not Out		48		R. Hussain	c Rash	b Comber	38	
J.B. Wakelin	Run Out	(Scott)	23		P.E.B. Scott		b Wakelin	0	
A.P. Mansfield*†	Not Out		1		B.J. Frazer*	c Rash	b Comber	39	
D. Ironside					C.J. Leather	c Parker	b Comber	10	
M.E.T. Salisbury					B.A. Waring	Not Out		1	
M.B. Wareing					E.C.W. Wharton	Not Out		6	
					J.E.B. Scott				
Extras (lb2, w16, nb4)			22		Extras (b5, lb2, w7, nb4)			18	
Total (6 wkts) 50 ov			284		Total (8 wkts) 50 ov			288	
Fall: 63 114 156 179 218 271					Fall: 65 117 168 201 206 241 277 281				
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Bowling	O	M	R	W
E.C.W. Wharton	7	0	43	0	M.E.T. Salisbury	10	0	65	0
T. Sikandar	10	0	61	1	M.B. Wareing	8	0	46	1
B.A. Waring	10	2	25	2	M.A. Comber	9	0	54	3
J.E. Southgate	10	0	50	2	T.W.W. Rash	10	0	54	1
B.J. Frazer	10	0	75	0	D. Ironside	4	0	19	0
C.J. Leather	3	0	28	0	J.B. Wakelin	9	0	43	2



# Suffolk C.C.C. v Wiltshire C.C.C.

At Ipswich School, April 30, 2017  
Competition: Unicorns KO Trophy

Umpires: S. Ross and R. Parker  
Scorers: A. J. Broome and L. Morgan

*Suffolk won the toss. Result: Suffolk won by 105 runs. Suffolk 2pts, Wiltshire 0pts*

## Cull and Salisbury star in comfortable victory

SUFFOLK thrashed Wiltshire by 105 runs to keep alive their hopes of progressing beyond the group stage in the Unicorns KO Trophy.

While Martyn Cull's 93 was the mainstay of Suffolk's innings, Matt Salisbury starred with the ball, claiming figures of 5-1-15-3 to wreck Wiltshire's reply. Ipswich School groundsman Cull underpinned the home team's 267-8 after they won the toss and elected



*Martyn Cull, who made 93 off 127 balls for Suffolk before being seventh man out.*

to bat at Ivory Street.

Cull, who lost stand-in opening partner Jake Wakelin to the first ball he faced, made 93 off 127 balls with 11 fours before he was seventh man out.

He figured in four 40-plus stands as Suffolk built a solid, if unspectacular, total, Ben Shepperson (32 off 30 balls) and Tom Rash, with a run-a-ball 22, providing some mid-innings impetus.

Skipper Adam Mansfield (28 from 28 balls) and Matt Salisbury (33 off 25 deliveries) then added 63 from the final 8.4 overs.

Any questions about whether Suffolk's total would be a winning one were soon answered as Salisbury and Matt Hunn, who was released by Kent to play for Suffolk, blew away the top order.

They reduced the visitors to 19-4 inside eight overs – a position from which Wiltshire never really recovered.

Neil Clark and Ashur Morrison were the only batsmen to offer any real resistance, after coming together at 55-6 before the 16th over had been completed.

They added 65 for the seventh wicket to add some respectability to the total, before Clark departed for 51 compiled from 55 deliveries with eight fours and one six.

Morrison's 44 off 49 balls prolonged the stay of execution which came with only 32.3 overs bowled of Wiltshire's reply.

SUFFOLK C.C.C.					WILTSHIRE C.C.C.				
M.G. Cull		b Carroll	93		W. Durston	c Shepperson	b Salisbury	2	
J.B. Wakelin	c Young	b Arney	0		T. Morton†	c Cull	b Salisbury	9	
D.P. Batch	c Morton	b Arney	13		W.J. Wade		b Salisbury	3	
B.J. Parker	c Lintott	b Durston	18		E. Young*	c Wakelin	b Hunn	0	
B.D. Shepperson	c Morton	b King	32		M. Coles	c Mansfield	b Wareing	16	
T.W.W. Rash	c Morrison	b Carroll	22		N. Clark	c Hunn	b Wakelin	51	
D. Ironside		b Young	0		J. Lintott	lbw	b Rash	1	
A.P. Mansfield*†	c Durston	b Lintott	28		A. Morrison	c Mansfield	b Wakelin	44	
M.E.T. Salisbury	Not Out		33		J. Arney	c Wareing	b Rash	0	
M.D. Hunn					A. Carroll	c Mansfield	b Hunn	13	
M.B. Wareing					J. King	Not Out		5	
Extras (b5, lb6, w13, nb4)			28		Extras (lb6, w8, nb4)			18	
Total (8 wks) 580 ov			267		Total (all out) 32.3 ov			162	
Fall: 6 65 114 158 198 198 204 267					Fall: 11 15 17 19 52 55 120 138 144 162				
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Bowling	O	M	R	W
J. Arney	9	0	32	2	M.D. Hunn	7.3	0	41	2
A. Carroll	9	1	41	2	M.E.T. Salisbury	5	1	15	3
A. Morrison	4	0	22	0	M.B. Wareing	5	0	34	1
J. Lintott	8	0	45	1	T.W.W. Rash	8	0	36	2
W. Durston	7	1	34	1	J.B. Wakelin	7	1	30	2
E. Young	10	0	61	1					
J. King	3	0	21	1					

## Live updates - ball by ball

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***It's just like sitting next to Andy Broome in the scorebox!***

# Buckinghamshire C.C.C. v Suffolk C.C.C.

At Tring Park, May 7, 2017  
Competition: Unicorns KO Trophy

Umpires: M. Watton and M. Ennis  
Scorers: P. Dean and A. J. Broome

*Buckinghamshire won the toss. Result: Buckinghamshire won by 8 wkts. Buckinghamshire 2pts, Suffolk 0pts*

## Suffolk suffer heavy loss in Buckinghamshire

IT WAS Suffolk's turn to be on the receiving end of a heavy defeat as they crashed to an eight-wicket loss in Buckinghamshire.

After being inserted, the visitors' batsmen never got going and their innings was in disarray at 31-4 inside the opening ten overs, with Tom Hampton doing the damage with three wickets.

Indeed, Suffolk's top five only contributed 33 runs between them and it was left to Ben Shepperson to provide them with a glimmer of hope.

Shepperson, who made his debut back in 2012 but had only made seven championship appearances prior to the start of this season, plundered 81 from only 70 balls, striking nine fours and four sixes in the process, before being last man out.



*Ben Shepperson, who plundered 81 from only 70 balls, before being last man out.*

He figured in stands of 44 with Jack Beaumont, who made 16, and 42 with Matt Salisbury, who scored ten, to hoist Suffolk to 160 all out in just 32.2 overs.

The target proved a comfortable one for Buckinghamshire as they breezed to victory in one ball shy of 30 overs.

Matt Salisbury provided a glimmer of hope by striking with just 11 runs on the board, but by the time he took the only other wicket to fall the hosts had knocked off 122 runs in under 23 overs.

Alex Woodhall's patient 33 occupied 54 balls and was in stark contrast to the match-winning innings of Shelvin Gumbs during their 111-run stand spanning 18.3 overs.

Gumbs finished on 100 not out which came off just 83 balls and included 14 fours and two sixes.

SUFFOLK C.C.C.					BUCKINGHAMSHIRE C.C.C.				
M.G. Cull	c Russell	b Hampton	13		M. Khan	c Mansfield	b Salisbury	5	
J.C. Mickleburgh	c Russell	b Parsons	7		A. Woodland	c Parker	b Salisbury	33	
D.P. Batch	c Woodland	b Hampton	7		S. Gumbs	Not Out		100	
B.J. Parker	c Gumbs	b Hampton	0		G. Park	Not Out		9	
M.A. Comber	c & b	Park	6		C. Parsons				
B.D. Shepperson		b Rance	81		T. Hampton				
T.W.W. Rash	c Russell	b Parsons	5		M. Payne*				
A.P. Mansfield*†	lbw	b Park	0		R. Pritchard				
J.A. Beaumont	c Payne	b Rance	16		G. Russell†				
M.E.T. Salisbury	lbw	Khan	10		M. Rance				
M.B. Wareing	Not Out		2		P. Castleden				
Extras (lb3, w10)			13		Extras (b5, lb2, w7)			14	
Total (all out) 32.2 ov			160		Total (2 wkts) 29.5 ov			161	
Fall: 15 25 30 31 52 59 65 109 151 160					Fall: 11 122				
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Bowling	O	M	R	W
C. Parsons	10	2	27	2	M.E.T. Salisbury	10	1	29	2
T. Hampton	8	1	38	3	M.A. Comber	2	0	9	0
G. Park	6	0	33	2	M.B. Wareing	7	1	37	0
A. Woodland	3	0	13	0	T.W.W. Rash	7.5	1	48	0
M. Rance	3.2	0	27	2	J.A. Beaumont	3	0	31	0
M. Khan	2	0	19	1					



# Suffolk C.C.C. v Bedfordshire C.C.C.

At Woolpit, May 21, 2017  
Competition: Unicorns KO Trophy

Umpires: C. Johnson and R. Medland  
Scorers: A. J. Broome and M. Wynn

*Suffolk won the toss. Result: Suffolk won by 6 runs. Suffolk 2pts, Bedfordshire 0pts*

## Suffolk cling on to reach quarter-final stage



SUFFOLK held their nerve to survive a late onslaught from Bedfordshire and so reach the quarter-finals of the Unicorns KO Trophy for the first time in three years.

The hosts appeared to be on course for a place in the last-eight when Bedfordshire slumped to 144-9 in reply to Suffolk's 261-6 in the first-ever Minor Counties match to be staged on the ground.

Slow left-armers Jack Beaumont was their tormentor-in-chief, claiming five middle-order wickets, after Bedfordshire had reached 73-1 inside 16 overs.

After Tom Rash made the breakthrough by removing Ben Howgego, Beaumont bagged five of the next six

*The finger goes up and Jack Beaumont celebrates taking one of his five wickets against Bedfordshire at Woolpit.*

wickets to fall to leave Suffolk seemingly on the brink of success.

But they had reckoned without a last-wicket stand of 111 between Callum Berrill and Kamran Anwar, who came together with one ball of the 36<sup>th</sup> over remaining.

Last man Anwar struck nine fours and two sixes as he plundered 68 runs off 54 deliveries as Bedfordshire reduced their target to just seven runs required from the final three balls.

It was at that point that Matt Salisbury bowled Anwar to leave Berrill unbeaten on 65 compiled from 71 balls and so earn Suffolk second place in Group 4 on run-rate.

Earlier in the day after opener Jaik Mickleburgh was dismissed for 46, Suffolk looked vulnerable on 110-4, before Tom Rash joined Darren Batch in a partnership that doubled the home team's total.

Batch contributed 60 (six fours and one six) off 97 balls before he fell in the 46<sup>th</sup> over, but Rash was still there at the end.

His undefeated 82 came from 74 balls with five fours and two sixes to hoist Suffolk towards a competitive total – and one that was ultimately just beyond Bedfordshire's grasp.

SUFFOLK C.C.C.					BEDFORDSHIRE C.C.C.				
M.A. Comber	c Taylor	b Anwar	7		J. Keeping	lbw	b Wakelin	52	
J.C. Mickleburgh	c Taylor	b Brett	46		B. Mansell	c Salisbury	b Rash	14	
M.G. Cull		b Anwar	22		B. Howgego	c Mansfield	b Rash	14	
B.D. Shepperson	c Mansell	b Evans	13		G. Thurstance	c Mickleburgh	b Beaumont	0	
D.P. Batch	c Mansell	b Evans	60		A. Reynoldson*	c Rash	b Beaumont	6	
T.W.W. Rash	Not Out		82		C. Berrill	Not Out		65	
J.B. Wakelin	c & b	Thurstance	0		M. Taylor†	c Mickleburgh	b Beaumont	1	
A.P. Mansfield*†	Not Out		4		G. Evans	lbw	b Beaumont	6	
M.E.T. Salisbury					T. Brett	c Batch	b Beaumont	0	
H.A. Douglas					C. Griggs	c Mickleburgh	b Wakelin	7	
J.A. Beaumont					K. Anwar		b Salisbury	68	
Extras (lb8, w17, nb2)			27		Extras (w20, nb2)			22	
Total (6 wkts) 50 ov			261		Total (all out) 49.4 ov			255	
Fall 19 48 86 110 220 224					Fall: 46 73 78 98 102 118 127 131 144 255				
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Bowling	O	M	R	W
C. Griggs	10	1	55	0	H.A. Douglas	8	1	44	0
K. Anwar	10	0	36	2	M.E.T. Salisbury	8.4	0	67	1
G. Evans	10	0	73	2	T.W.W. Rash	10	1	59	2
T. Brett	10	0	47	1	J.A. Beaumont	10	0	41	5
G. Thurstance	10	0	42	1	J.B. Wakelin	10	0	28	2
					B.D. Shepperson	3	0	16	0

# Berkshire C.C.C. v Suffolk C.C.C.

At Falkland CC, June 11, 2017  
Competition: Unicorns KO Trophy

Umpires: P. Matten and D. Gower  
Scorers: C. Kneale and J. Abbott

*Berkshire won the toss. Result: Berkshire won by 65 runs. Berkshire 2pts, Suffolk 0pts*

## Suffolk beaten by eventual Trophy winners

BERKSHIRE ended Suffolk's dreams of repeating their solitary Minor Counties KO Trophy success a decade after winning the competition at Lord's.

Suffolk went down by 65 runs at Falkland CC in Newbury against the team that went on to lift the trophy in the final at Wormsley.

The visitors never got in a position to chase down the home team's total of 309-9 and ended up well short in the final analysis.

Michael Comber struck with the first ball of the match, after Berkshire had won the toss and elected to bat, by removing Oli Wilkin leg before.

Comber was the pick of the Suffolk attack, returning figures of 10-1-64-4, as Suffolk endured a tough day in the field.

They did have Berkshire 130-4, but James Rishton then joined Richard Morris in a 126-run stand as the



*Michael Comber who took four Berkshire wickets and then top-scored for Suffolk with 63.*

hosts started to take the match away from Suffolk. Rishton's 67 from 52 balls was laced with eight fours and a six, and Morris went on to make 125 off 105 deliveries with 11 fours and three sixes.

Suffolk needed a good start, but openers Martyn Cull and Jaik Mickleburgh both got in and then got out, although confidence grew as Darren Batch and Ben Shepperson added 61 for the fourth wicket.

After making 53 from 62 balls Shepperson was dismissed with the total on 141, and Batch fell for 37 after adding a further 44 with Comber.

When Tom Rash and Comber, who top-scored with 63 (eight fours and two sixes) off 49 balls, were out eight runs apart, the chase was over, Suffolk's last five wickets fell in the space of just 14 runs.

BERKSHIRE C.C.C.					SUFFOLK C.C.C.				
O. Wilkin	lbw	b Comber	0		M.G. Cull	c Lincoln	b Nugent	15	
J. Davies		b Wakelin	13		J.C. Mickleburgh	c R. Morris	b Nugent	11	
E. Woods		b Wakelin	37		K. Young		b Woods	23	
R. Morris	c Rash	b Comber	125		B.D. Shepperson		b Rishton	53	
J. Morris*	lbw	b Young	31		D.P. Batch	c Rishton	b Peplow	37	
J.A. Rishton	c Rash	b Comber	67		M.A. Comber	c Davies	b Nugent	63	
D. Lincoln	c Rash	b Comber	9		T.W.W. Rash		b Raja	11	
C. Peplow	c Batch	b Young	7		J.B. Wakelin	Run Out	(J. Morris)	1	
S. Davison†	Run Out		1		A. Mansfield*†	lbw	b Nugent	0	
T. Nugent	Not Out		3		J.A. Beaumont	Not Out		4	
A. Raja					H.A. Douglas	lbw	b Woods	0	
Extras (b1, lb3, w12,)			16		Extras (lb7, w19,)			26	
Total (9 wkts) 50 ov			309		Total (all out) 43.5 ov			244	
Fall: 0 48 63 130 256 298 298 305 309					Fall: 17 47 80 141 185 230 238 239 244 244				
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Bowling	O	M	R	W
M.A. Comber	10	1	64	4	T. Nugent	9	1	38	4
H.A. Douglas	8	1	50	0	O. Wilkin	5	0	30	0
J.B. Wakelin	9	0	51	2	E. Woods	7	0	38	2
T.W.W. Rash	6	0	42	0	C. Peplow	10	0	64	1
J.A. Beaumont	7	0	35	0	A. Raja	10	1	34	1
K. Young	10	0	63	2	J.A. Rishton	3	0	33	1



# Suffolk C.C.C. v Cambridgeshire C.C.C.

At Bury St Edmunds CC, June 25, 2017

Competition: Unicorns East T20

Umpires: R.G. Eagleton and M.Pointer

Scorers: A.J. Broome and K. Coburn

*Toss won by Suffolk. Result: Cambridgeshire won by 4 runs*

## Suffolk snatch defeat from jaws of victory



SUFFOLK appeared on course to reach the final of the four-team Unicorns East T20 Tournament at Bury St Edmunds until a clatter of wickets resulted in a four-run loss to Cambridgeshire.

Chasing 168 to win, Suffolk raced to 100-2 inside 11 overs after openers Ben Reece (57 off 37 balls) and Jake Wakelin

*Suffolk opener Ben Reece in T20 action.*

(16 off eight balls) set them on their way. Ben Shepperson and Darren Batch weighed in with 23 off 11 and 22 off 24 deliveries respectively, before the wheels spectacularly fell off Suffolk's challenge.

They fell off to such an extent that even though Tom Rash struck a six over mid-wicket off the fourth ball of the final over, Suffolk still fell four runs short.

Rash had returned figures of 4-0-23-2 and Kyran Young 4-0-25-1, after Suffolk had asked Cambridgeshire to bat.

Cambridgeshire were indebted to an undefeated 66 off 48 deliveries by No.3 Paul Summerskill and 50 not out from Lewis Hill in an unbroken fifth-wicket stand of 123.

They came together at 44-4 in the eighth over and propelled the total towards one that proved beyond Suffolk's batsmen.

Bedfordshire saw off Hertfordshire by 24 runs in the second semi-finals to set up a final versus Cambridgeshire. Suffolk's conquerors never recovered from 34-5 off nine overs and were bowled out for only 94, before Bedfordshire romped home by seven wickets to be crowned champions.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE C.C.C.					SUFFOLK C.C.C.				
M.C. Cafferkey*	c Beaumont	b Rash	7		J.B. Wakelin	Run Out		16	
J. Cafferkey	c Reece	b Young	20		B.J. Reece	c Hill	b Ghelani	57	
P. Summerskill†	Not Out		66		B.D. Shepperson		b Craig	23	
B.M.A. Seabrook	Run Out		0		D.P. Batch		b Ghelani	22	
K.E. Munday	c Parker	b Rash	3		J.A. Beaumont	Run Out		0	
L.R. Hill	Not Out		50		K. Young	st Summerskill	b M. Ghelani	7	
J. Watling					T.W.W. Rash	Not Out		15	
H.E. Craig					B.J.Parker	st Summerskill	b M. Cafferkey	9	
D.A. Heath					A. Mansfield*†	c Craig	b M. Cafferkey	0	
J. Ghelani					J.E. Poulson	Run Out		4	
B. Cliverd					H.A. Douglas	Not Out		0	
Extras (nb8, b1, lb6, w6.)			21		Extras (lb5, w11.)			16	
Total (4 wkts) 20 ov			167		Total (9wkts) 20 ov			163	
Fall: 27 33 34 44					Fall: 32 74 104 106 124 129 141 141 163				
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Bowling	O	M	R	W
H.A. Douglas	4	0	44	0	J. Watling	2	0	21	0
T.W.W. Rash	4	0	23	2	B.M.A. Seabrook	3	0	22	0
K. Young	4	0	25	1	L.R. Hill	4	0	37	0
J.E. Poulson	4	0	34	0	H.E. Craig	4	0	31	1
J.A. Beaumont	4	0	34	0	J. Ghelani	4	0	23	3
					M.C. Cafferkey	3	0	22	2

# Suffolk C.C.C. v Buckinghamshire C.C.C.

At Bury St Edmunds, June 4, 5, 6, 2017

Competition: Unicorns Championship

Umpires: T. Caldicott and R. Parker

Scorers: A. J. Broome and R. Lane

*Toss won by Buckinghamshire. Result: Match drawn. Suffolk 11pts, Buckinghamshire 7pts*

## Rain robs Suffolk of victory in opening game

RAIN robbed Suffolk of almost certain victory in their opening Unicorns Championship match of the summer.

Suffolk had built a commanding position on the opening two days of the match, but any thoughts of victory were washed away on the third and final day. Not a ball was bowled as the match was abandoned as a draw with the visitors five wickets down in their second innings and still requiring a further 42 runs to make Suffolk bat again.

After choosing to bat first Buckinghamshire found themselves 35-3 inside 17 overs, debutant Hugo Douglas taking all three wickets to fall.

Douglas ended with the impressive figures of 14-6-19-4 as the visitors rallied to reach 260 all out, thanks to the contributions of Michael Payne (52), Pat Castleden (53) and Graeme Paskins (72 not out) in the middle order.

After ending day one on 87-0 in reply, Martyn Cull (98, with ten fours and one six) and Jaik Mickleburgh put Suffolk firmly in control with a double-century opening stand.

Mickleburgh retired on 108, which included 14 boundaries, suffering from a migraine, but there was no respite for the Buckinghamshire bowlers as Ben Shepperson smashed 77 off 68 balls with eight fours and three sixes.

He dominated stands of 48 with debutant Kyran Young and 51 with Tom Rash, before Michael



*Hugo Douglas bowling in the first innings during his Suffolk debut against Buckinghamshire when he finished with the impressive figures of 14-6-19-4.*

Comber made hay with 46 off just 25 deliveries, including three maximums.

That enabled Suffolk to declare with a lead of 134 on

first innings, and they soon had Buckinghamshire in trouble second time around.

Douglas removed both openers and wicket-keeper Adam Mansfield claimed a further four catches to make it nine in the match as Buckinghamshire limped to 92-5 off 45 overs at the close.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE C.C.C.										
1st Innings					2nd Innings					
M. Khan	c Mansfield	b Douglas	20		c Mansfield	b Douglas	12			
A. Woodland	c Mansfield	b Douglas	1		c Mansfield	b Douglas	5			
L. Gough		b Douglas	0		c Mansfield	b Rash	0			
G. Park	c & b	Young	19		lbw	b Comber	9			
M. Payne*	Run Out	(Shepperson)	52		Not Out		30			
P. Castleden	c Mansfield	b Douglas	53		c Mansfield	b Beaumont	11			
G.D.T. Paskins†	Not Out		72		Not Out		20			
L. Tyrrell	c & b	Beaumont	11							
M. Rance	c Mansfield	b Young	21							
C. Parsons	lbw	b Rash	1							
T. Hampton	c Mansfield	b Rash	0							
	Extras (lb7, w3)		10		Extras (lb2, w1, nb2)		5			
	Total (all out) 87.4 ov		260		Total (5 wkts) 45 ov		92			
Fall: 7 11 35 71 122 163 204 257 260 260					Fall: 16 17 26 28 57					
SUFFOLK C.C.C.										
1st Innings					2nd Innings					
M.G. Cull	lbw	b Khan	98							
J.C. Mickleburgh	Retired not out		108							
K. Young	c Park	b Rance	16							
B.D. Shepperson	c Rance	b Gough	77							
T.W.W. Rash	c Woodland	b Park	14							
M.A. Comber	c Castleden	b Parsons	46							
B.J. Parker	c Parsons	b Park	8							
A.P. Mansfield*†	Not Out		7							
J.A. Beaumont	Not Out		10							
J.B. Wakelin										
H.A. Douglas										
	Extras (b4, lb1, w3, nb2)		10							
	Total (6 wkys dec) 90 ov		394							
Fall: 203 262 313 317 370 372					Fall:					
Bowling										
	O	M	R	W		O	M	R	W	
M.A. Comber	11	2	25	0		12	4	19	1	
H.A. Douglas	14	6	19	4		9	3	22	2	
T.W.W. Rash	18.4	5	61	2		9	3	22	1	
K.Young	8	0	35	2		(5) 1	1	0	0	
J.B. Wakelin	16	2	51	0		(6) 4	3	4	0	
J.A. Beaumont	15	3	47	1		(4) 9	2	22	1	
B.D. Shepperson	5	0	15	0		(7) 1	0	1	0	
Bowling										
	O	M	R	W		O	M	R	W	
C. Parsons	19	4	47	1						
T. Hampton	3	0	13	0						
L. Tyrrell	5	1	22	0						
G. Park	24	0	93	2						
M. Rance	15	0	78	1						
A. Woodland	5	0	26	0						
M. Khan	17	1	86	1						
L. Gough	2	0	24	1						



# Northumberland C.C.C. v Suffolk C.C.C.

At South Northumberland CC, June 18, 19, 20, 2017

Competition: Unicorns Championship

Umpires: N. Pratt and B. Morris

Scorers: K. Telford and A.J. Broome

*Toss won by Suffolk. Result: Suffolk won by 10 wkts. Northumberland (1pt), Suffolk (24pts)*

## Suffolk outplay hosts to record thumping win

JAIK Mickleburgh struck an undefeated double century, Michael Comber claimed nine wickets and Alex Oxley became the county's youngest debutant since the Second World War as Suffolk thrashed Northumberland.

Suffolk racked up a formidable 424-4, after Mickleburgh and Martyn Cull (63) posted 147 for the first wicket.

Oxley, aged just 16 years and 60 days old, scored 39 off 99 balls in a second-wicket stand worth 85 with Mickleburgh, who ended on 218 not out compiled from 227 balls laced with 30 fours and one six.

Ben Shepperson, Ben Reece and Tom Rash, whose 51 occupied just 40 deliveries in an unbroken 108 alliance with Mickleburgh, all weighed in to pile on the agony.

Their shell-shocked hosts were soon reeling as Michael Comber captured the first four wickets to fall as Northumberland closed day one on 65-5.

Comber added three more victims to make it seven in total as Northumberland were bowled out for 152 in 57.3 overs, Alexander Simpson ending undefeated on 44.

That left Northumberland 272 runs adrift on first innings and Suffolk, not surprisingly, enforced the follow-on.

All-rounder Comber carried on where he had left off in the first innings, claiming two more wickets, as Northumberland were soon reduced to 16-3.

Opener Matthew Whaley almost single-handedly



*Alex Oxley who became Suffolk's youngest player since the Second World War as Suffolk thrashed Northumberland.*

defied Suffolk, ending the second day undefeated on 92 accrued from 262 deliveries, as Northumberland closed on 227-8, still 45 runs behind.

Whaley duly completed his century on the third day,

SUFFOLK C.C.C.					2nd Innings				
1st Innings					Not Out				
M.G. Cull	c Yates	b McGee	63	4	Not Out				
J.C. Mickleburgh	Not Out		218	0	Not Out				
A.G. Oxley	Run Out (Tindale)		39						
B.D. Shepperson	c Tindale	b Simpson	25						
B.J. Reece	c Du Toit	b McGee	18						
T.W.W. Rash	Not Out		51						
M.A. Comber									
A.P. Mansfield*†									
J.B. Wakelin									
J.E. Poulson									
H.A. Douglas									
Extras (lb3, w5, nb2)			10		Extras			0	
Total (4 wkts dec) 90 ov			424		Total (0 wkts) 0.1 ov			4	

Fall: 147 232 281 316

Fall:

Bowling	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
A. Simpson	16	1	78	1				
B. Quirk	19	3	70	0				
S. Dinning	10	0	71	0				
O. McGee	25	3	99	2				
J. Du Toit	3	0	18	0				
J. Thompson	7	0	30	0				
S. Tindale	10	0	55	0				
M. Whaley					0.1	0	4	0

NORTHUMBERLAND C.C.C.					2nd Innings				
1st Innings					Not Out				
J. Jessop	c Wakelin	b Comber	10		b Poulson		2		
M. Whaley	c Mansfield	b Comber	14		c Sub (Parker)	b Reece	113		
J. Thompson	lbw	b Comber	10		lbw	b Comber	8		
J. T. Hewison		b Comber	0		c Poulson	b Comber	0		
J. Du Toit*	c & b	Douglas	10		Run Out	Sub (Parker)	43		
B. Yates†	c Mansfield	b Comber	19			b Reece	32		
S. Tindale		b Comber	21		c Mickleburgh	b Reece	14		
A. Simpson	Not Out		44			b Shepperson	8		
S. Dinning	lbw	b Comber	5			b Wakelin	0		
O. McGee		b Wakelin	5		Not Out		29		
B. Quirk	c Mansfield	b Rash	3		c Mansfield	b Rash	7		
Extras (b4, lb3, w2, nb2)			11		Extras (lb1, w1, nb14)		16		
Total (all out) 57.3 ov			152		Total (all out) 97 ov		272		

Fall: 16 35 35 46 46 79 90 98 119 152

Fall: 3 16 16 68 130 156 168 171 252 272

Bowling	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
M.A. Comber	21	6	59	7	11	2	30	2
J.E. Poulson	10	4	30	0	20	12	19	1
H.A. Douglas	9	1	33	1	16	2	60	0
B.J. Reece	4	1	10	0	(6) 14	4	36	3
T.W.W. Rash	6.3	2	9	1	(4) 15	3	44	1
J.B. Wakelin	7	5	4	1	(5) 16	6	64	1
B.D. Shepperson					(7) 5	1	18	1

but the home side were then bowled out with the scores level, leaving Cull to hit Whaley's first ball for four to seal victory.

# Suffolk C.C.C. v Hertfordshire C.C.C.

At Copdock, July 2, 3, 4, 2017  
Competition: Unicorns Championship

Umpires: J. Beckwith and R. Eagleton  
Scorers: A.J. Broome and M. Arnold

*Toss won by Hertfordshire. Result: Match drawn. Suffolk (12pts), Hertfordshire (11pts),*

## Absorbing final day ends with honours even

AN ABSORBING final day ended with honours even as Suffolk finished 52 runs shy of victory and Hertfordshire still requiring three wickets to win.

The match had ebbed and flowed across all three days, the visitors amassing 328-9 on the first day thanks to half-centuries from Reece Hussain (80), Alex Axon (69 not out) and Jamie Southgate (58).

Tom Rash was the stand-out bowler with figures of 25-3-94-4 on his home ground for Suffolk, who replied with 42-1 by the close.

Suffolk lost three cheap wickets on the second morning before Martyn Cull was joined by Ben Shepperson in a fifth-wicket partnership of 138.

Cull was dismissed for exactly 100 with the score on 230 in the 66<sup>th</sup> over, but Shepperson continued to take the attack to Hertfordshire and reached his first Minor Counties century. He was eventually out for 129 from 152 balls with 18 fours and three sixes.

Suffolk still trailed by six runs when Rash was eighth man out, but Adam Mansfield (40 off 42 balls) and Jake Wakelin (18 off 19 balls) added an invaluable 51 to secure the hosts a 45-run advantage.

After ending day two on 73-1, Hertfordshire lost three quick wickets and at 115-4 – a lead of 70 – Suffolk had the sniff of victory in their nostrils.

But opener Steve Gale (154) and Dominic Chatfield (106) both scored centuries in adding 214 for the fifth wicket, enabling Hertfordshire to declare on 360 for seven, leaving Suffolk to score 316 for victory.

Cull scored a rapid 78 off 85 balls during an opening partnership of 121 with Jaik Mickleburgh, but the target proved beyond Suffolk despite Mickleburgh playing the anchor role, scoring 113 not out from 119 deliveries.



*Tom Rash who was the stand-out bowler for Suffolk with figures of 25-3-94-4 on his home ground in Hertfordshire's first innings.*

HERTFORDSHIRE C.C.C.													SUFFOLK C.C.C.																																						
1st Innings						2nd Innings							1st Innings						2nd Innings																																
S.R.W. Gale	lbw	b Rash	1			b Comber	154						M.G. Cull		b Kulkarni	100	c Kulkarni	b Waring	78																																
J.E. Southgate	lbw	b Rash	58	c Mansfield	b Young	35							J.C. Mickleburgh	c Kazmi	b Waring	12	Not Out		113																																
D.J. Blacktopp	c & b	Wakelin	36	c Douglas	b Wakelin	27							A.G. Oxley		b Waring	6	(9) Not Out		0																																
T. Sikandar*	lbw	b Young	32	c Douglas	b Young	4							D. Ironside	lbw	b Waring	6																																			
R. Hussain	c Mansfield	b Douglas	80	c Shepperson	b Young	0							K. Young	c Blacktopp	b Wharton	7	(7)		b Sikandar	23																															
D. Chatfield	c & b	Young	26	c Mansfield	b Douglas	106							B.D. Shepperson	c Southgate	b Wharton	129	(3) c Wharton	b Kulkarni	9																																
A.J. Axon†	Not Out		69	c Shepperson	b Douglas	6							M.A. Comber	c Southgate	b Wharton	19	(6) c Chatfield	b Waring	4																																
E.C.W. Wharton		b Douglas	4	(9) Not Out		9							T.W.W. Rash		b Waring	13	(4) c Southgate	b Kulkarni	9																																
B.A. Waring	lbw	b Rash	3										A.P. Mansfield*†	Not Out		40	(5) c Gale	b Waring	20																																
A.S. Kulkarni	c Mansfield	b Rash	2										J.B. Wakelin	Not Out		18	(8)	b Sikandar	2																																
S.A. Kazmi	Not Out		10	(8) Not Out		13							H.A. Douglas																																						
Extras (lb4, w1, nb2)						7	Extras (b1, lb2)						3	Extras (b12, lb4, w7)						23	Extras (6lb)						6																								
Total (9 wkts dec) 90 ov						328	Total (7 wkts dec) 83 ov						360	Total (8 wkts dec) 90 ov						373	Total (7 wkts) 48 ov						264																								
Fall: 6 93 101 145 220 258 278 289 293													Fall: 55 106 115 115 329 329 348													Fall: 37 51 71 92 230 277 307 322													Fall: 121 134 157 199 213 258 262												
Bowling				O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W	Bowling				O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W																												
T.W.W. Rash				25	3	94	4	17	2	62	0	E.C.W. Wharton				16	2	73	3																																
H.A. Douglas				20	1	62	2	12	0	66	2	A.S. Kulkarni				25	4	87	1	(4) 5	0	42	2																												
K. Young				18	6	66	2	16	3	53	3	T. Sikandar				18	0	76	0	(5) 9	2	56	2																												
J.B. Wakelin				13	1	49	1	(5) 14	3	46	1	B.A. Waring				26	7	94	4	(1) 23	3	105	3																												
D. Ironside				12	0	44	0	(4) 16	3	82	0	J.E. Southgate				5	0	27	0	(3) 5	0	34	0																												
B.D. Shepperson				1	0	5	0	(6) 5	0	29	0	S.A. Kazmi								(2) 6	1	21	0																												
A.G. Oxley				1	0	4	0																																												
M.A. Comber								(7) 3	1	19	1																																								



# Norfolk C.C.C. v Suffolk C.C.C.

At Manor Park, July 16, 17, 18, 2017  
Competition: Unicorns Championship

Umpires: C. Johnson and N. Pratt  
Scorers: G. Richardson and A.J. Broome

*Toss won by Suffolk. Result: Match drawn. Norfolk (11pts), Suffolk (11pts)*

## Stubborn Suffolk snuff out Norfolk's hopes

STUBBORN lower-order resistance from Suffolk's batsmen snuffed out any chance of a Norfolk victory to maintain the visitors' unbeaten start to the season.

After leading by just 11 runs on first innings, Suffolk stumbled in their second innings, recovering from 133-6 and then 211-9 before eventually being bowled out for 243.

That left Norfolk the unlikely target of scoring 255 to win off a minimum of 29 overs, with both sides agreeing to call a halt to proceedings after just five overs with the hosts 5-0.

A rain-affected first day closed with Suffolk on 217-6, opener Martyn Cull under-pinning the innings with 96 from 165 balls.

Darren Ironside's undefeated 36 the following morning pushed the total to 300-9 declared, with ex-Suffolk all-rounder Ben France finishing with figures of 29-3-105-5.

Kyran Young removed Norfolk's top-three batsmen to leave the hosts tottering at 38-3, but Robert Taylor then dominated a fourth-wicket stand of 110 with James Hale.

Taylor completed his century but when he was out a



*Suffolk duo Jake Wakelin (left) and Kyran Young who took six wickets between them in Norfolk's first innings.*

mini-collapse saw four wickets fall for the addition of only 23 runs.

Skipper Chris Brown halted the slide – and with it any chance Suffolk had of a sizeable first-innings lead – with an unbeaten 69 containing eight fours and a six. Suffolk stretched their lead to 23 overnight but had to graft for their runs on the third day, and when Jaik Mickleburgh was out to the last ball before lunch they were 123-4.

The loss of two more wickets soon after the resumption left Suffolk in a precarious position, but Kyran Young (49) and Adam Mansfield (22) eased Suffolk nerves with 45 for the seventh wicket.

Young was ninth out after facing 132 balls, but it still

required Tom Rash, batting with a double fracture of the middle finger on his left hand, and Hugo Douglas, whose undefeated 16 occupied 76 deliveries, to defy Norfolk.

SUFFOLK C.C.C.									
1st Innings					2nd Innings				
M.G. Cull	c Groves	b France	96		c Arthurton	b Taylor	7		
J.C. Mickleburgh	c Groves	b Todd	28		c Reynolds	b Hale	64		
A.G. Oxley	lbw	b France	53		lbw	b France	0		
M.A. Comber		b Brown	10	(5) lbw	b Brown	8			
K. Young	st Groves	b Brown	0	(6) c Groves	b Taylor	49			
A.P. Mansfield*†		b France	2	(8) c Groves	b France	22			
T.W.W. Rash	lbw	b Brown	27		b Taylor	20			
B.D. Shepperson	c Groves	b France	12	(4) lbw	b Brown	32			
D. Ironside	Not Out		36	(7) c Ewart	b Brown	8			
J.B. Wakelin		b France	1	(9) c Arthurton	b France	0			
H.A. Douglas	Not Out		6	(10) Not Out		16			
Extras (b4, lb5, nb20)			29	Extras (b1, lb4, w2, nb10)			17		
Total (9 wkts dec) 90 ov			300	Total (all out) 90.1 ov			243		

Fall: 69 192 209 209 211 217 242 262 265									
Fall: 35 36 99 123 123 133									
178 184 211 243									
Bowling	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W	
B.J. France	29	3	105	5	20	4	53	3	
R. Taylor	15	0	52	0	17.1	4	58	3	
A.D. Todd	10	0	63	1	9	2	25	0	
C. Brown	36	11	71	3	(5) 23	4	38	3	
B. Stolworthy					(4) 14	1	48	0	
J.D. Hale					(6) 7	2	16	1	

NORFOLK C.C.C.									
1st Innings					2nd Innings				
J. Spelman	c Ironside	b Young	5		Not Out			3	
S.S. Arthurton	c & b	Young	14		Not Out			2	
J.D. Reynolds	c Mansfield	b Young	13						
R. Taylor	c & b	Douglas	100						
J.D. Hale	c Oxley	b Rash	31						
B.J. France	lbw	b Ironside	13						
J. Ewart	lbw	b Young	4						
B. Stolworthy	lbw	b Wakelin	4						
C. Brown*	Not Out		69						
A.D. Todd	c Comber	b Wakelin	21						
S. Groves†		b Douglas	7						
Extras (b2, lb6)			8	Extras				0	
Total (all out) 89 ov			289	Total (0 wkts) 5.0 ov				5	

Fall: 5 19 38 148 174 180 189 197 264 289									
Fall:									
Bowling	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W	
T.W.W. Rash	15	2	43	1					
K. Young	20	4	62	4					
H.A. Douglas	17	3	63	2					
D. Ironside	14	1	60	1	(2) 2	2	0	0	
J.B. Wakelin	23	5	53	2	(1) 3	0	5	0	

# Suffolk C.C.C. v Cumberland C.C.C.

At Ipswich School, July 30, 31, Aug 1, 2017

Competition: Unicorns Championship

Umpires: T. Caldicott and S. Cobb

Scorers: A.J. Broome and G. Minshaw

*Toss won by Suffolk. Result: Match drawn. Suffolk (11pts), Cumberland (10pts)*

## Rain washes away Suffolk's hopes of victory

RAIN interruptions on the third afternoon thwarted any realistic chance of a Suffolk victory over Cumberland.

A total of 18 overs were lost either side of tea as the visitors, at one stage 113-5 chasing 304 to win in 69 overs, reached 163-5 with ten overs remaining when the captains shook hands on a draw.

It was an anti-climatic ending to what promised to be an interesting last day in Suffolk's penultimate Championship match of the campaign.

Suffolk, who elected to bat after winning the toss, were bowled out for 288 on the opening day, with Jaik Mickleburgh falling four short of a century.

He added 96 for the second wicket with Kyran Young and then 65 for the fourth in harness with Darren Batch, who made 72 on his first appearance in a three-day fixture for seven years.

Cumberland closed day one on 28-1, before declaring on 273-9 – just 15 runs behind – after Ross Zelem scored a patient 76 from 202 deliveries before becoming one of Jake Wakelin's three victims.

James Poulson bowled with good rhythm and finished with figures of 32-11-74-4, and in doing so recorded a career-best for Suffolk just like Sudbury team-mate Batch.

Mickleburgh fell for 99 in Suffolk's second innings, while Ben Shepperson gave the middle-order some impetus with 43 from 38 balls and Jack Beaumont made 24 from 26 balls.



*James Poulson bowling against Cumberland at Ipswich School, where he returned career-best figures for Suffolk in the visitors' first innings.*

Poulson, with seven fours in an 18-ball cameo of 35, and Tom Rash plundered 44 runs in less than six overs as Suffolk were again bowled out for 288.

### SUFFOLK C.C.C.

1st Innings				2nd Innings			
M.G. Cull	c Hodgson	b Syddall	13	c & b	Syddall	2	
J.C. Mickleburgh	b Hodgson	96	c Hodgson	b Bulcock	99		
K. Young	c Zelem	b Syddall	37	b Bulcock	10		
M.A. Comber	lbw	b Syddall	0	c Pratt	b Hodgson	12	
D.P. Batch	st Clarke	b Bulcock	72	lbw	b Grey	23	
B.D. Shepperson	lbw	b Bulcock	8	c Zelem	b Pratt	43	
T.W.W. Rash	c Miles	b Bulcock	12	Not Out		26	
A.P. Mansfield*†	c Clarke	b Bulcock	38	c Grey	b Bulcock	4	
J.A. Beaumont		b Grey	1	c Pratt	b Bulcock	24	
J.B. Wakelin	Not Out		1	c Clarke	b Grey	4	
J.E. Poulson	c Clarke	b Bulcock	1	lbw	b Bulcock	35	

Extras (lb2, w3, nb4) 9 Extras (lb3, w1, nb2) 6  
Total (all out) 87 ov 288 Total (all out) 72.3 ov 288

Fall: 20 116 116 181 194 216 283 286  
286 288

Bowling				Fall: 6 23 68 131 193 197				
	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
A.J. Syddall	23	6	80	3	11	2	40	1
L.B. Grey	19	5	45	1	17	1	95	2
T. Bulcock	27	4	85	5	26.3	4	96	5
S.A. Wood	7	0	31	0	(5) 4	2	9	0
C. Brownlow	3	0	13	0				
C.J. Hodgson	8	0	32	1	(4) 8	0	28	1
G. Pratt					(6) 6	2	17	1

### CUMBERLAND C.C.C.

1st Innings				2nd Innings			
R. Zelen	c Shepperson	b Wakelin	76	c Young	b Beaumont	49	
J. Clarke†	c Mansfield	b Poulson	6	c Shepperson	b Rash	0	
C. Brownlow	c Mansfield	b Rash	5	c Mansfield	b Poulson	3	
J.W.R. Miles	c Poulson	b Rash	20	c Rash	b Beaumont	33	
G. Pratt*	c Mansfield	b Wakelin	60	Not Out		66	
M.H. McKiernan	c Young	b Wakelin	19		b Wakelin	4	
S.A. Wood	c Mickleburgh	b Poulson	18	Not Out		5	
L.B. Grey	c Wakelin	b Poulson	0				
T. Bulcock	Not Out		33				
A.J. Syddall		b Poulson	7				
C.J. Hodgson	Not Out		6				

Extras (b8, lb3, w2, nb10) 23 Extras (b1, nb2) 3  
Total (9 wks dec) 90 ov 273 Total (5 wks) 41.0 ov 163

Fall: 22 33 72 150 192 209 210 225 249 Fall: 5 12 85 86 113

Bowling	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
T.W.W. Rash	16	3	38	2	6	1	27	1
J.E. Poulson	32	11	74	4	11	5	42	1
K. Young	14	3	71	0	7	0	38	0
D.P. Batch	6	0	15	0				
J.B. Wakelin	19	4	54	3	(5) 6	2	18	1
J.A. Beaumont	3	0	10	0	(4) 11	1	37	2

Two early wickets put Cumberland on the back foot, but Zelem and captain Gary Pratt, whose undefeated 66 occupied 67 deliveries, stifled Suffolk before the rain had the final say.



# Bedfordshire C.C.C. v Suffolk C.C.C.

At Flitwick CC, August 13, 14, 15, 2017

Competition: Unicorns Championship

Umpires: M. Watton and R. Parker

Scorers: M.G. Archer and A.J. Broome

*Toss won by Bedfordshire. Result: Suffolk won by 3 wkts. Bedfordshire (6pts), Suffolk (22pts)*

## Ironside's century steers Suffolk to victory

A THRILLING final afternoon run chase saw Suffolk beat Bedfordshire by three wickets to claim runners-up spot in the Eastern Division.

Daren Ironside was the Suffolk match-winner, scoring an undefeated 125 to steer his side home with 21 balls to spare, after they were set 319 to win in what amounted to 74 overs,

The 22-year-old, playing in just his third three-day fixture, arrived at the crease with Suffolk 64-2 after 19 overs.

He featured in stands of 79 with Jaik Mickleburgh, whose dismissal for 54 came after he reached 1,000 runs in all formats for Suffolk in the season, and 71 with Ben Shepperson, who struck a typically belligerent 49 from 35 balls, after top-scoring in the visitors' first innings with 48.

Bedfordshire had been bowled out for 226 on day one, with opening bowler Hugo Douglas claiming career-best figures of 13-2-39-6, after the hosts recovered from 141-6.

Suffolk engineered a 39-run first innings lead thanks to a crucial ninth-wicket stand between Sudbury duo Adam Mansfield and James Poulson.

Mansfield, who was one of three Suffolk players to receive their county caps during the course of the match, made 40 from 35 balls and Poulson 36 off 57 balls.

Bedfordshire's second innings 357-9 was built around a splendid 180 by Yorkshire 2<sup>nd</sup> XI batsman Eliot Callis,



*Darren Ironside during his undefeated match-winning innings of 125 against Bedfordshire at Flitwick.*

whose knock spanned 271 deliveries and was laced with 16 fours and two sixes.

He put on 68 for the second wicket with Ben Howgego and, after Bedfordshire reached 201-6 – a lead of 162, added 84 for the seventh wicket in harness with Ben Slawinski and a further 69 with Tom Brett for the

ninth. Brett, who had exercised great control in taking 36-11-87-8 in Suffolk's first innings, bagged a further five wickets second time around but was unable to spin his side to victory.

### BEDFORDSHIRE C.C.C.

1st Innings				2nd Innings			
B. Howgego	c Mansfield	b Douglas	10	c Mansfield	b Rash	48	
L. Thomas	c Mansfield	B Douglas	46	c Rash	b Poulson	1	
E. Callis	c Mansfield	b Douglas	6	c Mansfield	b Rash	180	
J. Keeping		b Wakelin	15	c & b	Wakelin	1	
A. Reynoldson*	lbw	b Douglas	37	c Cull	b Wakelin	21	
J. Ludlow	c Cull	b Wakelin	16		b Ironside	16	
M. Taylor†	c Shepperson	b Douglas	20	c Mansfield	b Rash	22	
B. Slawinski	Run Out	(Wakelin)	43	lbw	b Douglas	29	
T. Brett	c Mickleburgh	b Poulson	17	c Douglas	b Comber	26	
H.A. Evans	c Shepperson	b Douglas	0	Not Out		3	
M. Panesar	Not Out		6				
Extras (b1, lb8, w1)			10	Extras (b6, lb2, nb2)			10
Total (all out) 76 ov			226	Total (9 wkts dec) 93.3 ov			357
Fall: 26 44 64 120 121 141 201 204				Fall: 3 71 82 120 150 201 285			
204 226				354 357			

Bowling	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
J.E. Poulson	13	3	48	1	4	1	15	1
T.W.W. Rash	16	6	37	0	(3) 16.3	2	51	3
H.A. Douglas	13	2	39	6	(2) 14	2	57	1
J.B. Wakelin	21	5	40	2	(4) 27	0	98	2
K. Young	10	1	34	0	(6) 6	1	16	0
D. Ironside	1	0	5	0	(5) 21	2	92	1
M.A. Comber	2	0	14	0	(7) 5	0	20	1

### SUFFOLK C.C.C.

1st Innings				2nd Innings			
M.G. Cull	lbw	b Brett	24		b Brett	35	
J.C. Mickleburgh	st Taylor	b Brett	23	c Thomas	b Brett	54	
D. Ironside	lbw	b Brett	22	(4) Not Out		125	
M.A. Comber	c Keeping	b Brett	10	(3) lbw	b Brett	3	
B.D. Shepperson	c Reynoldson	b Brett	48	(5) c Taylor	b Evans	49	
H.A. Douglas	c Taylor	b Brett	15				
K. Young	c Taylor	b Brett	12	(6)	b Brett	21	
T.W.W. Rash	lbw	b Panesar	12	(7) c Reynoldson	b Brett	1	
A.P. Mansfield††		b Reynoldson	40	(8)	b Ludlow	21	
J.E. Poulson	lbw	b Brett	36	(9) Not Out		2	
J.B. Wakelin	Not Out		10				
Extras (b4, lb8, w1)			13	Extras (b3, lb3, nb5)			11
Total (all out) 83 ov			265	Total (7 wkts) 70.3 ov			322
Fall: 42 53 75 86 147 148 170 174				Fall: 56 64 143 214 267 271 316			
243 265							

Bowling	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
M. Panesar	20	4	69	1	19	5	48	0
A. Evans	11	4	25	0	9	0	52	1
T. Brett	36	11	87	8	31.3	1	156	5
B. Slawinski	10	1	40	0	4	0	21	0
A. Reynoldson	6	0	32	1	5	0	28	0
J. Ludlow					2	0	11	1

# Facts and figures

Qualification: 100 runs/10 wickets/played in 2017

*c = cap awarded since 1934.*

Debut	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Av	Runs	Wkts	Av	Debut	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Av	Runs	Wkts	Av
c2008 MHS Adnan	28	48	8	2382	236*	59.55	312	9	34.66	c1910 E Godley	7	13	1	203	45	16.91	-	-	-
1953 HW Aldous	15	18	5	102	22*	7.84	-	-	-	c1990 AK Golding	54	63	19	680	79	15.45	6272	255	24.59
1909 CL Alexander	5	9	1	130	58	16.25	31	0	-	1904 JN Goldsmith	22	34	11	131	14*	5.69	896	33	27.15
1909 CW Alexander	4	8	2	212	52	35.33	20	0	-	1905 R Gorell-Barnes	9	16	0	285	136	17.81	294	16	18.37
2001 CWJ Athey	6	11	1	205	87	20.50	167	4	41.75	c1934 HB Goundry	24	37	5	479	50	14.96	1203	50	24.06
c1934 CC Bailey	17	27	4	347	45*	15.08	200	1	200.00	1980 CC Graham	20	21	12	66	11*	7.33	881	26	33.88
c1980 MD Bailey	67	56	17	365	24	9.35	3044	107	28.44	c1989 ID Graham	62	88	21	1772	91*	26.44	4460	135	33.03
1998 A Baker	8	2	0	18	10	9.00	407	14	29.07	1978 MA Grant	6	10	2	111	39*	13.87	419	26	16.11
1948 ER Baker	27	41	6	715	66	20.42	-	-	-	1946 JLF Gray	9	12	1	196	67	17.81	-	-	-
c1972 PD Barker	68	115	11	2354	108*	22.63	1352	50	27.04	1963 JE Green	12	19	4	258	74	17.20	-	-	-
1908 H Bassett	16	28	3	453	54	18.12	657	27	24.33	c1982 RC Green	65	59	27	272	19*	8.50	4751	220	21.59
2010 DP Batch	3	6	2	121	72	30.25	99	4	24.75	1991 RR Gregg	33	55	7	787	90	16.39	2335	54	43.24
2013 JA Beaumont	12	19	5	303	47	21.64	630	17	37.05	c2012 SM Guy	18	32	3	1369	216	47.20	4	0	-
c1939 BH Belle	92	148	21	4459	175*	35.11	362	9	40.22	1962 D Hall	4	3	3	6	5*	-	309	18	17.16
1909 SG Bennett	10	17	1	343	84	21.43	-	-	-	1968 JE Hall	27	50	1	811	53	16.55	36	2	18.00
c1977 DG Bevan	9	15	1	607	95	43.35	14	1	14.00	c1986 SJ Halliday	73	133	16	2939	113	25.11	63	0	-
1910 FN Bird	7	14	2	343	110*	28.58	-	-	-	1974 BJ Hamer	13	12	6	55	26*	9.16	868	29	29.93
1938 DTM Birks	26	38	4	445	77	13.08	244	5	48.80	1953 IF Hammond	7	12	1	150	51	13.63	78	1	78.00
c2005 JE Bishop	49	72	12	1473	88	24.55	4091	140	29.22	c1947 HS Hargreaves	37	43	10	313	56	9.48	3251	175	18.57
1996 A Bond	11	9	8	22	10*	22.00	831	15	55.40	c1962 JM Hargreaves	91	111	35	902	55	11.86	6296	267	23.58
c1981 RJ Bond	37	61	13	1018	62	21.20	21	1	21.00	c1960 JH Harris	31	44	9	627	76*	17.91	1310	45	29.11
1947 PES Bowerbank	3	4	0	112	70	28.00	48	2	24.00	c1981 PJ Hayes	65	90	31	1289	101*	21.84	2903	104	27.91
1906 GGS Brander	5	10	2	143	35*	17.87	12	0	-	1988 RJ Heap	4	8	0	106	64	13.25	52	1	52.00
1951 EJ Branton	10	11	3	42	14	5.25	510	14	36.42	2004 TDC Hembry	8	10	0	210	84	21.00	-	-	-
1986 KG Brooks	9	15	1	220	76	15.71	314	11	28.54	1904 FAH Henley	4	6	1	57	23*	11.40	277	15	18.46
c1985 AD Brown	91	84	38	760	61	16.52	-	-	-	1938 RA Henley	8	8	3	33	16*	6.60	472	12	39.33
2001 AM Brown	9	16	1	458	90	30.53	7	0	-	c1946 DF Henley-Welch	45	79	5	2338	169*	31.59	2022	81	24.96
c1934 AA Burgess	3	6	0	164	100	27.33	136	1	136.00	1984 R Herbert	22	36	5	560	53*	18.06	1616	69	23.42
1913 HA Busher	6	12	2	143	57*	14.30	65	3	21.66	1908 SH Hill-Wood	11	19	3	368	58	23.00	-	-	-
1991 RO Butcher	7	14	0	391	74	27.92	-	-	-	c1976 RNS Hobbs	32	36	9	347	29*	12.85	2771	144	19.24
1993 KA Butler	8	15	1	346	70	24.71	48	0	-	c1935 GW Hockey	24	40	5	1021	86*	29.17	684	19	36.00
c1982 PJ Caley	219	341	74	9269	150*	34.71	5960	163	36.56	1993 MJ Holland	7	8	3	125	74	25.00	-	-	-
2016 J Cantrell	2	4	1	126	56	42.00	34	1	34.00	1907 F Hollings	7	11	1	111	42	11.10	-	-	-
1994 DM Carter	15	8	4	18	9	4.50	874	38	23.00	c1934 RV Howard	25	38	8	505	104*	16.83	960	23	41.73
1904 C Catchpole	7	11	1	196	66	19.60	-	-	-	c1967 RF Howlett	146	243	45	5587	101*	28.21	1109	35	31.68
c1935 H Catchpole	11	17	2	353	107	23.53	463	13	35.61	1957 PB Hudson	22	32	5	309	36*	11.44	1012	33	30.66
c1934 N Catchpole	8	13	1	147	49	12.25	823	35	23.51	c2006 TB Huggins	63	119	10	4920	170	45.13	4091	185	22.11
1904 W Catchpole	11	20	0	284	42	14.20	47	1	47.00	2011 M.D. Hunn	13	12	5	53	31	7.57	953	46	20.71
1999 MD Catley	12	22	0	620	110	28.18	-	-	-	1906 JF Ireland	15	24	0	1100	229	45.83	590	39	15.12
c1992 RJ Catley	63	110	10	2840	130*	28.40	634	22	28.81	2017 D Ironside	3	5	2	197	125*	65.66	283	2	141.50
c1999 TM Catley	41	67	4	1626	126	25.80	28	0	-	1970 JPS Jamieson	6	10	1	106	31	11.77	28	1	28.00
2016 JLO Cawkwell	5	9	0	353	143	39.22	-	-	-	c1971 PH Jones	97	166	24	3853	95	27.13	5924	267	22.18
1947 E Cawston	25	41	1	581	53	14.52	1037	36	28.80	c1934 AS Kent	19	28	6	320	51*	14.54	-	-	-
c1936 RF Clark	22	31	8	446	70	19.39	-	-	-	1987 A King	8	13	1	129	35	10.75	-	-	-
c1974 SM Clements	184	338	37	9219	154	30.62	1581	57	27.73	1936 PAKing	9	17	3	80	23	5.71	602	24	25.08
1936 AC Clift	6	9	3	51	38	8.50	457	11	41.54	c1997 PD King	53	58	11	541	98	11.51	3233	106	30.50
1994 J Clinch	15	28	5	608	84	26.43	61	0	-	c1998 GM Kirk	23	19	9	39	18*	3.90	1761	100	17.61
1904 PW Cobbold	20	31	0	394	53	12.70	1886	152	12.40	2009 FA Klokker	6	10	2	328	67	41.00	-	-	-
c1955 RA Collinge	12	17	5	244	40	20.33	933	55	16.96	1972 DH Knights	24	45	2	762	120*	17.72	-	-	-
c2010 MA Comber	20	34	-	995	194	29.26	752	32	23.50	1904 HW Lake	8	13	4	165	59	18.33	-	-	-
c1946 MD Corke	106	176	18	3405	163	21.55	184	1	184.00	1913 RD Lake	4	8	0	122	53	15.25	-	-	-
1906 PP Cornell	22	41	10	248	35*	8.00	-	-	-	1958 FG Lambert	6	11	0	235	69	21.36	-	-	-
1934 VJ Covill	6	9	0	113	34	12.55	264	10	26.40	1907 AH Lang	11	18	2	409	60	25.56	-	-	-
c1936 M Crannis	36	47	14	203	19	6.15	1799	70	25.70	1958 JDF Larter	4	1	1	0	0*	-	285	14	20.35
1957 JG Crisp	3	2	1	0	0*	-	157	10	15.70	1913 HM Lawrence	5	10	3	106	62*	15.14	423	16	26.43
c2006 M G Cull	62	116	10	3790	208*	35.75	100	1	100.00	c1966 CR Layne	45	51	20	200	23*	6.45	3007	119	25.26
c1965 CJ Cunnell	59	105	15	1868	97*	20.75	2	1	2.00	c2004 NT Lee	28	48	7	1341	105	32.70	5	0	-
c1960 RE Cunnell	167	262	56	5376	117*	26.09	5598	243	23.03	c1936 RC Leech	8	13	2	112	29	10.18	734	24	30.58
c1957 AG Cutter	16	22	5	198	46*	11.64	1016	41	24.78	1992 S Leggett	7	6	4	9	8*	4.50	513	10	51.30
c1939 JV Daley	8	8	2	166	49	27.66	952	46	20.69	1906 VJ Lewis	16	28	1	301	63	11.14	-	-	-
c1934 B Darvill	11	18	1	362	54	21.29	15	1	15.00	c1963 DJ Ling	27	45	6	677	88	17.35	685	20	34.25
1938 HT Davy	7	10	2	184	87	23.00	-	-	-	c1934 FH Lloyd	9	12	2	27	6	2.70	530	13	40.76
1905 RH Dewing	8	14	1	255	88*	19.61	-	-	-	c1934 CC Lockett	7	10	0	273	91	27.30	48	0	-
1938 TH Digings	9	15	4	316	104	28.72	111	2	55.50	1974 SRL Long	39	64	4	1197	98	19.95	18	0	-
1979 RP Done	12	19	5	221	34*	15.78	848	29	29.24	1938 EW Lovegrove	8	10	1	167	43	18.55	-	-	-
2017 HA Douglas	5	3	2	37	16*	37.00	421	20	21.05	1952 CWS Lubbock	9	12	0	127	49	10.58	502	17	29.52
c1950 PR Downing	46	66	12	861	74	15.94	772	32	24.12	1963 RS Maddocks	13	18	4	107	15	7.64	771	28	27.53
c1946 W Duckham	45	72	9	1380	96	21.90	2481	126	19.69	2004 DE Malcolm	9	5	2	12	12	4.00	903	34	26.55
2000 JP East	6	9	4	67	35	13.40	437	11	39.72	c2011 AP Mansfield	23	35	8	565	59*	20.92	-	-	-
c1991 RE East	17	20	5	229	48	15.26	516	13	39.69	1980 MG Maranta	16	28	4	620	67	25.83	920	38	24.21
c1981 JW Edrich	47	88	7	1990	107*	24.56	227	4	56.75	c2002 AD Mawson	25	43	5	1703	162	44.81	3	0	-
2007 PD Edwards	12	14	4	195	37*	19.50	768	34	22.58	1969 B Mayes	22	35	8	391	67*	14.48	239	3	79.66
c1960 RJ English	82	137	12	2633	119	21.06	3081	134	22.99	c1957 R Mayes	53	97	6	2786	106	30.61	44	0	-
1913 WG English	7	14	0	196	43	14.00	389	15	25.93	c1985 MSA McEvoy	53	99	11	3170					



Debut	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Av	Runs	Wkts	Av	Debut	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Av	Runs	Wkts	Av
2010 AP Palladino	3	4	1	113	43	37.66	321	19	16.89	c2002 TM Smith	22	29	6	435	49	18.91	2260	87	25.97
2015 BJ Parker	10	18	-	364	105	20.22	-	-	-	c1985 AJ Squire	69	121	10	3031	139	27.30	88	2	44.00
1995 TE Parker	10	13	2	95	21	8.63	446	14	31.85	1904 HF Steel	9	14	0	48	16	3.42	495	21	23.57
c1988 MJ Peck	51	94	16	1712	80	21.94	45	3	15.00	c1949 JN Stevens	45	51	21	415	51*	13.83	2964	118	25.11
1905 W Penfold	66	114	11	1317	84	12.78	6324	375	16.86	1969 JA Steward	13	19	2	191	54*	11.23	394	9	43.77
c1939 GC Perkins	181	210	77	2044	67	15.36	10399	779	13.34	2013 R Stockdale	6	6	4	16	6	8.00	520	16	32.50
1904 CM Phillips	19	30	4	485	59	18.65	18	0	-	1968 J Stoggell	11	13	4	70	17	7.77	507	23	22.04
1965 EJ Phillips	6	7	2	28	10*	5.60	436	24	18.16	c1969 JP Stuck	64	111	12	2252	113	22.74	2	0	-
c1997 RW Pineo	29	35	7	495	70	17.67	1894	63	30.06	1973 KG Suttle	15	29	1	612	60	21.85	626	26	24.07
c1955 CHC Piper	107	172	21	2641	120	17.49	-	-	-	c1999 CA Swallow	60	78	18	1495	72*	24.91	3671	116	31.64
1969 R Plumbly	8	13	5	113	42*	14.12	-	-	-	1910 FL Titchmarsh	24	43	3	523	52	13.07	272	7	38.85
2014 NJ Poole	12	23	1	455	80	20.68	161	4	40.25	1948 WR Towns	10	13	4	279	67	31.00	-	-	-
c1934 HL Porter	58	99	9	2969	146	32.98	46	1	46.00	1973 JRA Townsend	7	14	1	337	90	25.92	23	0	-
2012 JE Poulson	16	22	6	388	66	24.25	647	17	38.05	1914 PS Trevor	2	4	0	101	37	25.25	-	-	-
c1938 AG Powell	24	31	1	748	118	24.93	-	-	-	1904 FG Trudgett	64	98	34	414	20	6.46	4933	276	17.87
c1934 HFJ Powell	11	17	3	433	84*	30.92	79	0	-	2009 PT Turnbull	5	6	1	193	89	38.60	90	1	90.00
c1956 ID Prior	81	153	13	4841	136	34.57	7	0	-	c1951 EJ Unwin	20	30	5	650	74	26.00	506	20	25.30
c1958 MW Prior	16	23	5	154	18*	8.55	1045	53	19.71	1954 RC Upson	17	20	4	110	34*	6.87	748	21	35.61
1904 E Pritchett	15	27	1	544	126	20.92	-	-	-	2016 JB Wakelin	8	10	3	78	21	11.14	618	16	38.62
1986 R Pybus	18	20	12	98	24	12.25	1448	59	24.54	1905 OHA Walters	6	10	0	182	41	18.20	-	-	-
1905 W Quafe	38	65	3	1325	93	21.37	-	-	-	2010 SBJ Ward	18	28	4	699	73*	29.12	-	-	-
1948 N Quinton	9	6	3	25	13	8.33	248	10	24.80	2015 MB Wareing	10	16	6	54	22*	5.40	1003	36	27.86
c1994 DW Randall	50	91	5	3935	148	45.75	30	2	15.00	c2000 CJ Warn	80	119	18	2791	165*	27.63	7	0	-
c2011 TWW Rash	35	63	8	1340	91	24.36	1791	61	29.36	c1965 AG Warrington	147	280	13	7623	130	28.55	109	2	54.50
1984 PWE Rawson	6	9	3	245	81	40.83	444	11	40.36	1908 F Waters	10	18	8	57	11*	5.70	520	18	28.88
1904 K Raynor	27	48	7	1067	96	26.02	494	28	17.64	1965 AJ Watkins	7	11	1	253	53	25.30	351	19	18.47
2015 BJ Reece	13	24	2	468	66	21.27	565	14	40.35	1910 AK Watson	11	20	2	418	128	23.22	-	-	-
2008 S Rees	16	15	4	157	30	14.27	605	17	35.58	1964 KP Watson	9	16	1	236	64	15.73	-	-	-
1979 PC Rice	27	53	3	1001	78	20.02	4	0	-	c1934 HP Waugh	44	68	6	1515	108*	24.43	2107	84	25.08
c1947 MR Ricketts	53	86	4	1606	89	19.58	361	14	25.78	1968 AL Webb	11	19	4	201	47*	13.40	258	8	32.25
c1968 RJ Robinson	109	184	32	2811	78	18.49	5674	191	29.70	1934 HC Webb	3	5	0	101	61	20.20	70	0	-
1961 BA Rolph	12	19	1	326	62	18.11	203	10	20.30	2005 T Webley	6	11	3	284	109	35.50	-	-	-
2014 WT Root	1	1	1	210	210*	-	35	0	-	1937 JH Weller-Poley	4	7	1	102	39	17.00	99	1	99.00
c1965 C Rutterford	137	132	61	938	57	13.21	9261	431	21.48	c1973 SA Westley	97	119	31	1575	124	17.89	11	0	-
2016 MET Salisbury	4	7	2	100	58*	20.00	425	15	28.33	1911 AD Whatman	4	8	0	184	77	23.00	-	-	-
c1936 JM Sangster	62	101	6	2006	144	21.11	86	1	86.00	c1957 WAD Whitfield	37	59	13	684	69	14.86	1958	80	24.47
2006 CP Schofield	5	8	1	367	92*	52.42	472	32	14.75	c1994 KM Wijesuriya	42	76	9	2197	112	32.79	1384	30	46.13
1963 ME Scrutton	11	22	4	489	55	27.16	158	7	22.57	c1955 BA Wilson	39	64	11	1046	107*	19.73	1057	42	25.16
c1997 CP Seal	41	58	12	911	79*	19.80	1773	62	28.59	1905 CS Wilson	17	27	1	411	93	15.80	87	1	87.00
1998 ACH Seymour	19	28	2	813	99	31.26	594	14	42.42	1908 FTD Wilson	17	30	1	778	183	26.82	887	43	20.62
1949 W Sharples	4	5	0	16	9	3.20	239	12	19.91	1905 HL Wilson	44	74	6	1568	131	23.05	527	16	32.93
c1996 KG Shaw	38	48	10	533	40	14.02	1374	45	30.53	1904 FP Wood	14	25	2	283	38	12.30	142	3	47.33
2012 BD Shepperson	13	23	-	633	129	27.52	140	3	46.66	c1984 HJW Wright	32	49	14	650	86	18.57	1964	64	30.68
1960 CP Simpson	15	22	2	264	47	13.20	157	2	78.50	c1934 RC Wright	6	10	0	199	107	19.90	90	1	90.00
1954 AF Skinner	4	6	1	112	41	22.40	-	-	-	1904 HS Wrinch	8	14	1	251	70	19.30	28	1	28.00
1936 AH Sleigh	5	10	0	121	32	12.10	6	1	6.00	1910 SH Wrinch	4	6	0	106	76	17.66	9	0	-
1937 GWO Smith	14	26	0	312	45	12.00	-	-	-	2017 K Young	5	9	-	175	49	19.44	375	11	34.09
2007 MJW Smith	12	9	3	115	29	19.16	1163	35	33.22	1988 JJ Zagni	13	21	7	215	66*	15.35	638	13	49.07

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## MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS 1904 -2017

Opponents	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	Drawn
Bedfordshire	75	26	19	1	29
Berkshire	8	4	2	-	2
Buckinghamshire	69	21	21	-	27
Cambridgeshire	83	21	27	-	35
Cheshire*	1	-	-	-	1
Cumberland	30	9	4	-	17
Durham	11	2	4	-	5
Essex II	24	3	6	-	15
Hertfordshire	123	29	44	-	50
Lincolnshire	77	20	19	-	38
Middlesex II	15	1	5	-	9
Norfolk	120	35	25	-	60
Northumberland	29	10	10	-	9
Nottinghamshire II	4	-	3	-	1
Oxfordshire	4	-	3	-	1
Staffordshire	34	5	10	-	19
Surrey II	11	-	8	-	3
	<b>718</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>321</b>

\*excludes limited overs final of 1985

### RECORDS

#### INNINGS TOTALS

Highest by Suffolk: 527-8 v Lincolnshire at Sleaford, 2013  
 Against Suffolk: 516-6 by Surrey 2nd XI at The Oval, 1912  
 Lowest by Suffolk: 29 v Oxfordshire at Felixstowe, 1904  
 Against Suffolk: 37 by Cambridgeshire at Bury St Edmunds, 1904

### INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Highest for Suffolk: 236\* Hassan Adnan v Northumberland at Jesmond 2011  
 Against Suffolk: 208\* A.J. Mellor for Staffordshire at Longton 2015  
 Most runs in a season: 1167 Timur Mohamed, 1979  
 Most runs in a career: 9269 P.J. Caley, 1982-2009  
 Most centuries scored: 15 T.B. Huggins 2006-2016  
 Most centuries in a season: 5 Timur Mohamed, 1979  
 Two centuries in a match:  
 103, 126 P.J. Caley v Cambs at Ransomes, 1997  
 102, 120\* H. Adnan v Hertfordshire at Hertford, 2009  
 100, 101 H. Adnan v Cumberland at Mildenhall, 2011  
 168, 132 T.B. Huggins v Bedfordshire at Ipswich School 2015

### INDIVIDUAL BOWLING

Suffolk - best in an innings: 10-23 G.C. Perkins v Herts at Felixstowe, 1960  
 Best against Suffolk: 9-24 G.B. Raikes for Norfolk at Lakenham, 1910  
 Suffolk - best in a match: 14-94 C. Rutterford v Norfolk at Bury St Edmunds, 1974  
 14-150 A.K. Golding v Buckinghamshire at Beaconsfield, 1994  
 Against Suffolk: 14-70 M.V. Bennett for Lincolnshire at Lincoln, 1934  
 Most wickets in a season: 66 A.K. Golding, 1995  
 Most wickets in a career 779 G.C. Perkins, 1939-1967

### PARTNERSHIP RECORDS FOR SUFFOLK

Wkt	Runs	Batsmen	Against	At	Year
1st:	295	McEvoy MSA/Gladwin C	Northumberland	Jesmond	1990
2nd:	240	Huggins TB/Cull M G	Norfolk	Horsford	2008
3rd:	225	Cull MG/Root WT	Buckinghamshire	Ipswich School	2014
4th:	257	Belle BH/Henley-Welch DF	Cambridgeshire	Fenners	1946
5th:	293*	Hassan Adnan/CJ Warn	Northumberland	Jesmond	2011
6th:	160	Bishop JE/Warn CJ	Cumberland	Mildenhall	2005
7th:	207	Guy SM/Finch JM	Lincolnshire	Sleaford	2013
8th:	124	Swallow CA/King PD	Norfolk	Mildenhall	2006
9th:	125	Maranta MG/Rutterford C	Hertfordshire	Ransomes	1980
10th:	71	Bailey CC/Clift AC	Surrey II	Oval	1937
71*		Steward JA/Hargreaves JM	Buckinghamshire	Stowe School	1972



# Cricket

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# Suffolk go close to winning 2<sup>nd</sup> XI competition

*KEMSLEY ROBB reviews the Development XI's season*

SUFFOLK finished third in the East of England Development competition, after losing to Bedfordshire by one wicket in their final match of the season.

After three straight victories Suffolk topped the table, before losing to Huntingdonshire and then in a rain-affected encounter at Bedford CC.

Suffolk won the toss in their opening match of the season and batted first against Norfolk at

Manor Park on a used wicket which looked like it was going to take a fair bit of spin later in the game. Openers Jake Wakelin and Alex Oxley got us off to just the start I wanted, Jake especially taking it to the bowlers.

Alex, in his second season of senior cricket, looked very assured and calm for a well-made 35 and in came Ben Parker, who kept the scoring rate right up with his captain, who then fell for an excellent 81.

The rain then decided to come down when we were really hitting the ball nicely and we were off for three hours, much to our disappointment. We came back and only had six overs to bat, with Ben Parker making 43, with little cameos from Jack Beaumont, Ollie Lovejoy and Josh Frame getting us up to 213-5 off 36 overs.

Norfolk then came out to bat and got off to a bit of a flier, swinging from the hips. I had a feeling spin was going to do the trick and Josh Cantrell, Jack Beaumont, Josh Frame and captain Jake Wakelin bowled really well and restricted Norfolk, who fell 29 short of victory. Josh Cantrell picked up 2-15 and Jake Wakelin 4-32.

Suffolk won the toss against Essex on what looked like a good wicket to bat on at Woolpit. Jake Wakelin and Alex Oxley got off to another very good start, Jake the more aggressive of the two players.

Jake was out for a well-played 42 and Alex was joined by Ben Parker, who looked in good touch before he got out for 22 playing his favourite sweep shot. Alex then soon followed for 55.

Tom Benn, Josh Frame and James Poulson all chipped in, but it was Ollie Lovejoy who gave the innings some real impetus and made 59 to get us up to 265-6.

Essex then came into bat against a fired-up Suffolk team determined to defend their total. Hugo Douglas and James Poulson opened the bowling and bowled in good areas, with Douglas picking up a wicket in the second over which set the tone.

Essex Academy batsman Rishi Patel then came to the



*The Suffolk 2<sup>nd</sup> XI that played Huntingdonshire. Back row, left to right: John Abbott (scorer), Alex Oxley, Fergus Atkins, Dan Carter, Josh Cantrell, Alexander Packer, Billy Moulton-Day, Josh Frame, Kemsley Robb (coach). Front row: Sam Webb-Snowling, Ben Parker, James Poulson (captain), Ollie Lovejoy, Michael Griggs.*

crease and was looking good. Jake Wakelin then bought himself on with Dan Carter and they picked up three wickets each, with Josh Cantrell claiming two wickets as a great all-round performance by the team gave us a great win over Essex by 97 runs. A very proud coach.

On an overcast day at Woolpit CC, Suffolk took on an experienced Cambridgeshire team. The visitors won the toss and elected to bat first. Their opening pair put on 65 before Jake Wakelin made the breakthrough. Strong batting throughout the 50 overs enabled Cambs to post a decent total of 244-5. Jake Wakelin returned the best figures with 10-2-43-2.

Chasing nearly five runs-per-over was always going to be difficult. However 95 for the first wicket was the perfect platform, young Alex Oxley made 63, with Jake Wakelin playing a supporting role with 42. Adam Mansfield (71 not out) showed his class and experience and after a little wobble in the middle order, James Poulson (30 not out) joined Adam at the crease and they managed to see the side home with a partnership of 63 with 3.5 overs to spare. Suffolk lost five wickets in reply and moved onto the next fixture sitting top of the table after a really good all-round performance by the team to get us over the line.

This was a vital game for Suffolk as we had played three and won three. The night before saw torrential rain fall in the area and it was pretty much a miracle that the game at Copdock versus Huntingdonshire went ahead thanks to the efforts of Martin Taylor and his groundstaff. The game was agreed to be shortened before play to try and get a game in.

Hunts won the toss and batted first, Billy Moulton-Day was back from injury and bowled briskly considering his run-up was far from ideal. Hunts were on the back foot due to some good bowling from Suffolk and James Poulson especially. Hunts then had a crucial sixth-wicket partnership which enabled them to reach 161 all out after 38.4 overs which I thought was below par. 'Mr Reliable' Poulson returned figures of 7-2-22-3.

Suffolk's innings then followed on what was a good wicket considering all the rain. Alex Oxley and debutant Michael Griggs opened the batting and Michael got off to a flier, but Alex, Michael, Ben Parker, Sam Webb-Snowling and Josh Frame all fell cheaply due to not great shot selection.

Ollie Lovejoy then took the game to Hunts; he looked in great touch again before getting carried away trying to hit three boundaries in a row, after making 38. James Poulson and Fergus Atkins made useful teens, but Suffolk fell 30 runs short.

The last game of the season and what a crunch game – win against Bedfordshire at Bedford CC and we could potentially win the competition.

A lot of rain had fallen the night before and more rain was due to follow. Suffolk batted first on a low and very slow used wicket. Jake Wakelin and Alexander Packer opened the batting with the emphasis on trying to make the most of the power play and the new ball. Sadly both players were out early.

Ben Parker and Ollie Lovejoy came in and dug in for a bit

which was very much needed. Ben then got out after doing all the hard work for a useful 25. Ollie was then starting to get used to the pitch and playing positively and hit two big sixes before holing out to long on for 23, and Tom Benn soon followed to a great caught and bowled. Josh Cantrell came in and looked like he was batting on a different wicket, scoring freely for a well-played 43, and Dan Leggett, on debut at 15 years old, looked very assured in making 16 not out and taking us to 181 all out off 46.2 overs.

We then went in for tea and the heavens opened for three hours. After a lot of sitting around we were back on the field, with Bedfordshire only needing 100 from 25 overs due to no Duckworth-Lewis being used.

So everything was in their favour, but I thought the boys could pull it out of the bag. There was a really good team spirit with the boys fighting fire with fire. George Loyd opened the bowling with James Poulson on a wicket which was going underground. We then had a three-prong spin attack of Josh Cantrell, Jake Wakelin and Jack Beaumont who bowled out of their boots. Dan Leggett also bowled four overs of tight left-armers with wicket-keeper Tom Benn standing up.

The wickets were shared around with Cantrell taking 4-21, but Bedfordshire reached their target to win by three wickets off the last ball. As a unit I was very proud of the way we played the game and conducted ourselves in very trying conditions.

The advertisement features a central logo for Gray-Nicolls, consisting of a red vertical bar with the brand name in white, flanked by four black squares. Below the logo is the tagline "WHERE TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION". The background is a light gray with faint images of cricketers. In the foreground, three blue cricket helmets with silver face guards are displayed. Each helmet has a red label on the side with the Gray-Nicolls logo. Below each helmet is a label: "THE 'ATOMIC'", "THE 'PLAYER'", and "THE 'TEST CRICKET'". At the bottom, the text "TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE WITH CONFIDENCE" is written in a smaller font, followed by "THE GRAY-NICOLLS HELMET RANGE" in large, bold, white capital letters. In the bottom left corner, there are social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. In the bottom center, it says "As endorsed by International Batsmen the world over". In the bottom right corner, the website "www.gray-nicolls.co.uk" is listed.



# *Disappointment at restructured programme*

IAN ABSOLON & ADAM POLLEY review the Suffolk Ladies' season



*Suffolk Ladies at the first weekend of T20 action versus Buckinghamshire and Norfolk at Campbell Park, Milton Keynes. Back row, left to right: Ian Absolon (director of women's cricket and head coach), Ellie Costin, Becky Saunders, Debbie Ford-Keeble, Lizzie Shaw, Natalie Samuels, Penny Everett, Adam Polley (manager). Front row: Megan Arnold, Katelyn Wright, Grace Cruse, Amanda Polley (captain), Shel Ford-Keeble. Missing: Alan Rogers (scorer).*

SUFFOLK Ladies eagerly awaited news of the restructuring of the Women's County Championship for 2017. The merger of Divisions 3 and 4 promised fewer trips to the furthest corners of the UK, and more competitive fixtures against some talented adversaries from seasons past.

The vaunted release of the new format proved extremely disappointing. What could have been a 'local' division of eight counties (providing a meaningful number of games) had been divided yet further into two sub-divisions. Suffolk Ladies would only play four competitive, 50-over fixtures which would begin, and end, in May.

With two Bank Holiday weekends utilised with 'double-headers', the entire County Championship for 2017 was effectively conducted over just two weekends! Four further weekends of T20 cricket would see the conclusion of the county season at the end of July.

With the return of Fliss Cleverley and Becky Saunders, the Ladies were boasting possibly the strongest-looking squad in their history. Hockwold Cricket Club played host to the first encounter of the Royal London 50-Over County Championship season against local rivals Norfolk, who elected to bat first in glorious early season conditions.

Norfolk found scoring difficult in the early stages against tight bowling from Lottie Kent, Lizzie Shaw (8-5-22-2) and Penny Everett. However, they did not panic and kept wickets in hand, slowly building a decent platform with the experienced Woodhouse (33) taking a lead role.

Recognising the need to wrestle back the initiative, a trap was set and Edge (23) duly obliged, with Becky Saunders taking a magnificent one-handed catch, having been shrewdly placed wide of mid-on. Harmer (25) continued the hard work for Norfolk until the introduction of Natalie

Samuels, who made steady inroads with the stand-out spell of 10-3-21-3. Cubbit (16) and Pringle's (12) late flurry provided the finishing touches to a challenging total of 180-8.

Despite the loss of an early wicket, Penny Everett (21) and Becky Saunders (26) continued to bat extremely positively early on, and the rate showed no sign of abating with the loss of the former at 39-2.

Shel Ford-Keeble (60) batted with complete assurance to break the back of the Norfolk total with solid support at the other end from Fliss Cleverley (21). Sadly, both departed within a whisker of victory. Amanda Polley (10 not out) and Natalie Samuels (7 not out) provided the finishing touches to a very professional win with five wickets and seven overs spare.

The stunning venue of Finedon Dolben Cricket Club greeted the Suffolk travellers albeit on a dark, damp and thoroughly dreary Bank Holiday Monday. Northants won the toss and elected to bowl without hesitation on a wicket affected by heavy overnight rain.

These sides had met two seasons earlier in a thrilling encounter at Easton that saw Northants prevail by one wicket in a low-scoring encounter.

With few changes to their side since then, Suffolk were not surprised to find life extremely tough with the bat as Northants' wily and experienced seam attack bowled with pin-point accuracy on a soft wicket. Fine spells by Bibi (10-3-23-2) and Williams (10-8-4-0) were followed by equally miserly spells from Keightley and Starr.

A very tense encounter ensued. With both sides recognising that a three-figure score would be challenging, Suffolk showed great restraint and patience, with Beth Absolon (20),

Becky Saunders (18), and Shel Ford-Keeble (30) battling hard for every scoring opportunity afforded them.

Although the run rate was meagre, Northants were growing frustrated and concerned at the lack of wickets falling and the potential for a damaging late order burst in the dying overs. When that time arrived, it demonstrated just how prudent Suffolk's earlier restraint had been, as wickets began to tumble with attempts to break out. Lottie Kent (16) provided some late, lusty blows as Suffolk finished on 124-9 off 50 overs.

This was a similar total to which Suffolk almost defended two seasons earlier and it was a case of *déjà vu*, as on both occasions, Northants seemed to be marching steadily without incident to a comfortable victory before sabotaging their own efforts with some needless strokeplay.

The introduction of Fliss Cleverley (7-0-22-2) and Shel Ford-Keeble (10-2-21-2) reduced Northants from 80-3 to 100-5 including the dismissal of anchor Turner (34). With the batting becoming more frenetic, hope of a late collapse grew for the visitors. Amidst this drama, Suffolk finished the match with ten players as Natalie Samuels had to be taken off the field badly injured, having been struck in the face, diving courageously at cover to stop a full-blooded cut. In spite of two more wickets falling after this interlude, Northants got over the line for a victory deserving of their bowlers' efforts.

In sunny conditions at the delightful home venue of East Bergholt, Suffolk won the toss and elected to bat first against Leicestershire, the pre-season favourites for promotion from the group.

The dismissal of Penny Everett (12) and Amanda Polley (4) brought Becky Saunders (28) and Shel Ford-Keeble (30) together once again to form the backbone of the Suffolk innings – something for which their partnership was becoming renowned.

Their dismissal within a few runs of each other at 105-4 brought about an uncharacteristic collapse for Suffolk Ladies. The departure of evergreen Emma Elsom (12) was followed by three further quick wickets, with Natalie Samuels (19) often stranded as an observer at the other end. The Suffolk total finished at 147-8 off the allocated overs – surely not enough against a notoriously strong batting side? This proved the case as some undisciplined bowling gifted the experienced Leics top order of Leach (73 not out) and Patel (44 not out) a start from which Suffolk would not recover, and Leics raced to victory in just half the overs – Lottie Kent picking up the solitary wicket of Winterton (12). Overall, a bad day at the office for the team following some good early work and one to quickly forget.

Long Melford was a fitting venue for the final 50-over encounter of the season. As ever, much credit must go to the welcoming and hospitable committee and supporters of ladies' cricket at this club, which is fast becoming the spiritual home of the Suffolk Ladies!

A tough match was in prospect against a fast-improving Lincolnshire side who had shocked Leics in a surprise victory on the first day of the season.

Suffolk won the toss and elected to bat. Penny Everett (65)

was at her best to lead the innings with a brave and belligerent attacking innings, and with good support from Shel Ford-Keeble (18) and Emma Elsom (31), Suffolk looked poised for a well-above average total at 136-4.

However, as was the case the previous day, wickets began to fall cheaply, with none of the remaining six wickets achieving a double-figure score. Extras were gratefully received and somewhat came to Suffolk's rescue as the innings closed at 173 all out in the final over.

Buoyed by their efforts in the field to restrict Suffolk to a below-par total, Lincs took to the crease no doubt expecting to push Suffolk close. Suffolk Ladies had other ideas and with a determination and discipline that had been lacking the previous day, seized the initiative early and never let go. Flora Johnston's opening spell of 6-1-17-2, supported with a spell from Lizzie Shaw that deserved more than a single wicket, reduced Lincs to 39-3. This brought the introduction of Penny Everett (9-1-25-5) who capped off a brilliant performance by ripping through the Lincs middle order in a spell of spin that was met with no answer and produced a five-wicket haul. Ably supported by Nat Samuels (6-0-18-2), the Lincs innings collapsed to 88 all out. A very impressive and resounding victory to end this short season of long-format cricket.

The ladies finished on a pleasing note and whilst demonstrating their dominance over fellow contenders from the old Division 4, the hard work must be continued close-season to overcome those teams that have traditionally competed just above us. The ladies continue to grow and evolve in this format and it is surely a matter of time before their efforts and determination is rewarded with those prominent scalps.

Congratulations to Shel Ford-Keeble for heading the group batting table, and to Penny Everett and Becky Saunders for breaking into the top ten.

Congratulations also to Penny Everett and Natalie Samuels for featuring in the top ten bowlers in the group.

On possibly the hottest day of the season, Suffolk senior debutants Ellie Costin, Grace Cruse, Debbie Keeble and Katelyn Wright assembled at the 'Bowl' in Milton Keynes to kick-start the season's NatWest Women's T20 County Cricket Group C campaign.

Suffolk won the toss and elected to field. Megan Arnold (3-1-6-1) and Shel Ford-Keeble (4-1-10-2) were the pick of the Suffolk bowlers, restricting Norfolk to a meagre 86 off their 20 overs – a good effort considering the sun-scorched conditions. It was pleasing to see debutants Grace Cruse and Ellie Costin both bowl with good control at the death.

Penny Everett (19) and Natalie Samuels (38 off 38 balls) made quick inroads in to the total with an array of expansive shots, over and through the in-field, with Shel Ford-Keeble (13) assisting to bring about a comfortable victory with four overs to spare.

Buoyed by their efforts with the bat and hoping to exhaust Bucks in the ferocious afternoon sunshine, Suffolk won the toss and elected to bat. Things did not go to plan as debutant and opening batsman Katelyn Wright (8) looked on at the other end as three senior players were dismissed for just 25



runs, before Shel Ford-Keeble (33) rescued the innings with the only score of note. Special mention to Ellie Costin (8), who showed a maturity beyond her years in support at the end, Suffolk closing on 91-7.

Suffolk were not able to exert the same degree of control as the opposition, with some loose deliveries contributing to a racing start for Bucks. Natalie Samuels (4-0-11-2) and Ellie Costin (4-0-17-1) finally brought some control to proceedings (the youngster accounting for ex-England opener Godman for 37), but the damage had been done and Bucks got home with an over and seven wickets to spare.

The ladies welcomed Sophie Utteridge for her senior debut and found themselves pitched against a familiar-looking Northants side for the first encounter of the day at Long Marston. Suffolk won the toss and elected to field.

The Northants innings began in quite steady fashion with both Brown (25) and Presland (48) ticking along without much pressure being exerted. As their confidence grew, the Suffolk bowling and fielding became steadily more errant under the ensuing onslaught. With wickets in hand, Northants were free to express themselves without fear of the consequences and amassed an intimidating 145-5 for Suffolk to chase.

Though initially dejected, the mood of the camp changed quickly and with the full support of her cheering teammates, opener Natalie Samuels (69 off 56 balls) chose this moment to produce an innings that would rank amongst any in Suffolk Ladies' history.

Northants had no answer to this controlled exhibition of power with the ball disappearing to all parts of the ground at an initial rate of ten runs per over. Shel Ford-Keeble (15), Fliss Cleverley (10), Beth Absolon (9) and Amanda Polley (12) all provided willing and selfless support at the other end in attempting to maintain the rate, and it was only when Samuels' unfortunate departure came with the score on 131, that the run rate finally told and Suffolk finished an agonising eight runs short, much to the disappointment of an admiring crowd of neutral supporters that had assembled to cheer them on.

Looking to capture the spirit of this response, Suffolk won the toss and had no hesitation in batting against Hertfordshire. Natalie Samuels (43) continued where she had left off and with good support from Sophie Utteridge (13), who was rotating the strike like a veteran at the other end, the total raced to 62 before the loss of both wickets.

Herts reacted well and the new batters struggled with the lack of pace on offer as a further two wickets were lost for just an additional two runs. The rate had slowed significantly until Amanda Polley (10) and Lottie Kent (16 not out) resurrected the total with a late flurry of shots as Suffolk closed on 111-6.

As was the case with the first match, Suffolk could not find a bowling partnership to exert any pressure on the Herts openers, and hopes faded with the evening sunshine as Marriott (39) and Price (41 not out) scored most of the runs to bring about a comfortable victory with four overs to spare.

A day of stark contrasts and much for the group and staff to

reflect on as we enjoyed the evening sunshine and hospitality of this pleasant ground.

Next up was a double-header against Hertfordshire and Norfolk at Ipswich CC, and the prospect of redemption against a closely-matched Herts outfit in the first match. The ladies welcomed senior debutants Emma Ellis and Olivia Locke, as well as a rare and welcome appearance from Suffolk's long-time ex-skipper Vicky Mitchell.

Suffolk won the toss and, following a prolonged warm-up, elected to bowl on this occasion, albeit on a good-looking strip. Lizzie Shaw (4-0-17-0) and Shel Ford-Keeble (4-0-23-3) bowled superbly early on, with the latter quickly removing the dangerous Marriott and Price with hardly a run on the board. There was to be no let up for Herts as Dani Lavender (4-0-15-2) and Vicky Mitchell (3-0-6-0) stifled any prospect of a recovery, Tyson (23) making the only score of note in a total of 90-7.

Despite the loss of an early wicket, Beth Absolon (19) scored freely and with support from Shel Ford-Keeble (20) pushed the score to 65 before the latter's departure. Becky Saunders (27) then treated the crowd to a thunderous array of shots before Olivia Locke (13) completed her promising debut with possibly the shot of the day as Suffolk reached 92-3 off 17.5 overs to complete a victory that must rank among one of Suffolk Ladies' most complete performances in this format.

However, once again for the ladies it was to be a case of 'After the Lord Mayor's Show' as Norfolk provided the opposition for the final game of the day, and promptly defeated Suffolk for the first time in many years – and thoroughly deserved it was too.

Williamson (4-1-6-1), Hoyte (4-0-13-0), and Woodhouse (4-0-13-2) bowled with supreme control and backed with attacking fielding, it found no response from Suffolk, who seemed uncharacteristically reluctant to switch tactics with only Shel Ford-Keeble (24) making double figures in a meagre total of 75-6.

Norfolk's tactics with the bat were spot on as any possible attempt to suffocate them for runs was snuffed out by adventurous and attacking strokeplay, Edge (29 not out) and Marchant (31 not out) reaching the target with six overs spare for a well-executed and deserved victory.

The final encounters of the season saw Suffolk make the trip to a wet and windswept Knebworth to face Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. Although the staff had worked tirelessly to secure some cricket for everyone, conditions were far from ideal and delays seemed inevitable as the rain frequently swept in from behind the house.

Firstly, Suffolk had the opportunity to avenge their defeat to Bucks on the opening weekend of the campaign and were relieved to win the toss and insert Bucks on a wicket that could not be distinguished from the outfield, for a reduced 15-over match. Holly Parker and Plum O'Riordan made their long-awaited season debuts.

Bucks seemingly coped better as a greasy ball was frequently struck over the infield, with Mason (47) in particular untroubled by conditions. Flora Johnston's spell (2-1-3-2) and Dani Lavender (3-1-9-0) restored some balance

as Bucks closed on a challenging 83-3.

Beth Absolon (21) and Nat Samuels (45) got about Bucks early and never let them settle with an array of pleasing shots. A slight dip in the rate following Absolon's departure brought some interest from the away supporters but two quick boundaries from Lottie Kent (9) concluded proceedings with an over to spare.

And so it was to the season decider with Herts with one win apiece and a fitting way to finish the campaign. Suffolk Skipper Amanda Polley won the toss for the ninth consecutive time and elected to field in a full 20-over contest.

Marriott (44) and Price (22) were not to be thwarted on this occasion, and with Hassell (33) and Cirkel (20) maintaining momentum, Suffolk could not contain them and with only

Dani Lavender (4-0-22-2) producing any figures of note, faced the daunting prospect of scoring 140 to win.

Trying to conjure the spirit of Long Marston, the Suffolk response was very encouraging. Natalie Samuels (26) succumbed to a marginal lbw decision when looking well set and in spite of spirited attempts to stay with the rate from Dani Lavender (23 not out), Amanda Polley (13) and Lottie Kent (11), the target never really looked in reach as the innings closed on 119.

Congratulations to Natalie Samuels for topping the Group C batting table.

Thanks must go to our ever-present scorer Alan Rogers for his loyal support and also to our coaches, Jolyon Kimmerling, Rob Southall and Chris Swallow, for their continued support and encouragement.

*FORMER Suffolk players gathered to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of bowler Randolph Layne at Rushmere Golf Club on the outskirts of Ipswich last year. From left to right: Bob Cunnell, Dick English, John Stuck, Bobby Flack, Randolph Layne, John Hall, John Hargreaves, Roger Howlett and Steve Marks.*

## Randolph Layne celebrates 80th birthday



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# Successful season as three sides reach play-offs

Suffolk Seniors report by ALAN ROGERS

A BIG thank you goes out to everybody that contributes to making Seniors cricket so enjoyable. From the organisers, sponsors, supporters, and very importantly, our host clubs for the use of their fine facilities and their volunteers who make us warmly welcome. All in all, 2017 proved to be a very successful year, with three of our teams reaching the play-offs. Alas, no silverware but this all points to better things in 2018.

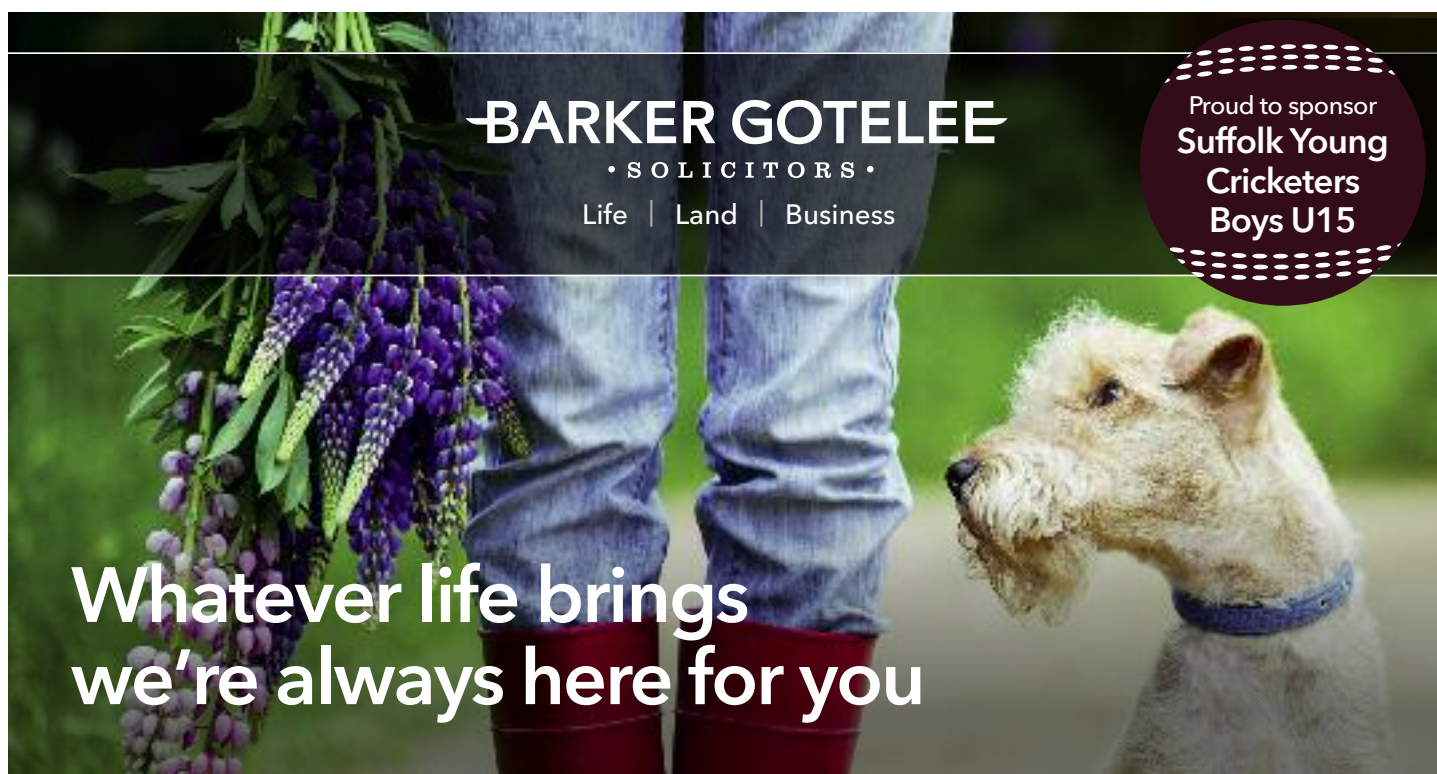
To face the National Champions in their own back yard is always going to be a difficult task for the first game of the season. And so, the ECB 50s travelled to Hinckley to face Leicestershire. Skipper Arthur Wormington's decision to ask them to bat first looked to be favourable as John Howe's 0-30 opening spell kept the scoring in check. Taking wickets proved much more difficult as the opening batters started to take control and it was not until the 31<sup>st</sup> over that the first wicket fell with the score on 162.

From then on, Leicestershire dominated, Moulton (102) reached his century, and Hyatt smashed a brutal 117 off just 54 deliveries, having survived two dropped catches whilst in the fifties. A total of 307-4 was a daunting target to chase. Losing Wormington as early as the third over was not the best of starts and at 69-3 in the 17<sup>th</sup> over, Suffolk were well behind the gain line. Jeff Hurrell (57) and Paul Pallant (52) added 74 for the fourth wicket, but by then ten runs an over were needed. The innings eventually closed on 239-9 which,

on many an occasion, would be a winning score.

Suffolk's first win came the following week when Hunts visited Mildenhall. A change of tactics as the 50s again won the toss and chose to bat. A good opening fifty from Sean Cooper got the innings off to a solid start with a partnership of 62 with Tony Stubbs (76 not out) plus another 60 plus partnership between Stubbs and Pallant saw the home XI record 229-5 at tea. In his inimitable style, Dean Sykes put Hunts in trouble from the start, his nine-over spell yielding 3-20. There was no respite as Ian Knight then took over with 2-29 and with half their overs gone, Hunts were 62-5. The middle order and tail may have added another 100 runs but there was no danger of reaching the Suffolk target as they were bowled out in the 42<sup>nd</sup> over.

There followed another tricky away match against Northants, especially as former England international David Capel appeared in their line-up. The first lost toss and Suffolk were asked to bat in bowler friendly conditions. Suffolk were reduced to 113-4 with 31 overs used up. Former skipper Stubbs (32) had held the innings together, but the game changer was an unbroken partnership of 106 between Pallant (68) and wicket-keeper, Andrew Leech (53) and 219-4 at tea was a competitive total. Cooper's opening burst of 2-25 may have put Northants on the back foot but home keeper York (52) was keeping them close to the required rate. However, the bowling honours went to the



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two Ians, Starling, 3-26, and Knight, 2-26, who destroyed the middle order and strangled the run rate. Pearson's hard-hitting 41 gave some hope to the home support but once out it was game over. Northants 176 all out.

Norfolk at Long Melford was a completely different affair. Alas, Norfolk are just a shadow of their once impressive side and all out in under 38 overs was a very poor return where no batsmen reached double figures and extras top-scored with 11, Richard Edwards (3-13) and Stubbs (3-2) benefiting most. In reply, Hurrell (39 not out) and Andrew Squire (20) saw Suffolk to the brink of success before Squire was caught with just two runs needed. A drive through extra cover by Phil Caley off the one ball that he faced brought about the victory with just 12.1 overs used.

The Bedfordshire match at Pottton was in grave danger of being cancelled due to heavy overnight rain, but thanks to the ground staff the match got underway, albeit with a late start. The 50s probably wished it had been cancelled as, on winning the toss and batting first, the two opening bats were back in the pavilion with less than five overs gone. Fortunately, Squire demonstrated his true class and scored a superb 101 at a run a ball. There were partnerships of 103 with Stubbs (39) and 50 with Adrian Stockton (32), making his 50s debut. Suffolk took tea at 224-5. No.3 Horton (79) kept Bedfordshire in the match for a long time but when he became the eighth wicket to fall with the score on 184 and only four overs left, it looked like game over. However, with the aid of dropped catches and misfields in the gathering gloom, the tailenders ensured a very nail-biting finish. One over to go with eight runs needed and one wicket left. Fortunately, the two batters made a hash of running between the wickets on the fifth ball and a run out brought the match to a conclusion with the winning margin being two runs. In the final analysis Cooper finished his nine overs with 5-31.

With four wins and one defeat there were thoughts of a possible play-off place as the 50s travelled up to Skegness to play Lincolnshire. The omens were not good as an administrative error by Lincs meant that an under-prepared pitch would have to be used. Lincs won the toss and chose to bat, but this turned out to be a poor decision as wickets soon tumbled. Three for Cooper and two each for Sykes, Starling and Stubbs saw the home side out for 105. Of that meagre total, 21 had come in wides. Any thoughts of an easy win were soon quashed as Suffolk stumbled to 15-3. A patient but defiant 70 not out by Hurrell saw the 50s reach their target, but it had taken nearly 30 overs.

Cambridgeshire came to Ipswich without their talisman captain Gadsby and Suffolk looking for a win that would guarantee an entry into the national round of last 16. The impetus once again came from Squire at No.3 and Stubbs at No.4. Featuring in their second century partnership, Squire hit his second ton before being bowled on the final ball of the innings for 123 with Stubbs' contribution being 49. Suffolk had set a target of 238-4. Without Gadsby, Cambs seemed to lack heart and by the 22<sup>nd</sup> over the top five batsmen had been dismissed with only 63 runs on the board. The innings only lasted another nine overs for the addition of a further 26 runs. There were three wickets for Guy Robins on his seasonal debut for the ECB 50s.

Six wins and one defeat earned a home tie against

Warwickshire, with the match being hosted by Bury St Edmunds. The visitors won the toss and decided to bowl first. It was slow going against an accurate bowling attack and 66-3 in the 24<sup>th</sup> over was not looking good. Squire (81) and Wormington (38) unusually batting at No.5, added 81 together, but wickets fell regularly in the final few overs just when quick runs were needed. The question was, would 170-7 be enough? At 118-3 Warwickshire were in the driving seat. Most of the damage was done by No.3 Bristow whose 62 not out helped the visitors to qualify for the quarters with three overs to spare.

Performance of the Year – Jeff Hurrell (Lincolnshire, away), Player of the Year – Andrew Squire.

The Home Counties 50s opened their campaign with a trip to St Albans to play Hertfordshire. The first toss was won and Suffolk chose to bowl. Wickets fell and Herts struggled to accumulate runs at any great rate. Only No.4 Williams (64) looked to be comfortable against the Suffolk attack. He was the sixth wicket to fall with the score on 136 and with another wicket falling on the same score and just 11.1 overs remaining, Suffolk were well in control. However, the complexion of the match changed completely as No.7 James started to swing the bat wildly, but with good fortune, and amassed 86 not out off 51 deliveries as Herts closed on 239-8 at tea.

After losing an early wicket, Bill Byford's aggressive knock produced 40 quick runs before he was adjudged lbw with the scoreboard reading 53-2. Those two wickets brought Kevin Ross and Marcus Coddington to the crease. In their differing styles, they added a match-winning partnership of 138 runs at more than a run a ball before Coddington was out for 60 with the score on 191. Ross was deserving of a century before being run out on the penultimate ball of the innings having scored 99. The winning run came off the last ball and Suffolk recorded a vital five-wicket win.

Surrey made a big mistake in asking Suffolk to bat first at Sudbury. Toby Butcher, on debut and on home turf, scored a fluent half century to get the innings off to a good start. The loss of Michael Reeve and Butcher with 92 from 20 overs enabled Ross and Julian Bradwell to go on the attack. Ross (83) and Bradwell (91) plundered 148 runs in just 20 overs, and Suffolk were the happiest at tea on 282-6. After 20 overs, the Surrey scorecard looked remarkably similar to the first innings at 92-2. Sewell's dismissal then started a collapse with the last eight wickets falling for just 37 runs, from 164-2 to 201 all out, Lou Handy, with 3-25, and Eric Davy's 4-18 doing the damage.

Due to unavailability and injuries, Suffolk travelled down to Sussex with only ten men which, in the end, was a major contributory factor in a 40-run defeat. Sussex won the toss and home captain Ford scored 69, but most of the later batsmen struggled as the wicket started to crumble. Ford had seen the score reach 126 before he was the fourth man out. Only No. 7 Mates (47 not out) took real advantage of the extra gaps in the field as the home XI reached 222-9. Byford was the pick of the bowlers with 5-43.

Suffolk now had the worst of the wicket to bat on which was reflected in a poor 88-5 after 23 overs. Handy remained unbeaten with 48 to his name, but this was to no avail as Suffolk were all out some 40 runs shy of their target. The 50s returned to winning ways with the visit of Kent to



Copdock & OIs. On a much superior wicket than the week before, Kent were restricted to 189-9. The only major contribution to this total was a partnership of 92 for the fifth wicket between Swadkin (50) and Towe (49), who rescued the score from 51-4 to 143-5.

Suffolk contrived to lose wickets at regular intervals when four runs an over on a good batting strip should have proved a comfortable task. Ross (35) and Byford (25) added early runs, but the key contribution came from wicket-keeper Steve Smith. His 38 not out, helped by the lower order, got Suffolk over the line with seven balls and two wickets to spare.

It is difficult to say that a match was lost in the first few overs, but it could apply to the Essex match at Woodford Wells. Halstead's Neale Dakin opened the innings and was dropped before he had reached double figures. A costly miss as he eventually amassed 102. After Dakin and No.4 Kearney (70) added 119 for the second wicket, the innings closed on 247-4. For Suffolk to win, it really needed one of the top order to make a big score. The top five all got into double figures but all got out at vital times – Chris Cook (51), Ross (49), Byford (31), Gary du Plooy (33) – and 44 runs from 4.3 overs with just three wickets in hand was just too much to chase. A reply of 232-7 was a good effort, but not quite good enough. The day was somewhat soured by a dispute over the use of a sub fielder by Essex.

Back to winning ways the following week when the visitors to Ipswich were Buckinghamshire. For varying reasons they only turned up with nine men so it was an easy decision for them to bat first on winning the toss. They were much reliant on No.4 Weller, whose 82 was the main reason that they were able to post a decent total of 189 all out. There were two wickets each for Robins and Ross. There were plenty of gaps in the field for Simon Halliday and Cook to exploit. The bowling lacked penetration and they took full advantage as the 50s recorded a ten-wicket win, Halliday ending 58 not out and Cook a well-deserved 113 not out.

With two group matches to go, it appeared that two wins would give Suffolk second place in the group and a chance to contest the play-off final.

All went well at Hurley as Suffolk put Berkshire to the sword. Suffolk were invited to bat first on a somewhat showery day. A belligerent 73 from opener Byford set Suffolk off to a flyer. Stockton's 64 held the middle order together and 231-9 was a substantial score to have to chase. At half way, Berks were very much in contention at 111-2, but the loss of Henley for 63, the fourth wicket down, started a collapse which ended in Berks all out for 157 in the 39<sup>th</sup> over, with three wickets each for Martyn Wilkins and Stockton.

The final match and a must-win situation. Middlesex were the visitors to Mildenhall. After restricting the visitors to 114-8, No.9 Desai chanced his arm and was rewarded with an unbeaten half century in a total of 162-8. At 101-6 and with just 10 overs left, the 50s were in danger of losing the match, although No.3 Ross was still at the crease. In partnership with Du Plooy (31), Ross, who made 73, took the 50s to the brink of victory before he was bowled with the score on 158. Ten balls to score five runs should not be a problem, but amazingly only four were scored. Du Plooy was run out on the last ball of the innings when trying to

scamper the one run needed for victory. A tied match at 162-8 and all hopes of the play-off match dashed.

Performance of the Year – Kevin Ross (Hertfordshire, away), Player of the Year – Bill Byford.

With some 'old' 50s now qualifying for the 60s and a comfortable pre-season friendly victory against Buckinghamshire 60s, Suffolk began the group matches in good cheer. It was a chilly start at Woolpit with Leicestershire the visitors. New skipper Colin Walters (32) started with a flourish whilst batting with the former skipper, Dick Bond, who made 79. However, it was the partnership of Bond and Kevin Dobson (65) that rocked the visitors, with 127 added in 23 overs, setting a challenging target of 222-6. Opener Lall (48) ensured that Leicestershire got off to a patient start, but all the while the required run rate was creeping up. Alan Burt's 3-28 included the wickets of the top three batters as well as restricting the flow of runs. Their final total of 192-7 was 30 runs short.

In the reverse fixture at Oakham, Leicestershire won the toss and batted first. Again, it was Lall (70) who figured in an opening partnership of 75 with home skipper Ogden. With the dismissal of Ogden for 44, the 60s managed to put a brake on the scoring as wickets began tumbling. After being wicketless in his opening six-over spell, Ken Jones then cleaned up the tail with five wickets in his final three overs. The target was set at 184-9. Gerry Artindale (37) steadied the innings, but once again it was Dobson who flayed the Leicestershire bowling. His 85 not out from 72 balls saw the 60s comfortably home with five wickets and seven overs in hand.

Bedfordshire appear to have become the bogey side over the last few seasons and 2017 did little to change that theory. At a cold and windy Dunstable, Suffolk were asked to bat first with both Walters and Dobson missing from the line-up. Peter Boughton (32) and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI skipper Ray Black (61) added the runs from the top order before a final flourish from Peter Webb (23) pushed up the score to a respectable 187-7.

Alan Barnes looked to have set up an away win after his opening spell of 4-23 claimed the wickets of the top four batters, but the Beds innings was rescued by a 99-run partnership for the fifth wicket between Stubbs (59) and Marsh (47). Although this pair were dismissed in successive overs the winning runs came in the 43<sup>rd</sup> over without any further loss.

The return leg was played at Copdock & OIs, a match which Suffolk contrived to lose from a winning position. Bedfordshire batted first and Ingram (66) and Davis (52) added 120 for the second wicket as the visitors posted 219-6. In reply, the 60s had lost two wickets by the 13<sup>th</sup> over which had brought Walters and Dobson to the crease. A century partnership was rattled up in under 17 overs, Walters adding 79 and Dobson 52. This was the start of the collapse that saw the 60s reach the end of the 40<sup>th</sup> over needing 16 runs with five wickets in hand. Incredibly, the 60s failed to convert this to a win and finished two runs shy on 217-8.

At Wisbech, Cambridgeshire batted first but could only manage a lowly 165-8. Only No.7 Young looked comfortable at the crease and their total owed much to his defiant 37 not out. Ken Jones claimed the bowling honours with 3-29. Artindale got the reply off to a decent start with 42 before

the 60s stumbled to 103-5. Walters, coming in at No.6 due to an injury, found a willing partner in Peter Webb. They proceeded to knock off the required runs, Walters finishing on 45 and Webb a patient 18.

At Mildenhall, it was Walters and Webb who contributed most to a poor total of 137. Walters hit a less fluent 50 whilst wickets were tumbling at the other end. Webb, at No.8, was left to shore up the innings with his 30 not out. Suffolk very nearly managed to defend this low total as Cambs found themselves struggling at 98-7. Alas, the tail wagged as Cambs managed to sneak home with two wickets and one over to spare. There were two wickets apiece for Jones, Robins and Webb.

Suffolk were taken up to Overstrand to play Norfolk and were rewarded by the performance of the season. A magnificent opening partnership of 265 between Artindale (107) and John Gallant (138) took the match away from the home XI as they batted in tandem for 41.2 overs out of the maximum 45. Five wickets fell in those last four frantic overs as Suffolk amassed 296-5. In reply, Roper and Pearse compiled an opening partnership of 73, but all the while the required rate was steadily increasing. Lund (54) offered useful resistance from the middle order, but not sufficient to get near the 60s total. Webb 3-39 and Barnes 2-28 had put the brakes on as Norfolk finished some distance away on 207-7. In the return leg, Norfolk won the toss and asked Suffolk to bat in a match that was reduced to 40-overs-per-side with rain forecast. After losing early wickets, Gallant (45) and Robins (39) found scoring relatively easy as did Walters, who crashed 44 not out off 30 balls. A decent total of 185-5 had been set. Norfolk crashed to 59-5 by the 22<sup>nd</sup> over. They did manage to bat the full 40 overs, with the final wicket falling on the very last delivery. All out for 117. Kevin Boardman, 3-27, plus two wickets each for Burt and Webb. Hertfordshire stand some way above the rest of the eastern group so two defeats were not unexpected. What definitely was very unexpected was Herts losing top run-maker Robinson for a duck in the second over at Ipswich. Former Suffolk man Simon Clements (62) and visiting captain Riddle (100) added a century partnership for the third wicket which took the game away from the 60s. The score at tea was 230-3. Overall, it was a sorry batting performance as Suffolk were dismissed for 111 with only Jones (24) and Dave Hinchcliffe (23) offering resistance, opening bowler Reynolds claiming 5-25.

After a couple of false starts, the return leg got under way at Langlebury, with Suffolk's play-off chances resting on picking up some useful points. Elder hit an unbeaten 117 as he carried his bat for the full 45 overs as Herts innings finished on 233-8. The fact Suffolk claimed eight wickets forced their No.11 to pad up which he had not done for some five or six seasons! Jones took 3-42 and Webb 2-74. In reply, early wickets tumbled before the innings gained some momentum from Robins (43) and Walters (62 not out) after coming in at No.7. Although well beaten at 163-8, the points gained saw the 60s qualify for the play-offs for the first time with a record of five wins and five defeats.

With a lowly seeding, Suffolk were drawn away to Lancashire. A long journey looked to be in vain as heavy overnight rain had saturated the ground at Orrell Red Triangle CC. All credit to the groundsman for getting the

game on. Lancs won the toss and surprisingly decided to bat. Suffolk had early chances to impose themselves on the match but a couple of dropped catches and some poor fielding set the tone for the day. The home innings was dominated by an unbeaten 102 from No.3 Punchard. Helped by some wayward bowling, the home team reached 247-4 at tea. Only Walters, back in his favoured opening position, offered serious resistance. His 95 had brought the 60s up to 157 before he became the seventh wicket to fall. He sadly lacked a willing partner as No.8 Webb, with 19 not out, was the next top scorer. Punchard again did the damage with 4-18 and one superb catch. A total 174 all out was well short of the target, but reaching the play-offs can only bode well for 2018.

Performance of the Year – Gerry Artindale & John Gallant (Norfolk, away) Player of the Year – Colin Walters.

The third of our play-off qualifiers were the 60s 2<sup>nd</sup> XI. Eight wins and three defeats was sufficient for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI to qualify for the round of last 16 by virtue of finishing second behind Hertfordshire in the North Group.

Suffolk managed to win both games against Leicestershire although the away match, the first match of the season, was a much closer affair than the home match. At Oakham CC, Steve Bulger's 65 enabled Suffolk to post 173. Leicestershire could have sneaked a win but for 2-21 from Alan Barnes and 2-40 from Mark Sargeant as they were kept to 167 despite losing just five wickets.

At home, the day belonged to Stuart Stobbs. Along with Bob Perrett and Sargeant, he took two wickets to restrict Leicestershire to 146-8 and then hit an unbeaten 70 as Suffolk eased to an eight-wicket win. Captain Ray Black also contributed a useful 44. As has become tradition, the two fixtures against Yorkshire were arranged to be staged at Oakham and Grantham in order to save both teams an amount of unnecessary mileage. At Oakham, Yorkshire's 45 overs yielded 243-5. Suffolk managed a decent total of 162-7, but might well have been rather closer had Rob Jenkin (87 not out) had more support. Alas, the second fixture fell victim to the rain and was not able to be rescheduled due to a backlog of fixtures.

Suffolk also did the double over Bedfordshire. Perrett (2-16) and Sargeant (2-22) helped the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI restrict the home side to 165-6. In reply, a fine 71 from skipper Black and an unbeaten 58 from Peter Lack secured a comfortable five-wicket victory. The home leg was a lower-scoring and a much closer match. Beds batted first again, but could only manage 139-7 thanks to tight bowling from Sargeant (2-25) and Carpenter with 2-26. Perrett, opening the batting, top-scored with 29 in a close-run match as Suffolk sneaked home with just four balls and two wickets in hand.

Perrett (43), Black (63) and Stuart Stobbs (62) rattled up the runs against Norfolk and 265-7 was an imposing total. Roper (89) and Pulsford (47) added 100 for the third wicket to take the score to 154, but then Sargeant came to the fore. Pulsford became his first victim and by the end of his spell his figures read 6-42. Although Norfolk batted their full 45 overs, they finished adrift at 202-9.

To complete a full house of wins over Norfolk, the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI racked up a comfortable seven-wicket win away at Diss. Batting first, Norfolk again suffered at the hands of Sargeant



with 4-4 from nine overs. Only Palmer, opening up with 48, offered serious resistance out of 141-8. A solid unbeaten partnership of 75 for the fourth wicket between Stobbs (48) and Bulger (38) saw Suffolk comfortably home with seven overs to spare.

The two legs against Cambridgeshire were totally different affairs. At home, a high-scoring match saw Suffolk rack up 231-7. The mainstay of the innings was 92 from No.4 Stobbs with valuable support coming from Lack (33) and Rob Jenkin (36). A century opening partnership between Baker and Brown paved the way for an unlikely Cambs win. Sargeant (3-16) and Perrett (2-50) did their best to hold the visitors. but they won with six overs to spare.

At Chatteris, Cambs batted first, but this time they were skittled out for 88 inside 44 overs, Sargeant adding another three wickets to his collection with two apiece for Stobbs and Malcolm Grubb. Suffolk only needed 26.4 overs to gain the win bonus, but they had to recover from 24-3. Stobbs (29) and Grubb (25 not out) added the necessary runs for a five-wicket victory.

At the picturesque Knebworth Park ground Suffolk won the toss and bowled first. Most of the Herts batsmen got off to a good start, but then failed to make a big score in their 184-8. Bruce Tompkins (2-37) and Sargeant (2-30) helped to keep the score respectable. Perrett opened the batting with 45 before being run out, but it was Jenkin at No.5 with 42 not out who saw the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI home to a five-wicket win.

The return leg took place five days later at Worlingworth, with the visitors again taking the honours. Suffolk kept Herts to 162-8 from their 45 overs. Sargeant added four more wickets to his haul while Jenkin's opening spell rewarded him with 2-10 from nine overs. In reply, Perrett was run out again, but not before he had scored his 50. Jenkin also scored a valuable 42 runs, but with little support elsewhere the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI fell an agonising five runs adrift on 157-9.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI seemed to have suffered the worst of the weather, but at least they qualified for the play-offs. Like the 1<sup>st</sup> XI, they were drawn away with a long trip up to Cheshire, who racked up 194 runs for the loss of only one wicket. Opener Thomas hit an unbeaten 88 and in partnership with No.3 Bell (62 not out) added 123 after the fall of that sole wicket. Unfortunately, the batsmen fared little better than the bowlers. The exception was skipper Black with 46 as Suffolk were eventually bowled out for 108 in the 39<sup>th</sup> over.

Unlike the 1<sup>st</sup> XI, the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI also contested the Plate Competition, which brought about another match against Hertfordshire, this time at Radlett. Regrettably, the result had a similar look to the Cheshire match.

Batting first, Hammond (80) and Christelow (62) added 120 for the third Herts wicket in a total of 226-5, Stobbs taking 2-33. In reply, Suffolk were in all sorts of trouble at 43-6 mainly due to Smith, who bowled eight overs for 3-2. A minor recovery saw Philip Maynard score 19 and Gerry Baglow 24 not out as Suffolk crept to 92-8 in their 45 overs.

Performance of the Year – Mark Sargeant (Norfolk, away), Player of the Year – Bob Perrett.

The Over-70s suffered a major blow before the season had started with the untimely death of Russell Abbott. Russ, one of the world's nice guys, was a regular opening bowler for the 60s and 70s over a number of years. In addition, top

batsman Graham Penny was also unavailable for the whole season on medical grounds. A record of five wins from 12 matches was perhaps not such a bad record without these two stalwarts.

The opening match against Hertfordshire brought the first victory as Bob Perrett's 2-20 helped restrict the visitors to 187-7. Thanks to a captain's innings from Chris Watson (63 not out) Suffolk reached 188-7. In the return fixture, Perrett (70) and Derrick Messent (63 not out) led another run chase as Suffolk scored 224-4 in reply to Herts' 221-6. Peter Knight 2-30 had helped to keep Herts in check.

In a lean season, it is always good to defeat your local rivals and home and away victories were recorded against Norfolk. Batting first, early half centuries from Doug Andrews and Ricky Ratford helped Suffolk reach 224-4. Another good day for Perrett (3-40) with the ball restricted Norfolk's reply to 211-8. Playing the home leg at Southwold, Norfolk batted first, but could only manage 146-8 with Derek Cook taking 2-27. Doug Andrews led the reply with 75 runs as Suffolk eased to a five-wicket win.

The only other win came against Essex. The away match was played first, but there was not much joy as Suffolk fell 21 runs short of the Essex target of 204-4, despite 60 not out from Perrett. Earlier, a typical economical spell of bowling by Bruce Tompkins earned him the figures of 2-21.

The home fixture, the last league match of the season, was a day for the batters as Essex ended their innings on 189-3. Former Suffolk man John Stuck (67) featured in a century opening partnership. Not to be out done, 63 not out from Ratford guided Suffolk to an impressive eight-wicket win. Apart from the bowling of Mark Sargeant, there were not too many highlights from the matches against Kent.

Away, Sargeant and Knight took three wickets each as Kent were restricted to 155-9, but with only two batsmen reaching double figures, of which Andrews got 50, Suffolk were all out for 115. Even at home, the batting failed as Suffolk stumbled to 94-9 in reply to Kent's 149-5, Sargeant collecting two more wickets at a cost of 37 runs.

Surrey and Sussex both did the 'double' over Suffolk with all four defeats being rather comprehensive. Mark Sargeant (4-37) did his best to contain Surrey, but 210-6 was a much superior score and Suffolk could only manage 136-6, with Watson top-scoring on 40. Sadly, the long journey down to Surrey could only yield a ten-wicket defeat, the one bright spark being 74 from Andrews. In a similar vein, the matches against Sussex resulted in a seven-wicket defeat at home and a nine-wicket defeat on the road. David Howe (34) top-scored at home and Rick Waters (33) top-scored away in two poor batting performances.

Following the conclusion of the Championship, a friendly against Norfolk was played at Clay Hall in memory of Russ Abbott. The Abbott family very kindly donated and presented a shield to the winning team which appropriately turned out to be Suffolk. Over the course of the day, nearly £600 was raised for charity which was then shared between the two counties.

Performance of the year – Doug Andrews (Norfolk, home), Player of the Year – Peter Knight.

Finally, congratulations to Rick Jones on being awarded the Ray Russell Trophy, a reward for all his administrative efforts over the past few years.



# Three leading clubs in the county upgrade pavilion facilities at their grounds

Three of Suffolk's leading clubs – Copdock & Old Ipswichian, Hadleigh and Woolpit – all opened pavilion extensions during the 2017 season

## Copdock & Old Ipswichian CC

The East Anglian Premier League club's extended pavilion was officially opened by legendary cricket commentator Henry Blofeld in early July.

The opening coincided with a match versus the Lashings All Star XI which held at the club's Old London Road ground.

The pavilion was opened following the completion of stage three of the redevelopment plan which was finished during the NatWest CricketForce weekend at the start of the season.



Henry Blofeld prepares to cut the tape to open the pavilion extension at Copdock & Old Ipswichian CC.

Copdock & OIs were selected as one of only three 'showcase' clubs across the country for the annual volunteering event, which is the biggest in UK sport.

The weekend is aimed at rejuvenating clubs' facilities through encouraging supporters, their families and friends as well as local businesses to give something back to their club.

More than 100 club members turned up to take part and they were joined by two former Ashes-winning England captains – Alastair Cook and Mike Gatting.

Martin Taylor, the club's development officer, said: "We have so far raised more than £100,000 ourselves through fundraising events, our 'Buy a Brick' scheme and private donations towards the cost of the four-phase development.

"Phase one, which cost £62,000, saw the building of new changing rooms, while phase two has involved the reconfiguration of the social area inside the pavilion at a cost of £140,000."

Phase three, which was carried out over NatWest CricketForce weekend, involved improving the whole area



The extended pavilion at Copdock & Old Ipswichian CC.



Former England opening batsman Nick Knight and guests raise their glasses to celebrate the opening of the pavilion extension at Woolpit CC.

outside the clubhouse other than the pitch itself, and would usually cost around £20,000.

Ten small projects were completed at a fraction of the normal cost including a new patio being laid and new fencing erected.

## Woolpit CC

Ex-England opening batsman Nick Knight declared Woolpit's new pavilion open on the same day as the club hosted a Minor Counties match for the first time.

Knight, who lives locally, did the honours at the club's Rectory Lane ground, prior to Suffolk facing Bedfordshire in their final Unicorns Trophy group game.

Suffolk, fittingly, won the match by six runs to qualify for the quarter-finals to round off a memorable day for the west Suffolk club, who had long felt their facilities did not match their league status.

Indeed, Suffolk had never previously considered staging a full Minor Counties fixture at the venue, and the latest extension is the second time that the pavilion has been enlarged.

Originally built 30 years ago, the pavilion was first extended in 2006, but has now doubled in size with the new extension which houses two changing rooms with showers and toilets. The kitchen area and the social area have also been enlarged, while one of the old changing rooms has been converted to improved ladies' facilities and extra storage area, while the disabled access and toilets have also been revamped.

The extension cost £152,000 and was met through £75,000 lottery funding via Sport England, £25,000 from Mid Suffolk District Council, £12,000 from Section 106 community funding and £5,000 from Suffolk County Council.

The club also raised £15,000, with the remaining £20,000 covered by an interest-free loan from the ECB.

Work on the extension got under way in October 2016 and

was finished before the start of last season.

After opening the extension, former Essex batsman Knight said: "It is a great honour to be here. My lad plays here and I come along on a Friday night and see first-hand what the club does.

"There are smiles on everyone's faces because they are enjoying themselves – it is packed with youngsters who are being put through their paces by the coaches.

"I have been coming here for a few years now and you can't help but be impressed by the set up and how the club has progressed.

"It is a great day for the club to not only open the pavilion extension but also to stage their first county match."

## Hadleigh CC

The summer of 2017 was a special one for Hadleigh, who spent their first season in their newly-extended pavilion.

The upgraded facility comprises a larger club room and a new changing room block including a dedicated changing room for female players and umpires.

Construction on the £250,000 project began in January 2017 and the club received the keys two weeks into the season.

Funding for the project was received from a number of organisations, including Viridor Credits Environmental Company, the ECB, Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council and the Playing Fields Legacy Fund.

The club also raised over £15,000 from its

'Brick Heroes' Buy a Brick scheme. Over 100 members, friends of the club and businesses sponsored a virtual brick and their names will be displayed in the new building.

It is the club's intention that the upgraded building, while providing a massively improved environment for its members, will also be available for use by other sports clubs within the town, and be widely used as a venue by community groups. The new design of the pavilion allows the facility to be used as a function and meeting venue all year round.

David Mann, the club's chairman, said: "It was a fantastic achievement to have players using the new facilities throughout the 2017 season.

"In little more than a year we raised £250,000, which for a club of our size is quite incredible. We are so grateful to our funding partners, all the members and friends of the club who have bought bricks and the many local businesses who have helped the project in various ways."

There is still some way to go before the club can officially declare their pavilion open, however, as Mann explained.

"There are a number of works that we had to put on hold, due to cost factors, such as the installation of a new heating system, new windows and doors and new bar area.

"The club is actively raising funds to get these completed as soon as possible, and we hope to have everything ready for the start of the 2018 season. In cricketing terms, we just need to take the last couple of wickets before we can start celebrating."

To help with this fundraising effort the club held a number of events over the winter, including a major dinner under a marquee at the club's Friars Road ground with former England batsman Mark Ramprakash as the guest speaker.

Mann added: "This was the biggest function the club have ever staged. We sold 250 tickets, it was a fantastic evening and like the pavilion project itself, it just goes to prove what this fantastic cricket club can achieve now and, of course, in future years."





## OBITUARIES

### TONY CATLEY

TONY Catley was not only Exning Cricket Club's greatest ever servant but also a Suffolk committee member and father of three sons who all represented the county.

He passed away, at the age of 69, on May 10th, 2017, after a brave battle with Mesothelioma, commonly referred to as asbestosis, a virulent form of lung cancer, which had been diagnosed 17 months previously.

Tony, who was born at Royston Hospital, was educated at Cambridgeshire High School for Boys, before starting work for Barclays Bank, where he met his future wife Pauline.

Until his retirement in 1999 he was a bank manager for Barclays at the Cambridge and Ely branches, but it was when he moved to Burwell in 1975 that he joined Exning CC.

He started as a player but it was not long before he was on the committee. Over the years he was the first-team wicket-keeper/batsman, league-winning second-team captain, club secretary, organiser of events and fundraising activities, first-team scorer and match manager and club captain.

All three of his sons – Russell, Matthew and Tim – captained Exning's first team and they made history when, against Bedfordshire at Bedford in June 1999, Matthew and Tim made their Minor Counties debuts.

They joined Russell in the Suffolk team as three brothers played in the same Minor Counties side for the first time since the Second World War.

Tony continued his affiliation with both Exning and Suffolk by being a scorer. At the start of the 2016 season, Exning CC named their pavilion in his honour to mark the remarkable service he had given to the club over a period of 40 years.

Joint club captain Philip King said: "There are two main things to say about Tony. He was an incredible family man and the greatest ever servant of Exning Cricket Club."

He added: "He was very proud of the fact that each of his sons far exceeded his own achievements as a keen but no better than average player."

Tony leaves a widow Pauline, sons Russell, Matthew and Tim and five grandchildren.

### TED PHILLIPS

FORMER Suffolk cricketer Ted Phillips died in an Ipswich nursing home on January 9th, 2018, at the age of 84.

Ted, of course, was best known as an Ipswich Town footballer who played a pivotal role in the club's First Division title success under Sir Alf Ramsey in the 1961-62 season.

Ted formed a lethal strike partnership with Ray Crawford, netting 28 goals that season while Crawford bagged 33, often rebounds from Ted's thunderbolt shots.

He was acknowledged as having the hardest shot in football during his playing days.

Ted was born in the hamlet of Gromford near Snape and started his football career with Leiston before doing his National Service.

He subsequently joined Ipswich Town and made his debut in March 1954, but it was not until the 1956-57 season that he started to shine, scoring 46 league and cup goals as Ipswich won the Division Three (South) title.

Crawford arrived from Portsmouth in September 1958 and their partnership started to blossom as Ipswich won the



*Tony Catley with his three sons (left to right) Tim, Russell and Matthew.*

Second Division Championship in the 1960-61 season, Crawford scoring 40 league goals and Ted 30.

Ipswich then shocked the football world by then winning the First Division Championship the following season.

Ted played a total of 269 games for the club, scoring 161 goals. He later had spells with Luton Town, Leyton Orient and Colchester United, and also managed Maltese side Floriana. But he was also a talented cricketer and took 24 wickets at 18.16 apiece in just six matches for Suffolk after making his debut in 1965.

A lethal fast bowler, Ted played for Colchester & East Essex, and for 45 years held the club's record for the best bowling figures, returning 18.3-14-5-9 against Clacton at Castle Park in 1967. That was the same season that he set a club record of 143 wickets at an average of just 11.06.

Ted was renowned as a practical joker, and one day playing against Nottinghamshire's 2<sup>nd</sup> XI he bowled the first ball of the second day with a rosy apple which he had acquired from the hotel kitchen.

Although both the batsman and fielders were amused, the umpires reported the incident to Lord's, and Suffolk skipper Bob Cunnell had some explaining to do!

### RAY NUNN

RAY Nunn passed away in October 2017 at the age of 76.

He spent his cricket career with St Audry's, Saxmundham, Ransomes and latterly Browns.

Ray was an accurate fast-medium bowler and sound slip fielder. He occasionally bowled spin and once claimed five wickets for Suffolk Club & Ground against Northgate School.

# **Suffolk at the forefront of All Stars participation**

*By NICK SHRUBSHALL, Chairman of Suffolk Cricket Board*

THE year of 2017 saw the longest season of International cricket ever with a multitude of events for both the men's and women's game held around the country.

It resulted in the women being crowned world champions, the men winning the Test series against the West Indies and a very competitive series in all formats against South Africa. All of this became a backdrop to what the ECB and Suffolk Cricket hoped to achieve, that is the continued development of our game and wider participation across all areas, including men's, women and Youths.

In particular, the ECB started the All Stars programme aimed at five to eight year olds, with the aim to introduce cricket at a level which other sports had already identified as crucial to ongoing involvement.

The programme proved very successful, not just in Suffolk, but countrywide, and we, as a county, were at the forefront in terms of participation.

A big thank you to all those clubs that built up the programme, and the ECB are putting further funds against it going forward.

This development is part of future funding, now confirmed for the next six years with a new television deal worth £1.1 billion to the game, a huge amount with a guarantee of significant funds coming down to the recreational game locally.

Without doubt, we face huge issues with senior cricket

membership in many areas, with declining numbers, games called off and participation falling.

However, we need to start somewhere, and believe that Youth participation is the first stage to rebuilding the game along with providing a mixture of formats that are best suited to all, including T20, shorter league games, regionalisation in the leagues and other variations. We, as a Board, will continue to explore these options.

One important area currently under discussion with the ECB is the current MOU between all counties, both first-class and minor and the main Board.

We await the result of this work but it is designed to put in place, a longer-term view of how the game is set up and going forward, how all parties have a fair and solid base with which to work.

I would also like to congratulate the county team on their successes last season, all of which is highlighted elsewhere in this handbook. I am sure they are looking to continue their development this year.

I would like to thank everyone who has committed to the continued development of our game, including all coaches, volunteers, managers and administrators, all unsung heroes that do countless hours of unpaid work but all of whom aim towards helping youngsters, seniors, women and girls enjoy the game of cricket and what it brings.

Bring on 2018!

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## **Saturday cricket proving as popular as ever**

*By ROB JONES, operations manager of Suffolk Cricket Board*

LAST year's report started off by talking about the demise of one or two clubs and this year I've been made aware of a club that's folded. Although we're not miracle workers, once again please can I reiterate my offer on behalf of Suffolk Cricket to try and help, before it's too late.

We're also aware that Sunday League cricket in the North / East of the county is struggling (and has been for a while now). Andrew Blanchard has been working with the respective league to establish interest, format and how Suffolk Cricket can help and hopefully we can stabilise and rebuild Sunday cricket in this part of the county.

Conversely the Hunts County Bats and Marshall Hatchick Two Counties leagues seem to be thriving, with Saturday cricket, in particular, proving as popular as ever. It's also pleasing to see the likes of Bury St Edmunds, Copdock & Old Ipswichian, Mildenhall and Sudbury, competing in the East Anglian Premier League (EAPL) and my congratulations to Sudbury (and indeed all teams) that have won their respective divisions.

The introduction of a couple of ECB initiatives has also had a positive impact on those clubs that have taken part. Firstly, All Stars Cricket led by Andrew Blanchard and supported by Scott Burdon, where the majority of

participating clubs have seen an increase in juniors and volunteers helping out.

The second year of All Stars Cricket will hopefully see improvements to the programme, different kit for those children that took part in 2017 and it looks like we'll have more clubs participating in this successful programme.

Alongside All Stars Cricket is Chance to Shine, which sees us send ECB qualified coaches into Suffolk schools. Our programme is managed by Spencer Wuidart-Gray and supported by Katie Oastler on the administration side. Priority will be given to those schools in close proximity to an All Stars centre, as well as those in areas of deprivation. In 2017 we went into 65 schools, for 2018 our intention is for that number to be a lot higher.

Spencer also manages our disability cricket and has been successful in receiving funding from Lord's Taverners which, along with additional funding from ourselves, will see Table Cricket played in a number of schools this year.

Chloe Leveridge continues to lead on women's and girls' cricket, despite also taking on a regional support role with the ECB to primarily support Norfolk and Cambridgeshire as well.

The other ECB initiative last year was the introduction of



Ladies' softball festivals, which saw a number of Suffolk clubs host events and 200+ ladies in the county try this new format. Our intention is to build on this for this year, with ladies either continuing to play softball or if they want to, move into ladies' hard ball cricket, where Suffolk will have 16 teams competing in the Two Counties league. Behind the scenes Katie Oastler helps support clubs and individuals across a number of areas, including DBS enquiries, Chance to Shine, coaching courses and general advice and guidance. One area of concern is Data Protection and how personal data is managed. This is

something we've raised with the ECB and hope to have some formal guidance we can issue to all clubs, leagues and associations.

Finally, I'd just like to express my thanks to the Suffolk Cricket Development team and respective Boards, led by Nick Shrubshall. Nick has supposedly retired from his 'day job' however has now thrown himself into supporting not only us, but the region, so I'm very grateful for the team, Board's and his support.

I'd like to wish everyone all the very best for this season and if you need any help or advice, please ask.

## EMERGING PLAYERS' PROGRAMME

### *Quartet's skills are put to the challenge*

THE Regional Elite Player Programme (REPP) is linked to Essex CCC and offers young talented players between the ages of 13-16 the opportunity to enhance their game and development through a specialist coaching programme.

The players attend weekly sessions at Fenner's indoor cricket school in Cambridge and some sessions at Essex CCC.

The programme sets out to provide players with the appropriate skills to progress to the highest levels and, where possible, a place on the Essex Academy to start the pathway towards either first-class or minor county cricket.

Suffolk's Level 3 coach on the REPP is Simon Manthorpe. Suffolk had four players on the programme in the winter of 2016-17 – Oliver Stace (Copdock CC), Freddie Heldreich

(Easton CC), Matthew Kent (Hadleigh CC) and Gabe Jones (Mildenhall CC).

The four players are in the Enhanced Skill stage of their player development working on the following areas – Technical, Tactical, Mental, Physical and Lifestyle preparation and individualised training programme.

This stage is characterised by deliberate practice and a broad range of competitive opportunities, which saw them in games where they were expected to dominate, games where they consolidated their skills and games that challenged them.

These 'challenge' games were just that, challenging their skills by way of playing in older county age groups or playing for their club sides in adult cricket.

## SUFFOLK SCHOOLS' CRICKET ASSOCIATION

### **Girls' competitions organised for first time**

*By BRIAN HUNT, Secretary of Suffolk Schools' Cricket Association*

THE Association suffered a sad loss at the beginning of the year, with the death of Ron Chenery. He had been involved with schools' cricket for more than 50 years, being secretary for many of them and recently chairman. On a happier note, Peter Zagni, our Association president, was given a long-service tie at the ESCA AGM, in recognition of the many years of hard work given for the benefit of children and cricket in Suffolk.

In 2017 SSCA ran six competitions, including two girls' competitions for the first time, both of which were well supported and had competitive finals of a good standard. Happily, all the finals were played on time and in glorious weather. The entries for all the Boys' competitions were slightly up on previous years, with entries from both state and private schools.

The 2017 Girls' winners were as follows:

Under-11s – Orwell Park

Under-13s – Orwell Park

Eight schools entered both competitions, with four schools competing on finals day. Although Orwell Park won both finals, they were both competitive, with Ipswich being the Under-11 runners-up and St Felix the Under-13 runners-up.

The 2017 Boys' winners were as follows:

Under-11 – Ipswich School

Under-12 – St Felix

Under-14 – Ipswich School

Under-15 – Framlingham College

In the Under-11 Saracens Cup, there were seven entries, with four schools competing on finals day at Framlingham. Ipswich School, who were deserved winners, then competed in the regional finals at Chigwell. The David English Under-12 competition required a preliminary round for the first time for several years as there were nine entries. The winners, St Felix, who were easily the strongest, did so for the first time. They will represent Suffolk in the national competition in 2018.

The ESCA Under-14 and Under-15 finals were very competitive and close. In the Under-15 final Framlingham defeated Ipswich and in the Under-14 final Ipswich defeated St Joseph's.

Grateful thanks to all committee members, who ensured that the competitions ran to time and that the finals were successfully completed. Thanks also to the schools who generously hosted the various finals at a busy time of the term.

## SUFFOLK YOUTH CRICKET - BOYS

### UNDER-10s

*By Andrew Blanchard*

SIXTEEN excited cricketers and an equally excited coach joined together for the first time in November 2016 to embark on their first steps into representing their home county.

We enjoyed a good winter programme challenging the boys to express themselves and have a positive outlook on everything that they did.

Our playing season mantra was to above all else enjoy the challenges that the games brought to us and learn from the experiences we encountered together and individually.

After warm-up fixtures against a Framlingham College Prep School side and a Copdock & OI XI we were ready for our first fixture. This was against a strong London Schools' side at a perfectly prepared Copdock.

There were wickets for Ollie Knight (2-18) as we were set 165 for victory, a target beyond us as we faltered early on but resilience from Odin Thomas and an entertaining knock from Henry Clark (24) showed signs of promise.

Next up was a trip to Topcroft CC to play our neighbours Norfolk. Again, we were in the field first up, and despite taking an early wicket Norfolk built a strong partnership which threatened to go well beyond 250. Some fine bowling from Percy Moore (2-10) brought the score down to 196 to win.

For the second time we got off to a poor start with the bat but the torrential rain closed in and meant an abandonment

with us in a hole nine wickets down. Not our greatest showing but all is put into perspective when you realise you left your car windows down!

A home fixture against North Essex at a glorious Culford School saw us put in our best performance so far. Batting first, we found ourselves 37-5 at one point.

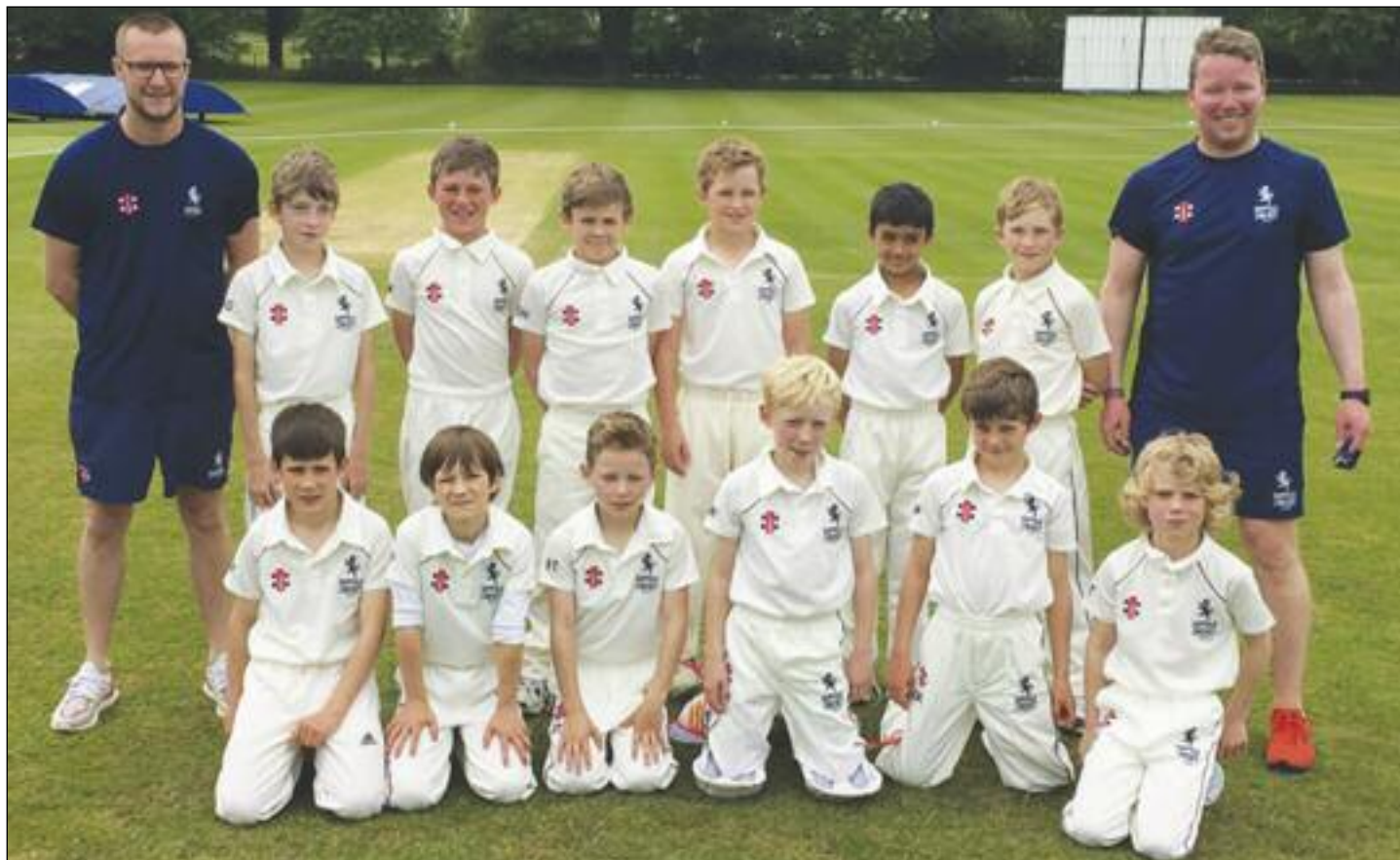
However, valuable and mature contributions from Ben Thomas (33) and Ned Hayward (29) saw us set our highest total of the season of 152-7. Percy Moore (4-15) then shone with the ball, restricting North Essex to 75 all out to record a morale-boosting victory.

It was back on the road to play Huntingdonshire next and another stint in the field first up. This seemed like a great plan when two wickets apiece for Henry Clark, Archie Magnus and Nathan Porter had the home side 49-6.

Whether it was foot off the gas, good batting or a combination of both the Hunts middle order took a positive approach and took their total to 148. In response we too were six down for 40 and only some late order stroke play from Percy Moore (17) offered any kind of highlight.

Next we hosted Bedfordshire at Stowmarket and despite the best efforts with the ball some very impressive batting from the Bedfordshire opening pair saw them post 205 with Oliver Grimwood (2-21) the pick of our bowlers.

Whilst falling short in our response there were signs that the boys were beginning to learn from previous games with more time spent at the crease and runs scored, Ned Hayward (27), Dylan Hardy (22), Ollie Knight (18) and



*Suffolk Boys' Under-10s: Back row, left to right: Sam Webb-Snowling (coach), Oliver Grimwood, Archie Magnus, Dylan Hardy, Henry Clark, Nimal de Silva, Toby Toombs, Andrew Blanchard (coach). Front row: Percy Moore, Freddie Foyster, Benjamin Thomas, Ned Hayward, Ollie Knight, Odin Thomas. Missing from photograph: Freddie Paffett, Toby Grimwood, Conor Berry, Nathan Porter.*



Freddie Paffett (18) all providing good examples of application.

When we hosted Norfolk for our return fixture at Woolpit our batting let us down again. Skipper Archie Magnus (19) was the only batter to have any relative success on the way to us posting 86 which never seemed enough.

This was echoed when Norfolk were 56-1 from 16 overs and a heavy defeat was on the cards. It was from then that Archie Magnus (5-10) bowling leg spin with control and threat nearly turned the game our way. Nevertheless, Norfolk were able to fall over the line, finishing 87-7. Oh for another 20 runs!

Next up we were at the picturesque Mellis CC where we hosted Cambridgeshire in probably our most disappointing performance of the season. Cambs restricted us to 98-7, Percy Moore (35) and Conor Berry (26) in an innings where we struggled with the balance of scoring runs versus occupation of the crease. Cambridgeshire knocked the runs off only three down without us really threatening to repeat the feats of the previous fixture.

An away fixture against North Essex saw us put in a much-improved performance. An early innings wobble was rescued by Ollie Knight (42) and Oliver Grimwood (32) who batted excellently in a partnership that was a fine example of playing to their strengths and rotating the strike.

Chasing 148, North Essex were put under pressure by some fine bowling with everyone bowling tightly. Percy Moore (0-3) the stand-out once again as we won by 80 runs.

We finished our season with two excellent days hosted by Essex Cricket Board. Focusing on lots of gameplay, we played three 12-over games on each day which not only freed the boys up to play without any fear but also provided

lots of opportunity to learn from game to game. It also showed how much talent there is within the group. This was typified when, needing four to win our first game against Essex, Conor Berry despatched his first ball for six.

This group of players were an absolute pleasure to coach throughout the winter and summer. When games were not going their way they came back with a show of resilience that will stand them in good stead going forward.

I wish good luck to those who stay with the U10s (Ben Thomas, Ollie Knight, Freddie Foyster and Toby Toombs) and to those new squad members who will join us.

A note of thanks to all the support coaches during the winter and summer, the grounds which looked after us so well, the parents for their support and trust, Mark Berry for his squad manager support and, most importantly, the players for working so hard and doing it with a smile on their face.

### **UNDER-11s**

*By Chris Farrant*

AFTER a good warm-up match versus SYC Under-13 Girls, we headed off to Cambridgeshire full of confidence for our first full match of the year. However, for the second season running the ground, and especially the wicket that greeted us, was well below the standard acceptable for county cricket.

The toss was inevitably lost and it was no surprise that our hosts invited us to bat; two overs later Suffolk had been reduced to 3-3.

Captain Arthur Summers (33) and Charlie Bennett (36) set about rebuilding the innings, both did a great job but with the wicket still wet and the outfield about to be cut for silage, scoring runs was very difficult. Their 80-run partnership ended in the 32<sup>nd</sup> over, none of the incoming



*Suffolk Boys' Under-11s: Back row, left to right: Shaanjeei Tharaneetharan, Joe Rinaldi, Charlie Bennett, Ben Palmer, Arthur Summers, Nat Salsby, Archie Rayner. Front row: Freddie Thompson, Louis Blanchard, Fred Dyer, Jake Kiddy, Lucas Howard, Ed Townrow.*



batters found life any easier and Suffolk's innings limped to 102.

In reply, Cambs also found scoring difficult, however their batters found a way to keep the scoreboard ticking. Suffolk's Ben Palmer and Charlie Bennett bowled with good control but without reward, and Cambs ticked off the runs losing three wickets, one each for Shaanjeei Tharaneetharan, Bo Machan and Fred Dyer.

Next up a home game versus North Essex hosted at the excellent facilities of Copdock.

Suffolk batted first and set an impressive total of 261-4 off 40 overs. Super half centuries from Ben Palmer (56) and Fred Dyer (63) set up the total but both felt there were more runs left out there. Arthur Summers (57 not out) scored his debut fifty and Lucas Howard (49), making his first county appearance, was unlucky to fall one short of his.

Perhaps Suffolk thought that the game was won with such a large total but, with the outfield fast and the flat wicket, the North Essex batters found scoring just as easy as the hosts.

Louis Blanchard, taking the new ball, bowled a tight line and length, with his spell going at under three runs per over – a super effort in the conditions. He found an ally in Ben Palmer, who was even more frugal and it was he who got the breakthrough with the score on 96. Arthur Summers chipped in with two quick wickets that seemed to knock the stuffing out of the visitors, with Suffolk winnings by 94 runs.

A week later Hunts came to Ipswich school in what turned into a thrilling game. The visitors batted first; they were watchful and cautious against Suffolk's seam attack, both Charlie Bennett and Shaanjeei Tharaneetharan unlucky to go wicket-less. Jake Kiddy and Arthur Summers, coming on at first change, gave the batters no free runs. However, it was the introduction of spin that brought the wickets, Ben Palmer with three and Fred Dyer with two aided by an excellent direct hit run out by Elliott Coombes saw the Hunts innings close on 123.

Suffolk's disturbing pattern of losing early wickets continued and at 44-5 then 65-7 the omens did not look good. Amongst all the carnage Charlie Bennett (55 not out) stood firm, and eventually he found a team-mate in Arthur Summers who would stick with him, the pair getting Suffolk to the brink before Arthur Summers fell leaving the ever-cool Shaanjeei Tharaneetharan to smash the winning runs with three balls to spare. Great stuff!

Haverhill CC was the venue for the visit of Norfolk, and on a used track Norfolk batted first. The left-arm swing of Jake Kiddy removed the dangerous Norfolk captain for nought. Louis Blanchard, coming on at first change, bowled his best spell of the year, taking three wickets, but the batters found a way to rotate the strike. Some lusty blows at the end and 34 extras got the visitors to a just-above-par total of 165.

Suffolk's reply was perhaps the most disappointing of the year, especially after having seen how Norfolk went about building their innings. The difference in the intent shown was obvious for all to see. On a now-dusty surface a succession of Suffolk batters seemed mesmerised by the

slow bowling and a series of bizarre and soft dismissals was the outcome.

With rain showers around Ed Townrow and Jake Kiddy showed resolve, facing ten overs between them, but despite a couple of interruptions the rain cleared and we fell well short at 90 all out.

Woodbridge School was the setting for the visit of Hertfordshire. Match highlights were an entertaining and aggressive innings from Nat Salsby (47) backed up by Fred Dyer (37) which meant our total of 170 was competitive. More-than-decent bowling figures of 3-6 by Lucas Howard were not enough to contain the Herts batters, a flurry of boundaries helped the visitors chase down their target with five overs to spare.

The return fixture versus Norfolk hosted by Garboldisham CC saw us slide to another defeat. Once again batting first, Norfolk built a good total of 188-5, with the wickets shared around. In reply, despite good contributions from Arthur Summers (27) and Nat Salsby (27) we failed to challenge the total.

Onto RHS and a chance for the boys to experience cricket on tour. The first match of the festival was a snapshot of the season as a whole. From the off our bowling attack was spot on, Charlie Bennett, Jake Kiddy, Louis Blanchard and Shaanjeei Tharaneetharan were all disciplined and threatening, with Alex Macleod with the pick of the figures of 3-16 all backed up by the best fielding performance of the year.

We had Oxfordshire teetering on the brink at 80-8, but lower order resistance and a drop in our intensity saw Oxford add nearly 50 for the last two wickets. However, with us getting their unused overs we had 52 overs to chase 128.

After being well set at 70-3 in our reply it is safe to say we didn't get it right; it won't be the last time the boys are involved in a juggernaut of a batting collapse. What the squad have to learn from the bitter experience of defeats like this is to do the simple things well enough and often enough so as not to put themselves under that pressure again.

Unfortunately poor weather meant two of the remaining games on tour were abandoned.

The team enjoyed success at a T16 festival hosted by Essex late in the season.

More county match experience will make this squad of talented boys better, will help them to be flexible, to up their intent, to embrace and not be cowed of the challenges when playing for the Lion.

Over The last two years it's been an absolute pleasure to have coached this group of young men as they have taken their first steps into the tough environment of county cricket. They are a close unit and the camaraderie they have forged will stand them in good stead both on and off the field in the years to come and I wish them nothing but success in the next chapter of their development.

## UNDER-12s

*By Brian Rayner*

IMAGINE this, the Magnificent Seven remade as the 'Fantastic Fifteen'. Without his six amigos at his side riding



*Suffolk Boys' Under-12s. Back row, left to right: Matt Barbrook (coach), Merlin Stamper, Kajeai Tharaneetharan, Brian Rayner (coach). Middle row: Rueben Harvey, Ben Smart, Callum Woolston, Isaac Toombs (with trophy) Finley Barbrook, JJ Edmond, Max Egan. Front row: Rory Hollis, George Jackson, Alex Dunning and Harry Barbrook.*

into a town full of bandits, not even Yul Brynner in his full pomp would have come to the local peasants' rescue. The same with cricket, all about individuals working together for the success of the team. Last season saw a group of talented individuals work together to forge a team to be reckoned with.

Following a middling start to the season, the side went on a barnstorming run to the end of the season with ten straight victories; leaving a splash of green against their name on Play Cricket.

A combination of flair and grit with a heavy dash of mongrel spirit ensured that the side were resilient in all three disciplines and their performances reflected this.

In a season of 14 wins, two matches deserve special mention. After being behind the eight-ball for the majority of the away game against South Yorkshire and with fives overs left, a defeat looked a nailed on certainty. However, a 40-run partnership between Harry Barbrook and Ben Smart for the ninth wicket broke Yorkshire's hearts and resulted in a last-wicket victory off the last ball of the game.

Bowling first, on the hottest day of the year on a wicket harder than Stansted's new runway, the bowlers worked hard to keep Cambridgeshire to 213-7. However, after being reduced to 81-5 an uphill battle appeared on the cards, but the hosts didn't factor in the depth of Suffolk's batting; with a swashbuckling partnership of 119 between KJ Tharaneetharan and Merlin Stamper resulting in a three-wicket victory.

However, the highlight of the season was the side's Minor Counties Cricket Festival victory performance at the Royal Hospital School, describe as 'supreme' by The Cricketer

magazine. Four resounding victories (the fifth win only thwarted by heavy rain) meant Suffolk were festival winners for the first time in the players' lifetime. There were several notable performances throughout the week across the squad, with Alex Dunning's four wickets for three runs in 14 balls against Cumbria being the most stunning.

In the same way that The Magnificent Seven were supported by the town's folk the squad's supporting cast, match-day coach Matt Barbrook, managers Rebecca Smart and Victoria Woolston, plus winter coaches, umpires and groundsmen all deserve a resounding thank you!

Did the Magnificent Seven have a gunfighter of the battle award? Could they have defeated Calvera and his banditos if they hadn't worked together? In the same way it is very difficult to single out a Player of the Year from the Fantastic Fifteen – a group of talented individuals that performed so well across the course of the season as a team.

However, the player I have selected may not have amassed the most runs or taken the most wickets but, in my opinion, he epitomised the spirit of the team. He never let his personal disappointments get in the way of his role in the team and was always the first player to console or celebrate with team-mates. His popularity in the group was never more apparent than the team celebrations after he scored his maiden county half century against The Netherlands. The season's Suffolk U12's Player of the Year was Callum Woolston.

Suffolk U12 Boys' Roll of Honour:

Player of the Year: Callum Woolston

Players' Player of the Year: Isaac Toombs

Supporters' Player of the Year: George Jackson

Bowler of the Year: Max Egan





*Suffolk Under-13s. Back row, left to right: Luke Ellis, Tom Pickersgill, Cameron Towers, Oscar Baker, Harry Parker, Arthur Pheonix, Josh Jones, Harry Hitchen, Terry Small (coach). Front row: Varun Sharma, George Bennett, Sam Burkitt, Louis Francis Smith (captain) Conner Cobbold, Ollie Gallop, Henry Nicholls.*

Batsman of the Year: Kajeai Tharaneetharan

Fielder of the Year: Finley Barbrook

Spirit of Cricket: William Stace

### UNDER-13s

*By Terry Small*

IT'S FAIR to say, the Suffolk Under-13 boys had to put up with a lot of changes to the squad at the start of winter training back in 2016. In an attempt to bring players forward, lots of extra sessions were added in the spring, also at the start of the summer months, to allow us to spend even more time training together at high intensity, and with perhaps more purpose than some had done before being new to the squad.

A huge thank you goes out to Worlington CC and Culford School for the use of their facilities, without their support this couldn't have happened. The benefits of this were clear to see.

Off the back of previous seasons, our goals had to be realistic and manageable. Roles of the players became more defined as the season gradually rolled out, a hub of six or seven players were regularly used, whilst other positions were put on rotation wherever possible, all the while mindful of the much more competitive U14s cricket season looming on the horizon.

I felt it was my job to try and best prepare them for this in their last 'friendly' season. That said, the decision was made to play as many games as possible (19 in all) including two awesome tours to Berks & Bucks and the stunning Taunton School.

If you learn more by losing, then we had an educational year, looking at our win/lose/draw column alone though never tells the whole story, or does the U13 boys justice.

During the season we had some unfortunate lack of 'form' and some season-long injuries to game-changing players, all

of them adjusting to growing up physically and mentally (literally, some boys grew well over a foot within the year, Sam Burkitt being the exception) all whilst under the spotlight of county cricket, playing against some high-quality teams doesn't even scratch the surface of our year. Particular highlights included the ramping of George Weldon by Cameron Towers after almost bowling us all out, the amazing seven-for by Harry Hitchen on the same Berks & Bucks Tour, the fifties made by Sam Burkitt, Arthur Phenoix, Luke Ellis and player of the season Josh Jones.

For the most part we held our own against stronger opponents and beat teams we shouldn't have; it felt like we had taken down big trees using only a small axe – small victories one chop at a time sums us up, and for that I'll forever be proud of this fantastic bunch of lads.

We had some great support from fellow Suffolk coaches throughout the winter, being my first year I also felt really well supported. The parents were excellent all year round, they sacrificed many Sunday lunches and lie ins and provided the best teas I've had in cricket, ever!

Thanks to Colin for organising those.

Finally, a huge thanks must go to our manger Adam Gallop whose eye for detail and good management skills meant all our games went as smoothly as they possibly could, providing us with everything we needed to allow some of



*Harry Hitchen celebrates*





*The Suffolk Under-13 team celebrate Harry Hitchen's seven-wicket haul.*

the finest young men I've ever met play cricket, including the tours.

We played our games with a smile on our face, we were competitive and go into this season with eyes open and hearts ready for the challenge.

The first game of our Berks & Bucks Tour was against Buckinghamshire at Beaconsfield CC. We won the toss and correctly chose to bowl, but didn't fully utilise the conditions.

Their top five batters played with maturity and self-belief, leaving all remaining batters the freedom to go and be creative as they closed on 241-9.

After lunch, George Weldon opened the bowling and quickly set about giving Suffolk a masterclass as he finished with figures of 5-3-3-3.

He simply destroyed our top-order batsmen, who deserve credit for showing the courage they did as Suffolk were cleaned up by a very strong bowling attack.

The highlight of the match was Cameron Towers playing a ramp shot off George Weldon for a one bounce four! Even members of the Buckinghamshire squad shook his hand afterwards.

Day two saw Suffolk face Buckinghamshire's Development squad at Beaconsfield CC.

The tenth Bucks wicket fell with the total on 102, but in the interest of a good game, both coaches agreed to bat all players, with the hosts finishing on 127-12.

Ollie Gallop and Varun Sharma, produced a resilient partnership of 57, but not before two run outs caused mayhem in the middle order.

Finally the rain started to fall too heavily to continue as Suffolk finished on 109-9 with 4.5 overs left.

The third and final match versus Berkshire was played alongside Royal Ascot racecourse.

Suffolk won the toss and chose to bat first, but experienced batting in conditions they were not used to, with the ball

swinging and seaming.

Suffolk went from 37-2 after ten overs to 55-6 in the next eight overs, before Varun Sharma and Ollie Gallop came together to give Suffolk a total to defend.

It was then that Harry Hitchen produced his match-winning spell to finish with figures of 6.3-1-14-7.

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## UNDER-14s

*By Dan Skinner*

AFTER some fantastic winter squad sessions the season started at Framlingham College against a strong Under-15 side.

Framlingham won the toss and elected to bat in this 30-over match. A brilliant opening partnership plus solid contributions down the order saw them finish on 223. The Suffolk batsmen were contained well by some tight bowling and never really threatened to chase down the total. The innings closed with Suffolk scoring 173 all out off 29 overs. This was not an ideal start but better things were sure to come.

Next up was the long away trip to Lincolnshire for our first taste of 50-over cricket. Lincs batted first and scored 156 all out off 45.3 overs, the highlight of the Suffolk bowling being Sam Paisley's 3-20. Suffolk proceeded to knock the runs off in 30 overs, with Bailey Farrant (48) and Callum O'Connell (54 not out) doing most of the damage.

A couple of weeks later we entertained London Schools CA at Woodbridge School. Suffolk batted first and struggled to 144 all out with Ali Marlow (46) the only real innings of note. It would take a huge effort by the bowlers to give us any chance of a victory.

LSCA started well and looked to be well on top chasing down the relatively small total. However, a flurry of wickets saw a monumental collapse with the last three batsmen out for just five runs between them. They were all out for 137 off 34 overs and the boys had somehow snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. Gabe Jones (2-30) and Marcus Packer (2-24) were the pick of the bowlers.

A tour to Berkshire and Buckinghamshire was next on the agenda. First up were Berkshire at Wokingham CC – a fantastic venue. Berkshire batted first and never really got going, finishing on a below par 184-9 off their 50 overs. Callum O'Connell (3-23) and George Tilbrook (2-14) were the stand-out bowlers.

Suffolk batted sensibly and chased down the total with eight overs to spare. Callum O'Connell (42), Dan Norman (35 not out) and Will Froggatt (32) shared the majority of the runs.

After heavy overnight rain we moved on to the second and last game of the tour at Amersham Hill CC – not a fantastic venue. After much deliberation and more rain looming it was decided that we would play a T20 match.

Suffolk batted first and after Gabe Jones had to retire hurt, Ali Marlow came to the crease. What happened next was incredible as he scored 108 not out off 64 balls with 12 fours and three sixes. Wow!

Supported by Callum O'Connell (44) this was a real highlight of the season with the ball disappearing to all corners of the ground and frequently into the surrounding back gardens. The innings finished on 207-4 and the boys were buzzing.

The Suffolk bowlers hit their lines and lengths and Bucks never looked like they would get close, eventually finishing on 127-6 off 20 overs. Callum O'Connell (3-21) was the best of our bowlers. What a game.

It was now time to start our Royal London Cup campaign

with some very tough-looking fixtures to play. First up was the visit of Hertfordshire at Woodbridge School. Herts won the toss and elected to bat, though they may have wished they hadn't as the Suffolk bowlers ripped through the batting and they were all out for 88. Gabe Jones (3-16), Sam Paisley (3-13) and Lewis Millions (2-19) all bowled particularly well. Bailey Farrant (24) and Ali Marlow (39) scored the bulk of the runs as Suffolk eased their way to 89-2 off just 14 overs. The winning run continued and we now had five wins from six matches for the season.

A week later and we were off to Norfolk for the most important game of the season. After the groundsman had finished cutting the wicket we were ready to start and Norfolk were invited to bat first. Yet again, another stunning bowling performance followed, backed up by some brilliant fielding including three run outs.

Norfolk were shot out for 131 and once again the boys were sensing victory. Bailey Farrant (32), Ali Marlow (56) and Will Froggatt (23 not out) saw us home with 18 overs to spare and we had now won our last six matches in a row.

It was now time to face our first real test against a first-class county as we hosted Essex on Father's Day at Copdock & OI CC. Essex won the toss and decided to bat. The temperature was into the 30s and we knew that on a flat pitch this would be a very hard game.

After a promising start and some early wickets a huge partnership by Haines and Allison saw Essex finish on 357-4. It was always going to be a tough ask and despite another brilliant hundred by Ali Marlow (103) and Callum O'Connell (53) no-one else really contributed and we limped to 200 all out. This was a hammer blow after such a good run of form.

Off to Kent next and another huge partnership. We were now all wondering if the wheels had come off as the Kent openers scored 296 runs in 50 overs. With in-form Ali Marlow out for nought things weren't going to plan again. George Tillbrook (51 not out) and Marcus Packer (34 not out) got us to 180 but again it was a heavy defeat.

A week later and we were on the road again to play Sussex. Suffolk batted first and proceeded to smash 172 for the first wicket. Ali Marlow, with a brilliant 95, was supported by Callum O'Connell with 51 to put us in a great position. Next followed the collapse and we finished on 270-9.

The boys tried everything they could but Sussex kept up with the rate and passed our total with two overs to spare. It was a game we should have won, but hopefully it would boost the confidence a little after two big losses.

Next a T20 tournament at Framlingham saw us lose to LSCA in the first match, but gain victory over Bedfordshire in the second. The highlight of the day was Bailey Farrant (75) and Gabe Jones (65) sharing an opening partnership of 138.

A trip up the A140 to Mellis CC next for a game against Cambridgeshire in the RL Cup. Suffolk batted first, Ali Marlow (88), Bailey Farrant (57) and Will Froggatt (54) got us to 286-8.

Cambs batted well and pushed us all the way, eventually falling only 25 runs short. Sam Paisley (2-26) and George





*Suffolk Boys' Under-14s: Back row, left to right: Dan Skinner (lead coach), Callum O'Connell, Lewis Millions, Alistair Marlow, Sam Paisley, Dan Norman, Will Froggatt, Toby Marston, Gabe Jones, Chris Farrant (assistant coach). Front row: James Whittle, Charlie Coe, Marcus Packer, George Tillbrook, Bailey Farrant.*

Tillbrook (2-37) were the best of our bowlers.

Middlesex were next and it was another close encounter that eventually saw our total of 187-6 off 40 overs (Dan Norman 52 not out) passed with five overs to spare. Middlesex finished on 188-3 in yet another tight game that could have easily gone our way.

On to our last game in the RL Cup – another tough away trip down to New Malden CC to play Surrey. This would be our last chance to win against a first-class county and end the campaign on a high.

The boys had come so close on a couple of occasions and would need to bring their A-Game in order to achieve this. Suffolk were put in first and once again Ali Marlow (84) delivered with the bat, before being run out. Will Froggatt (44) and Callum O'Connell (32) also batted well as we closed on 207-9 off 45 overs.

It was now down to the bowlers to bring home the victory - and how well they did it. Sam Paisley (2-11), George Tillbrook (3-11) and James Whittle (2-23) all bowled brilliantly, assisted by some good fielding and a brilliant catch on the boundary by Lewis Millions to take the last wicket and win us the game.

Surrey were bowled out for 155 and well beaten and the Suffolk boys finally had the major scalp that they so deserved. A fantastic and fitting finish to our season and to top it all off a place in the top half of the table and into the A Group in 2018.

In August we went off to the LSCA Festival at Ampleforth College in Yorkshire. We were due to play five 50-over matches but unfortunately the weather gods were against us and games were either cancelled or the format shortened.

Day one saw a nine-wicket win over Bedfordshire, who made 133-7 off 20 overs. Suffolk replied with 137-1 off 16 overs, Bailey Farrant (58) and Will Froggatt (50 not out) securing victory.

Day two was a complete wash out with no cricket played.

Day three versus Northumberland saw a real game of two halves. Northumberland made 87-6 off 15 overs, with Lewis Millions (4-13) bowling and captaining the side brilliantly. Then came the Suffolk collapse (67 all out) with only Ali Marlow (38) reaching double figures.

Day four and another defeat at the hands of a strong Oxfordshire side. Suffolk batting first made 136 all out, George Tillbrook (45) and Ali Marlow (39) the only two batsmen to trouble the bowlers. In reply, Oxfordshire lost only one wicket and took just 20 overs to reach the target.

Day five and a better performance all round against Cumbria, who batted first and posted 189-9 off 40 overs, with Marcus Packer (3-22) returning the best bowling figures.

Suffolk batted sensibly and reached their target with eight overs to spare, with Ezra Fuller (32), Alex Quin (47), Callum O'Connell (36 not out) and Gabe Jones (60 not out) all playing great knocks to see us home.

All in all, a brilliant season and so many highlights and positives. It was a pleasure to coach such a talented bunch and I can't wait to do it all again with them in 2018.

## **UNDER-15s**

*By Elliot Tyler*

THE 2017 season for the Under-15 boys was challenging. The team played in the Royal Life U15 County Cup competition which last season included one first-class county, Kent CCC, as well as the usual foes of Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Hunts played home and away.

The 50-over competition was livened up by the ECB and matches were a replica of One-Day Internationals complete with white ball, coloured clothing and black sightscreens!

There were also two early season warm-up fixtures against old friends Bedfordshire CCC and London Schools CA.

Overall the team statistics make moderate reading – Played 10, Won 5, Lost 4, No Result 1.





*Suffolk Boys' Under-15. Back row, left to right: Elliot Tyler (coach), Oliver Stace, Freddie Heldreich, Matt Kent (captain), Dan Leggett, Henry Wilson, Max Dias, Alfie Marston (coach). Front row: Tom Harper, Ben Chapman, Will Marston, Charles Kent, Tom Sidhu, Will White.*

As always, the statistics don't tell the whole story. Under the leadership of Matthew Kent, the team managed to play some excellent cricket, but sadly the season was marred by a number of player withdrawals due to injury. Selection was simply those left standing and some inclusions from lower age groups.

On the batting front it should be noted that the team had a number of scores in excess of 200 including a massive 320-7 against Cambridgeshire in our last match of the season.

There was a brace of half centuries for Tom Sidhu, Matthew Kent and Freddie Heldreich, who topped the averages with 49.25. Sadly, runs weren't made against the best of the opposition and a lack of rigidity throughout the order left totals a little light.

The bowling department was its usual consistent self with Oliver Stace leading the attack with a number of opening partners.

A season's best return of 5-48 for Stace was only overshadowed by Will White's 5-27 versus Cambridgeshire CCC at Copdock & OI CC.

Freddie Heldreich chipped in with 14 wickets for the season including a best of 4-16 in the demolition of Norfolk CCC.

### **UNDER-17s**

*Two-day report by Doug Frame*

SUFFOLK topped the Under-17 Division 3B Championship in 2017 which was a reward for the players for believing in themselves and playing with freedom.

At the start of this campaign I challenged the players to believe in themselves and their team mates. It was pleasing to see that by playing as a team, we achieved the results and whilst there were times when we failed, we learnt as a team how to bounce back.

This is always a difficult age group for many reasons, not least because of the talent within the squad who, at times, found themselves batting or bowling in spots not familiar to them. However, credit to all, they soon acknowledged their roles within the team and stuck together. Well done to all.

Our first game against Hertfordshire saw two sessions of play lost due to rain. Having won the toss and elected to bat, Suffolk got off to a very good start with Alex Oxley (67) and Keelan Waldock (26) digging in to see off a very good opening spell from their bowlers.

Having lost the last half of the day to rain, it was agreed between the two teams we would try and make a game of it and having ended day one on 170-5, with Jack Hobbs making 43, the following day saw Nick Van Lint (29) and Josh Frame (31 not out) put on 40 runs in five overs before we declared.

Hertfordshire batted 20 overs before they declared their innings at 156-7, with Luke Froggatt (3-40) and Josh Frame (3-44) the pick of the bowlers.

Suffolk then started their second innings looking for quick runs before declaring and setting Hertfordshire 265 off a minimum off 37 overs. Nick Van Lint scored a superb 100 off 118 balls with good support from Alexander Packer (46) and Jack Hobbs (36).

Sadly, some poor bowling and fielding saw Hertfordshire reach the target with the loss of only five wickets with our spin twins, Fergus Atkins and Josh Frame, being the only wicket-takers. Although we lost there were plenty of good signs from the game and we came away from it with two less points than Hertfordshire.

Our next game saw us take on Huntingdonshire away. Sadly, this was a game where the lads simply failed to turn up, which sometimes happens. The result was always





*Suffolk Boys' Under-17s. Back row, left to right: William Spicer, Jordan Milburn, Luke Froggatt, Nick Van Lint, Max Whittaker, Fergus Atkins. Front row: Alex Oxley, Stuart Lilley, Jack Hobbs (captain), Josh Frame, Oliver Stace, Oakley Colby.*

going to be down to the toss, which we lost.

Huntingdonshire were dismissed for 361, Freddie Heldreich taking 5-81 off his 25 overs. Suffolk were soon in trouble on the first day and it would require some pretty good partnerships on the second day to get ourselves back into the game. Sadly, we were bowled out for 152 with only Jack Hobbs (45) and Nick Van Lint (33) offering any real resistance.

We were invited to follow on and with the wicket now turning and some variable bounce, we struggled to dig in and were eventually bowled out for 235, with only Will Spicer (60) and Freddie Heldreich (40) offering any real resistance. Huntingdonshire required 26 runs to win the game outright and did so for the loss of only two wickets. It was just a bad day at the office having fought so well in the previous game.

Our next game saw us take on Cambridgeshire at home and it was important that the lads got back to playing as a team and sticking together. I couldn't have asked for more. We won a very tight game of cricket by seven runs having batted first and set Cambridgeshire 309 to win, with Jack Hobbs (62), Keelan Waldock (59) and Fergus Atkins (54) the main contributors.

We had genuine belief in our bowlers to take the ten wickets required. We soon had Cambridge 188-8 and it was a case, we thought, of taking two wickets and then having another bat with the view to setting a target. However, we appeared to switch off and it wasn't long before Cambridgeshire required 30 runs with two wickets remaining.

However, the lads never gave up and we took the last two wickets to bowl them out for 302. Although not rewarded

by the number of wickets, the pick of our bowlers was Ben Aralampalam, who took 2-35 off 17 overs, with Fergus Atkins taking 4-50 off 28 overs and Josh Frame 2-100 off 27 overs. It was so pleasing to see the lads never give up when things got tight.

Our last game saw us take on Norfolk away and, having won the toss, we elected to bat on what looked like a pretty good wicket with it having rained for two days prior to the match starting. Sadly, some indiscipline in shot selection soon saw us 63-5.

Some restoration of the innings was required and Josh Frame (56) and Max Whittaker (28) did that before Frame was brilliantly caught at backward point. Suffolk were eventually bowled out for 191. There was plenty in the wicket to keep our bowlers interested.

However, some poor use of the new ball soon saw Norfolk reach 88-3 and we had it all to do. Having reminded the players to play as one and support each other, they were soon on the park and wickets began to fall at regular intervals before we finally managed to bowl Norfolk out for 183. Ben Aralampalam was again the pick of the bowlers, taking 4-34 off 18 overs. He was well supported by Fergus Atkins with 3-39 off his 22 overs.

Suffolk batted out the rest of the match, ending the day on 172-5, with Jack Hobbs (61 not out), Alex Oxley (49) and Alexander Packer (45).

With the bulk of the squad still available for this season it is important we transfer our success in the two-day format to the one-day format where finals day awaits us.

I would like to thank Andrew Squire for his support and assistance throughout, team manager Matthew Atkins, Lee Murrell for scoring all of our games, Woodbridge School



and Martin Taylor and Copdock CC for hosting our two home games.

I look forward to seeing most of the lads again this year and hopefully we can make it to the one-day finals.

*One-day report by Andrew Squire*

OUR Royal London Cup one-day campaign started in May. We enjoyed the drive across the Fens to play Hunts at Ramsey CC. The ground and wicket had suffered from heavy overnight rain and the toss was going to be crucial. Unfortunately, Jack Hobbs' first game as captain started by losing the toss. It was evident from ball one the wicket was going to be difficult to post a realistic total to challenge the opposition.

Jack Hobbs (6) went early, but Nick Van Lint (33) and Alex Oxley (33) took us to 84 when Nick was caught. We then progressed steadily to 100 when Alex was caught also. Max Whittaker (20) and Keelan Waldock (25) then became the main contributors as we were bowled out for 194 in 46.4 overs. Fortunately extras (40 with 34 wides) were our top score and gave us a reasonable total to bowl to.

As the coach, the disappointing part of this batting display was that all ten wickets fell to catches against Hunts' four spinners! Hunts started well and reached 77 before losing captain Josh Smith (29) and they continued to progress without any sustained pressure from Suffolk's bowlers. Josh Frame took two wickets, but Hunts won comfortably by five wickets.

We hosted a strong Hertfordshire side at the Royal Hospital School in Holbrook. Herts won the toss, elected to bat, and got off to a flyer. Lewis Hodgins (42) and Omar Karim (50) took a liking to our bowling, but it gave Ollie Stace some valuable experience in moving up from the Under-15 squad to open the bowling for us.

Herts batted well throughout and ended on 292-9 off their 50 overs. Luke Froggatt (2-41), Stuart Lilley (2-30) and Fergus Atkins (3-36) were our main wicket-takers. Suffolk's batting struggled against a good Herts seam attack and the only notable innings came from Alex Oxley (51) as we were bowled out for 114 in 35.5 overs.

Mildenhall CC hosted Cambridgeshire in late July and Suffolk were put into bat on a wet wicket. A change of order saw captain Jack Hobbs batting at four.

This worked to plan with Jack scoring a well-constructed 72 off 95 balls, with Fergus Atkins (46) playing the supporting role in a 72-run partnership. Josh Frame (44) batted well in the later stages to establish a total of 232 all out off 48.1 overs.

Cambs were reduced to 48-5 with some excellent bowling from Luke Froggatt (1-29), Ben Aralampalam (19-2) and Stuart Lilley (3-33). Fergus Atkins bowled ten overs for 29 which kept the Cambs batsmen in check. Felix Serby (60) was the only Cambs batsman to flourish as they were all out for 162, with Suffolk winning by 72 runs.

Norfolk provided the opposition for our final 50-over game at Fakenham CC. Suffolk won the toss and decided to bat first. Suffolk lost Nick Van Lint (5) and Alex Packer (1) early on. Fergus Atkins (50) batted well and then at 109-6, Suffolk were struggling.

However, the lower order fought hard – Max Whittaker (22), Jakob Kelly (28) and Keelan Waldock (42) – while Ben Aralampalam (37) and Luke Froggatt (16) struck some lusty blows to get Suffolk to 247 off 50 overs.

The key to this fantastic recovery was the players' ability to adapt during key moments of their innings. Norfolk lost a couple of early wickets; however Oscar Binny (48) and captain Alfie Cooper (61 not out) brought Norfolk back into the game and at 156-4 off 33.3 overs, the game was finely balanced until the rain stopped play. This was really disappointing for both sides as this was progressing towards a very exciting finish.

In summary, our one-day season was disappointing with one win, two losses and one match abandoned. The playing conditions and key match situations during these four games demonstrated the 'adaptability' required by these players and I was extremely pleased to see glimpses of progress from the boys.

The Player of the Year 2017 was awarded to Fergus Atkins. My thank yous must go to the winter coaches – you know who you are – my coach colleague Doug Frame, the parents and, most importantly, the players.

I would also like to thank our captain Jack Hobbs and team manager Matthew Atkins for his tireless work in ensuring that everything ran smoothly. Also James Cantrell for sorting out the fixtures.

Thanks to our scorers Lee Murrell and Alan Rogers, to our hosts RHS and Mildenhall CC, to the umpires – again, you know who you are – for their officiating and to JLS Catering for providing lunches and teas.

## PARKERS PITCHES



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*Some of the Under-13s team pictured with England's Sarah Taylor (foreground) after a thrilling Women's World Cup final at Lord's.*

### UNDER-13s

*Report by Sam Bennett-King*

DEFEATING the defending champions, Cambridgeshire, in the first match set in motion a series of outstanding results.

Successive opponents felt the full force of this talented team and victories were achieved regularly.

The margins of some of those wins are worth noting – two by ten wickets, one by nine wickets, two by eight wickets and two by more than 150 runs!

These performances resulted in the team's top-of-the-table position at the end of a fantastic season.

On the field, individuals executed their skills with consistent confidence which enabled the team to develop and flourish.

Off the field, opportunities to meet some of the greats in the Women's game – including Charlotte Edwards – enhanced the girls' experience of county age group cricket. A memorable trip to Lord's to watch the final of the Women's World Cup was the jewel in the crown!

The girls acquitted themselves well at the Malvern Festival and further success was achieved in victories over Northamptonshire and Cheshire.

Congratulations and thanks go to the players for their enthusiasm and commitment to the training and match programmes.

There is no limit to what they can achieve on their pathway of aspiration.

I am also grateful to all the parents for their support and encouragement.

Finally, a special note of thanks to Andy Gale for his excellent organisational skills and wise counsel throughout the season

### UNDER-15s

*By James Holmes*

THE Under-15 girls had a season of frustration, with three narrow losses, two of which by less than five runs, and weather considerably hampering their festival and one of the T20 tournaments.

However, the progress made by all the girls throughout was evident and stands the players in good stead for their respective squads this year.

The ECB Royal London 40-Over League resulted in a fourth-place finish, with three wins and three losses.

The squad used the T20 tournaments to experiment with different options with both the bat and the ball.

Having won the toss against Hertfordshire we elected to field first and it took a while to make the first breakthrough via Sophie Harper. Herts then lost wickets in two big clusters – four for 17 runs before a mini-revival and then losing their last five for 15 runs.

Katie Dixon (3-2-5-2), Sophie Harper (4-1-10-2), Georgie Cantrell (5-0-17-2) and Beth Quinton (4.2-0-5-1) returned great bowling figures.

In the ensuing chase we got off to a flyer, with Georgie





#### *Suffolk Girls Under-13s.*

*Top row, left to right: Sophie Hughes, Verity Iglesias, Poppy Sidhu, Eloise Ward, Esmae MacGregor. Middle row: Isobel Sidhu, Tamsin Holmes, Grace Robertson, Sophie Cleave, Katie Norman, Amelie Clarke. Front row: Sam Bennett-King (head coach), Imogen Sidhu, Megan Bureau (captain), Harriet Pettit, Millie Gale, Andy Gale (team manager).*

Cantrell scoring 19 in 22 balls before Katelyn Wright (14) and Sophie Harper built a solid 32-run partnership. Mai Easton (12 not out) then came to the crease to help Sophie (21 not out) finish off the run chase for a seven-wicket win.

Again having won the toss, the girls chose to field first and bowled Cambridgeshire out for 96, with six of the eight bowlers used taking wickets.

Particular mention should go to Elizabeth Firman (3-1-8-2), Emily Daltrey (4-1-10-1) and Georgie Cantrell (4-2-5-0).

In reply, we got off to an unfortunate start with five wickets being lost for only 14 runs before Amelie Clarke, playing up an age group, joined Ellie Costin at the crease. The pair steadily rebuilt the innings with a 26-run partnership before Amelie was bowled after a great effort. Ellie was joined by Eloise Long (14 not out) and the pair recorded a partnership of 58 to see us home by four wickets.

However, the cricketing superstitions were evident

throughout the last two partnerships with various coaches and parents refusing to move position with things going well.

Ellie Costin was outstanding in recording the only half century (52 not out) for the squad during the year from 100 deliveries – a phenomenal effort in very tough conditions to carry her bat through the whole innings.

Winning the toss and bowling was now becoming a trait and this paid off versus Huntingdonshire with Beth Quinton (3-1-6-1) taking an early wicket.

Hunts then rebuilt to 54 before Katie Dixon (4-1-9-1) got the breakthrough. Hunts finished on 90 from their 21 overs, with Ellie Costin taking her first wicket with her newly-learnt leg spin.

Ellie also then opened the batting and top scored with 38 not out, carrying her bat again as we looked to chase down the total.

Katelyn Wright (24) built a great platform with Ellie before being out with 60 on the board. However, the girls couldn't



*Suffolk Under-15 Girls. Back row, left to right: Charlie Stenning, Sophie Harper, Freya Cannon, Emily Daltrey, Katelyn Wright, Katie Dixon, Elizabeth Firman. Front row: Beth Quinton, Georgie Cantrell, Eloise Long, Holly Mayhew, Frankie Stenning, Ellie Costin.*



quite cross the line and a flurry of late wickets ended in a three-run defeat as we tried to achieve our target.

Having lost the toss against Norfolk we were put into bat and Emily Daltrey opened up with Ellie Costin and proceeded to hit early boundaries down to fine leg and over long on before falling for nine. This produced a succession of wickets and after being 31-4, Beth Quinton (33) came to the crease and with Frankie Stenning (14) put together a 42-run partnership to lift us to 121 all out.

There was early success with Sophie Harper (4-1-12-1) taking the first wicket, before Norfolk had a partnership broken by Elizabeth Firman. This created an opportunity which saw three wickets taken for four runs. Unfortunately it was too little, too late and we lost by four wickets.

Bowling first, we again took early wickets and had Hertfordshire 38-5 before a 94-run partnership saw Herts reach 169 off their 40 overs. The pick of the bowlers was Sophie Harper with figures of 7.2-1-22-3.

In reply, we lost wickets at regular intervals just as partnerships were beginning to appear until Sophie Harper (24) was joined by Emily Daltrey (30) to record our highest partnership of 66 to get us to 128-6.

With the loss of these two we battled on trying to chase the target but unfortunately finished just four runs short of the required total.

### UNDER-17s

*by Spencer Wuidart-Gray*

THE Under-17 girls had a mixed season with four wins and four defeats, although things could have been different but for a few crucial mistakes.

Throughout their season the girls bowled and fielded well but struggled with the bat. The season started with a home fixture against the old enemy, Norfolk. Suffolk started strongly, taking early wickets.

However, the Norfolk No.3, dropped on nought and 12, went on to make a match-changing 108. Fizz Woor, bowling in her first county game, took three wickets. In

Suffolk's reply, both Flora Johnston and Olivia Locke got runs but they fell 40 runs short.

The team then got back to winning ways with the bowling unit to the fore. Cambridgeshire were bowled out for 91, Flora Johnston and Sophie Harper both taking three wickets; Hunts were bowled out for 38, with exceptional spells of bowling by Flora Johnston (6-13) and Georgia Davies (3-23) and Northants were toppled for 88, Georgia Davies taking 4-18 and Amy Schanschieff 3-14, all at home.

The girls were then back on the road playing away to Cambs. The home side were determined to give a better account of themselves and batted defensively, finishing 131 all out, with Anna Hamblin taking 3-31 and Amy Schanschieff 3-21.

The total was never enough on a good pitch and Suffolk reached the total in 32 overs, with Amy Schanschieff the pick of the batters with 40.

The return fixture to Norfolk was a similar story to the first. Put in to bat, Norfolk made a slow start before fielding errors allowed them to find their stride, finishing on 253-8. The Suffolk girls made a credible attempt to score such a large total but fell short by 70 runs.

With several senior players not available the team then travelled to Hunts. Bowling first, they restricted the home side to 164-6, with good spells from Annis Cousins and Emma Howard. The batters however, never really settled, finally being dismissed for 122. This meant that the dream of a third league win in three years was over. Disappointed, the girls went into their last fixture of the season looking forward.

In the final fixture against Northants a number of squad changes were made, allowing those who had not necessarily had a lot of cricket over the season to come to the fore. Batting first, an excellent 48 by Elske Kelly helped Suffolk reach a total of 159. However, fielding errors again cost the team dear, with Northants passing the total in 34 overs.

In summary, it was a season of highs and lows with a few mistakes costing the squad several fixtures. Throughout the season the bowling unit outperformed the batters with



*Suffolk Girls Under-17. Back row, left to right: Caitlin Livingstone, Fizz Woor, Olivia Locke, Catherine Whittle, Elske Kelly, Amy Schanschieff. Front row: Anna Hamblin, Annis Cousins, Flora Johnston (captain), Georgia Davies, Elana Fraser, Sophie Utteridge. Missing from photograph: Lauren Swinburne.*





*Girls' Development Team, back row, left to right: Jasmine Thomas, Evelyn Whitmore, Florence West, Laila Hollis, Evie Booker, Amie Hunt, Zara Outhwaite Bouverie. Front row: Grace Cruse (assistant coach), Rebekah Meekings, Lily Tilbrook, Grace Collins, Petra Tweedy, Fenella Jewers, Charlotte Oastler (captain), Chloe Leveridge (lead coach).*

several members of the squad finishing the season with strong figures, Flora Johnston finished the season as the No. 3 rated junior bowler in the whole country.

The squad says farewell to Elske Kelly, Caitlin Livingstone, Georgia Davies, Olivia Locke, Anna Hamblin and Amy Schanschieff this year and we wish them well in their cricket futures. They have all played for their county for many years and they all have a lot to be proud of.

#### **DEVELOPMENT SQUAD**

THE Suffolk Youth Cricket Girls' Development squad had their most successful season yet in 2017.

After ten weeks of intense, hard and challenging training they performed brilliantly, winning eight matches.

This included wins against Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire and Northants. The girls also went on tour to Malvern which was a great experience for all.

The player of the season went to Evie Booker, who also received the SYC Girls' Player of the Year award.

Looking back on the season the coaches, players, parents and county should be very proud of what these girls have achieved.

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**Supporting Suffolk Cricket  
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# It's getting to be like Groundhog Day

*By MARTIN WHITE, General Secretary, Association of Suffolk Cricket Umpires and Scorers*

IF it's not broken don't fix it is a mantra that can never be laid at the door of cricket's Law makers.

A few years ago around 140 changes were made to the little blue book – and now a lot more have been altered. As then, a lot of revision was imperative for all umpires up and down the county to understand the alterations and, in some cases, why they were being made. Now, rather like the concept of Groundhog Day, the process is being repeated and the winter months were spent getting to grips with what lies in store for this season.

Some of our winter meetings were taken up with learning the new Laws and refresher sessions were held in order to ensure that all umpires had a chance to attend and digest the changes.

In effect, it was a three-line whip as it reflects badly on our Association if umpires turn up for games without knowing the Laws and although captains and players have a limited knowledge, some are better than others and will quickly pick up on an umpiring error.

Last season there was again confusion over the full-pitched delivery which, as all self-respecting umpires should know, is above waist high for a fast bowler and above shoulder height for a slow bowler. To add to the confusion that is just one of the proposed changes but everyone has to shoulder responsibility and learn the new Laws before this season starts.

Since the end of the 2016 season, we had a series of extremely good and well-attended meetings with excellent speakers.

It was kicked off in November when Don Topley and Graham Napier, who had recently been appointed as master in charge of cricket at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, performed a superb double act, with Don acting as question master.

Graham, who spent his entire professional career with Essex, gave a tremendous insight into the game and his contribution to it, but was extremely modest about his distinguished service.

The February meeting was taken up with general business, plus a training session, while Kelvin Morton, a former Premier League referee and now assessor of referees in the Championship to the Conference, was guest speaker in March.

He also gave an entertaining and instructive insight into his duties and dealt with man-management skills and his take on that was much appreciated by a lot of our members and thanks were also expressed to former Association chairman Gordon Rayner, who not only attends a lot of matches with Kelvin but had arranged for him to attend our meeting.

During the year, the London and East Region was reorganised by the ECB and we now belong to the East Region. The new chairman, Peter Hinstridge, spoke to the April meeting and although he was given a somewhat rough ride over certain issues, he handled them well and

put across the visions and hopes for the new organisation in a professional and dignified manner.

One departure from the norm was a mid-season meeting in June which was not well attended but highly instructive and several issues were discussed.

One of them was the problems that had been encountered over the lack of umpire appointments to Suffolk county Youth matches, but Gordon Rayner rode to the rescue and was delighted with the members' response.

He is to be congratulated on the hard work he achieved to fill the gaps in nearly 50 matches and what could have been a crisis was averted. At the annual meeting, John Goldsmith, who had held this post for many years, resigned and he was thanked for his tremendous efforts over the years.

Mel Phair and Phil Smith again worked tirelessly to appoint umpires to league and festival games but once again the amount of call-offs they have had to deal with is disappointing.

It is inconceivable that so many suddenly cry off or not turn up and this does not help their cause in any shape or form. This drum has been beaten so often, but it appears little notice is still taken. We can only wonder how the miscreants would react if they were in Mel or Phil's shoes.

Lindsay Huggins also worked wonders with the Under-12 and Under-11 Minor Counties' Festivals at Royal Hospital School, Holbrook. Although the weather brought an abrupt halt to proceedings on both the penultimate and final day of the Under-11 competition, the event once again proved a success and all umpires from three counties enjoyed the games they did.

Following the Level One course at the beginning of 2017, we welcomed five new umpires in John Gallant, Kevin Walker, Steve Christmas, David Simmonds and Gus Hunnybun to the panel and it is to be hoped that more will be forthcoming for this year.

It is always difficult to recruit and the same goes for scorers, but it is to be hoped that a new wave of both will be available for 2018, especially with the highly-respected Andy Broome back as county scorers' officer. Once again, Tom Smith organised the successful and much-enjoyed annual dinner at the Wooden Fender, Ardleigh, and our thanks are due to him for his efforts. Unfortunately, he has decided to stand down from committee duties but will organise social events in an ex-officio capacity.

Last September marked the end of John Bloomfield's three-year reign as chairman and Bill Chambers is now at the helm. The Association is extremely grateful to John for everything he has done during his term in office and he received an ECBACO 25-year tie for his efforts.

It has been a far from easy ride but John handled everything superbly and ensured all ran smoothly and for that he deserves the Association's sincere thanks and appreciation. The Association is also tremendously grateful to our president, Dave Little and his club, Ipswich and East



Suffolk, who continue to host our meetings. Where we would be without Dave's assistance I dread to think and long may our link with him and the club continue. At the annual meeting in September, the following were elected: President: Dave Little; chairman: Bill Chambers; vice-chairman: Ron Raisey; secretary: Martin White;

treasurer: Barrie Phillpotts; training officer: Terry Snell; appointments officer: Mel Phair; league call-offs: Phil Smith; county performance officer: Peter Lodge; county scorers officer: Andy Broome; Youth appointments officer: Gordon Rayner; RHS Festival appointments: Lindsay Huggins; U19 T20 competition appointments: Tom Smith.

## Three events are delivered for members

*Suffolk Cricket Coaches' Association*

THE Suffolk Coaches Association saw a new chairman take the helm last season, with Simon Manthorpe replacing Tom Huggins and new members joining the committee with Brian Rayner, Ben Wallis and Doug Frame all stepping up. The Coaching Association has set out clear guidelines to local associations which articulates clear minimum standards designed to make the local associations as effective as possible in supporting Suffolk coaches.

One of those standards is the delivery of two 'events' per season to support the Suffolk Coaches develop their skills.

Last season the Suffolk Coaching Association delivered three events for the benefit of the members.

The first was delivered by Graham Napier, who utilised his years as a professional at Essex CCC to deliver a session

covering batting, bowling and fielding at the indoor school at the Royal Hospital School.

The second was a batting workshop delivered by Andy Northcote at Culford School which was interesting and much thought provoking.

The third was delivered by Simon Guy (*right*), formerly of Yorkshire CCC and Suffolk CCC and currently the wicket-keeping expert used by the ECB to deliver the wicket-keeping module on the ECB's Performance Coach Development Programme at Derbyshire CCC.

Simon had just returned from the West Indies where he had assisted in delivering the module to coaches in Barbados.

A total of 29 coaches attended the third event at Bury St Edmunds CC which was a 90-minute action packed session.

## CLIFF PIPER MEMORIAL AWARD

### *Kajeai and Esmae claim annual awards*

TWO 13-year-olds won the Cliff Piper Memorial Award for 2017.

The male award went to Kajeai Tharaneetharan, a right-hand batsman and left-arm fast bowler, and the female award to Esmae MacGregor, a right-arm medium-pace bowler who can swing the ball both ways.

Their prize will be to attend a two-day coaching course at the MCC Indoor School at Lord's at Easter.

Kajeai scored 445 runs at an average of 34.23 for Suffolk Under-13s last season, with a highest score of 91 not out. He also took 16 wickets at 18.50, with a best return of 4-14.

He attends Colchester Royal Grammar School and scored a total of 738 runs at school and for Suffolk, and four times took four wickets in an innings.

He plays for Copdock & Old Ipswichian CC, who he represented at Under-15 level, claiming 4-14 off four overs in one match.

Kajeai, who celebrated his 13<sup>th</sup> birthday in November, moved from Ipswich to Stanway soon after to be closer to school.

He is also a talented rugby player at Ipswich Rugby Club and is a part of the Northampton Saints Developing Players' Programme.

Kajeai said: "I am so glad and worked really hard to achieve the Cliff Piper Award. Also, I want to thank all my coaches for helping me to achieve my goals.

"It is a privilege and I never thought about going to have two days coaching at Lord's. It will be an amazing experience."

The 33 victims claimed by Esmae meant she was the highest wicket-taker at Under-13 level in the country, and a key



*Esmae MacGregor  
and Kajeai  
Tharaneetharan,  
winners of the  
Cliff Piper Award  
for 2017*

member of the Suffolk side that finished top-of-the-table.

Her older brother, Joseph, is captain and opening batsman for Essex Under-15s, so Esmae spent much of her childhood years trying to bowl her brother out!

Esmae, who has only been playing cricket for a couple of seasons, lives in Lower Breton, Colchester but attends Ipswich School.

Her talent was recognised by her school, and after trialling for Suffolk in Year 7 went on to enjoy a successful first season in 2017.

Esmae, who said she was really proud to win the award, thanked her coaches – Stuart Furnmston and Sam Bennett-King – at Ipswich School and Suffolk for their support. She also credited much of her success to her team-mates.

She plays her club cricket for Hadleigh, but also plays netball for Kats and the Suffolk Academy side and hockey for Ipswich.

*All clubs are urged to put forward nominations for the annual awards. These should be sent to Toby Pound, the county secretary, at 94, Henley Road, Ipswich IP1 4NJ.*

# Sudbury lift title in only their second season back

By ANDY ABBOTT, League Secretary



*Sudbury's players are joined by members of their 2<sup>nd</sup> XI to celebrate the club's first East Anglian Premier League title.*

THE 2017 season was one of highs and lows.

There was a change in format with half the games played in the 120 overs win/lose/draw format and half in the 50-overs-a-side win/lose format.

The change in format, from feedback received, has been highly favourable and has moved the league in line with a greater number of other National Premier Leagues.

The weather for the greater part of the season was favourable.

The season as a whole was a competition between three clubs with Sudbury CC coming out on top as the overall league winners for the first time.

The destination of the title came down to the final day, to be decided as Sudbury were due to host multi-champions Swardeston CC in a winner-takes-all affair. However, the rain had the final word.

Congratulations to Sudbury on their success, as this was only their second year back in the EAPL.

None of the three feeder league winners accepted the opportunity to make the step up for one reason or another which was most disappointing.

This is something that has been addressed for the 2018 season, with the teams coming second in their respective leagues being given the opportunity to be promoted and the bottom club in the EAPL given an opportunity to remain in the league via the play-offs.

Off the field it was a difficult season having to deal with overseas players and Managed Migration.

It has to be remembered that it is not Cricketing Bodies that dictate the rules, it is the Home Office and their stance is

hardening for 2018.

Another area of concern for the season was the increase in the number of disciplinary offences that occurred in the league, although the EAPL has a record that by and large far exceeds most of the other Premier Leagues.

But cricket is a game that should be enjoyed by players, umpires and administrators. Therefore the benchmark is no cases.

My thanks once again to the league's outstanding sponsors in Gibbs Denley, who have again given their support for 2018. Thanks also to the Management Committee.

There are only four people who have been involved in the league since its inception in 1999.

Three are currently on the committee; the other is Norman Atkins, who year on year comes up trumps with the fixtures catering for one or two ground issues.

I am pleased to confirm the league has acknowledged Norman's efforts and he is now a Life Vice President.

## FINAL TABLE 2017

	P	W	L	D	C/A	BP	Pts
Sudbury	22	16	4	1	0	30	445
Swardeston	22	14	3	3	2	44	424
Great Witchingham	22	12	5	3	1	78	394
Cambridge Granta	22	10	5	4	3	65	343
Copdock & O.I.	22	10	8	3	1	56	333
Frinton On Sea	22	8	8	4	2	88	327
Vauxhall Mallards	22	8	10	4	0	60	296
Burwell	22	5	13	2	2	48	244
Mildenhall	22	9	11	3	2	50	240
Norwich	22	5	13	4	0	87	226
Bury St Edmunds	22	7	12	4	2	81	207
Horsford	22	5	10	6	1	64	186



# Sudbury claim T20 crown in nail-biting final



*The Sudbury and Haverhill teams with the trophy before the final.*

*By Andrew Blanchard*

THE Suffolk T20 Cup culminated in a thrilling final between Sudbury Talbots and Haverhill Knights at Bury St. Edmunds C.C..

The Talbots saw off Felixstowe in the last four, while the Knights took on the Copdock Crusaders and squeezed home by three runs to set up the final.

Both Sudbury and Haverhill, who had never reached the final before, served up a classic, with Sudbury sneaking home by two runs.

In the final, Sudbury set a competitive 165 with good contributions from Suffolk pair Adam Mansfield (38) and

Darren Batch (33). In response a 50 from Adam Dellar set a platform for the underdogs that looked to have set them up for a giant-killing.

Some tight bowling from Sudbury seemed to have swayed the game their way until a six from Tom Bonham from the first ball of the final over bowled by Ben Reece appeared to put the game back in Haverhill's favour.

It was Reece though who held his nerve, taking the wicket of Bonham and clinching the title for his side to add to their EAPL crown.

The competition, in its second year in this format, grew from ten teams taking part in 2016 to 20 in 2017.

*Sudbury with the T20 Cup. Back row, left to right: Darren Batch, Phil Halliday, Keelan Waldock, Kenny Moulton-Day, Dan Poole, Ryan Vickery, Al Younger. Front row: Jonny Amos, Ben Reece, Adam Mansfield, Olly Burns, Billy Moulton-Day.*





# Bury Bashers claim Under-19 T20 honours



*The winning Bury St Edmunds team with the trophy. Back row, left to right: Joel Meredith, Ollie Self, Oliver Riddick, Josh Cantrell, Luke Du Plooy (team manager), Ellis Edwards, George Loyd, Alfie Marston. Middle row: Ben Curran. Front row: Jordan Francis (coach), Charlie Cook, Billy Riddick, Ben Whittaker, Max Whittaker.*

*By Andrew Blanchard*

AFTER losing out in the 2016 final, the Bury Bashers were finally crowned Under-19 NatWest T20 Suffolk champions in the third year of the competition.

Finals day held at Bury St Edmunds CC saw the semi-final match ups between Easton Exocets and Copdock Crusaders and hosts Bury Bashers and Woolpit Wolverines.

It was Bury and Copdock who won through to the final, with Bury overcoming their east Suffolk rivals to lift the

title for the first time.

The competition, which saw 600 clubs across England and Wales take part, was developed through player insight to combat a national trend within clubs – young players dropping out of the game after Under-15s.

The competition has been a huge success and has allowed young players to take ownership in their club to create the cricketing experience they want – playing with their friends, fast lively matches, a great social atmosphere and a chance to make the club look and feel different.

## England Ashes-winning captains at Copdock

TWO former England Ashes-winning captains visited Copdock & Old Ipswichian Cricket Club at the start of last season.

The club was chosen as one of only three 'showcase' clubs across the whole of the country for the NatWest CricketForce weekend.

Alastair Cook and Mike Gatting joined more than 100 members in the 'GroundForce meets Changing Rooms' style makeover to assist the club in completing stage three of their pavilion redevelopment.

The club were tasked with completing ten small projects on the day which included laying a patio outside the front of the extended pavilion, fencing and replacing decking.

Cook, who also undertook a round of media interviews and joined in a coaching session on the outfield with the club's junior members, helped to put up netting (left) and also painted the scoreboard.

Gatting, who was involved in renovating the scoreboard, praised the club for its fantastic facilities which will also benefit the local community.





# Solid Woolpit claim Suffolk runners-up shield

By ALAN ROGERS, assistant secretary

NO NEW teams entered the Championship for 2017, but Woolpit 1<sup>st</sup> XI were welcomed back from the EAPL, with 2016 Division One champions, Mildenhall, gaining promotion to the EAPL without having to contest any play-off matches.

For much of the season, the weather was reasonably kind although not as warm perhaps as most players and spectators alike would have preferred. Alas, the last few weeks were plagued with rain which curtailed, or even prevented, play in many title-deciding fixtures.

The Frintongate affair also cast a dark shadow over the league as the action also transferred from the cricket ground to the courtroom – a situation that must not happen again.

There were no obvious favourites to win the Division One title with Mildenhall now in the EAPL, but would the experience gained by Woolpit in their EAPL the previous season serve them well? The first few weeks failed to produce any clear front runners as all the teams had lost at least one match by the second Saturday in May.

By the start of June, newly-promoted Elmstead had their noses in front by virtue of having lost just one match. Maldon, Woolpit, and Wivenhoe, having each lost two matches, were all within 20 points of Elmstead.

To the surprise of many pundits, Elmstead continued on their winning ways, apart from a tie against Mistley and one reverse against Wivenhoe. With four weeks to go Wivenhoe trailed Elmstead by 19 points, with Woolpit a further 23 points in arrears.

They suffered two defeats each before rain forced the abandonment of Wivenhoe's visit to Elmstead, a match that Wivenhoe were well on course to win. Elmstead secured the Championship on the last weekend thanks to the ten points they earned from their abandoned match at Braintree, meaning Wivenhoe's 20-point win left them just four agonising points in arrears.

Formerly of Wivenhoe, Elmstead's Ryan Vickery (1,100 runs) was vital to their success whilst much praise goes to Liam Hope-Shackley (1,407 runs and a new record

individual score of 225 not out) for Wivenhoe.

Woolpit maintained their solid form right to the end of the season to enable them to remain ahead of Maldon and to collect the Suffolk runners-up shield.

It was not the best of years for Braintree as their three wins was some way short of keeping them in the division. They will join Haverhill, who finished one win and eight points behind Worlington, in Division Two in 2018.

Coggeshall were firm favourites to win Division Two as they would still have been a Division One team had it not been for penalties being imposed for fielding two overseas players in several matches the previous season. Their journey back to the top division nearly went awry in their first match when East Bergholt looked to be on course for a comfortable victory only to lose by six runs following a batting collapse.

Although they did lose one match in May, a further 11 wins put Coggeshall firmly on course for the title before losing to Ipswich & East Suffolk on week 14. By that point of the season, they had established a 31 and 32-point lead over near neighbours Ipswich and Copdock & OI II respectively, both having secured nine wins.

On the penultimate Saturday, Ipswich travelled to Coggeshall for what was potentially the title decider. Unfortunately the only winner was rain as the match had to be abandoned. On the final weekend, both teams recorded 20-point wins, meaning that Coggeshall had maintained their eight-point lead over Ipswich.

Whilst Coggeshall's George Hanham (805 runs) got the better of Ipswich's Joe Rusby (785 runs) in the bowling department Damian Smith (58 wickets) held sway over Will Blackwell (47 wickets).

West Suffolk neighbours Mildenhall II and Lakenheath both gathered seven wins and 228 points which was sufficient to avoid the relegation zone. Heading to Division Three for 2018 were Dunmow and Easton.

After nine seasons of trying, Little Bardfield finally managed to escape from Division Three – a good

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# MARSHALL HATCHICK TWO COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP

## Final League Tables 2017 Season

<b>DIVISION ONE</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>DIVISION EIGHT</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Elmstead	22	14	1	4	3	340	Maldon III	18	12	0	6	0	265
Wivenhoe	22	13	1	6	2	336	Frinton-on-Sea III	18	11	0	5	2	262
Woolpit	22	12	0	7	3	317	Abberton II	18	11	0	6	1	258
Maldon	22	11	1	9	1	298	Colchester Cavaliers	18	11	0	7	0	253
Witham <>	22	10	1	10	1	281	Dunmow II	18	9	0	8	1	233
Hadleigh	22	10	0	10	2	280	Copdock & O.I.'s III	18	8	0	8	2	215
Halstead	22	9	0	10	3	275	Copford II	18	7	0	9	2	212
Mistley	22	9	1	9	3	265	Ipswich & East Suffolk II	18	7	0	10	1	198
Frinton II ^	22	10	0	10	2	256	Ipswich III	18	4	0	12	2	155
Worlington	22	7	0	11	4	238	Elveden *	18	4	0	13	1	104
Haverhill	22	6	1	13	2	230							
Braintree	22	3	0	15	4	177							
<b>DIVISION TWO</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>DIVISION NINE EAST</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Coggeshall	22	16	0	3	3	364	Eye & District	16	14	0	2	0	284
Ipswich	22	16	0	4	2	356	Kesgrave II	16	10	0	5	1	236
Copdock & O.I. II	22	13	0	6	3	313	St. Margaret's II	16	10	0	6	0	222
Copford	22	10	0	8	4	281	Mistley III	16	8	0	7	1	198
Clacton	22	10	0	10	2	266	Stradbroke	16	8	0	8	0	192
East Bergholt	22	10	0	11	1	256	Felixstowe & Corinthians III	16	8	0	8	0	189
Kelvedon & Feering	22	8	0	10	4	251	Yoxford II	16	2	0	11	3	112
Ipswich & East Suffolk	22	8	0	12	2	247	DBSL *	16	4	0	10	2	97
Lakenheath	22	7	0	14	1	228	Woodbridge & O.W. II *	16	4	0	11	1	94
Mildenhall II	22	7	0	11	4	228							
Dunmow	22	4	0	15	3	201	<b>DIVISION NINE SOUTH</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Easton	22	7	0	11	4	199	Coggeshall III	16	13	0	2	1	268
<b>DIVISION THREE</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>	Boxted	16	9	0	7	0	214
Little Bardfield Village	22	16	0	4	2	330	Witham III ~	16	9	0	7	0	201
Sudbury II	22	13	0	6	3	322	Kelvedon & Feering III	16	8	0	8	0	198
Bury St. Edmunds II	22	11	0	6	5	292	Eight Ash Green II	16	8	0	7	1	195
Long Melford	22	11	0	7	4	286	West Bergholt II	16	8	0	6	2	190
Tuddenham	22	10	0	9	3	281	Harwich & Dovercourt II	16	6	0	9	1	161
Woolpit II	22	10	0	9	3	278	West Mersea II	16	4	0	9	3	137
Mistley II	22	10	0	9	3	277	Maldon IV	16	3	0	13	0	119
Brockley	22	10	0	9	3	272							
Exning	22	8	0	11	3	247	<b>DIVISION NINE WEST</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Haverhill II	22	9	0	11	2	237	Bardwell	16	14	0	1	1	281
Halstead II	22	2	0	18	2	155	Lakenheath II	16	10	0	5	1	215
Wivenhoe II	22	4	0	15	3	151	Nowton II	16	9	0	7	0	211
<b>DIVISION FOUR</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>	Stowmarket II	16	8	0	7	1	194
Kesgrave	22	19	0	3	0	395	Woolpit IV	16	5	0	7	4	172
Abberton	22	18	0	3	1	377	Bury St. Edmunds IV	16	5	0	11	0	165
Walsham-le-Willows	22	18	0	3	1	376	Brockley II	16	5	0	10	1	149
Felixstowe & Corinthians	22	14	0	6	2	330	Haverhill III	16	4	0	10	2	141
Coggeshall II	22	10	0	9	3	269	Exning II *	16	7	0	9	0	108
Woodbridge & O.W.	22	11	0	9	2	261							
Elmstead II	22	9	0	11	2	253	<b>SUNDAY LEAGUE</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Maldon II	22	8	1	12	1	235	Great Bromley	18	16	0	2	0	319
St. Margaret's	22	6	1	13	2	209	Wivenhoe	18	13	0	5	0	276
Mildenhall III	22	2	0	17	3	137	Frinton-on-Sea	18	10	0	7	1	248
Hadleigh II	22	2	0	18	2	136	Abberton	18	8	0	10	0	201
Brightlingsea *	22	5	0	17	0	132	Mistley	18	7	0	11	0	183
<b>DIVISION FIVE</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>	Brightlingsea #	18	6	0	12	0	162
Stowmarket	22	16	0	4	2	355	Copford *	18	2	0	15	1	82
Eight Ash Green	22	16	0	3	3	350							
Nacton	22	15	0	7	0	329	<b>LADIES CHALLENGE</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Witham II	22	13	0	7	2	300	Woolpit	9	8	0	1	0	152
Nowton	22	11	0	9	2	288	Mildenhall	9	6	0	3	0	129
Ipswich II	22	11	0	10	1	273	Easton	9	3	0	6	0	83
Kelvedon & Feering II	22	9	0	11	2	246	Thriplow NCI	9	1	0	8	0	34
Needham Market	22	8	0	10	4	235							
Harwich & Dovercourt	22	9	0	12	1	229	<b>LADIES T-20 A</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Earl Stonham	22	5	0	14	3	210	Mistley	9	7	0	2	0	138
Great Bromley	22	7	0	13	2	209	Copdock & O.I.	9	4	0	5	0	112
Yoxford	22	0	0	20	2	89	Felixstowe & Corinthians	9	4	0	5	0	98
<b>DIVISION SIX</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>	Bury St. Edmunds <>#	9	3	0	6	0	38
Stowupland	18	13	1	3	1	290							
Worlington II	18	10	0	6	2	242	<b>LADIES T-20 B</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>
St. Osyth	18	10	0	8	0	229	Saffron Walden	10	9	0	0	1	182
Easton II	18	9	1	8	0	218	Copdock & O.I. II	10	8	0	1	1	167
West Bergholt	18	9	0	8	1	218	Felixstowe & Corinthians II	10	7	0	3	0	145
Braintree II	18	7	0	9	2	206	Ipswich & East Suffolk	10	6	0	4	0	132
Bury St. Edmunds III	18	7	0	10	1	199	Hadleigh	10	5	0	5	0	115
Long Melford II	18	7	0	10	1	195	Maldon	10	4	0	5	1	110
Tendring	18	7	0	11	0	194	Melton St. Audrys	10	5	0	5	0	110
West Mersea	18	6	0	12	0	153	Battisford	10	4	0	5	1	77
<b>DIVISION SEVEN</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>Pts</b>	Bardwell	10	1	0	8	1	60
Battisford	18	14	0	4	0	299	Frinton-on-Sea <>#	10	3	0	7	0	55
Sudbourne Hall	18	13	0	4	1	285	Shotley Peninsula ~	10	1	0	8	1	10
Worlingworth	18	11	0	6	1	255							
Felixstowe & Corinthians II	18	11	0	7	0	246							
Melton St. Audrys	18	8	0	10	0	214							
East Bergholt II	18	8	0	9	1	206							
Woolpit III	18	6	0	11	1	186							
Mildenhall IV	18	6	0	11	1	168							
Sudbury III	18	5	0	11	2	164							
Halstead III *	18	4	0	13	1	122							

\* 30pts deducted  
 ~ 25pts deducted  
 ^ 16pts deducted  
 <># 15pts deducted  
 # 10pts deducted  
 5 pts deducted

performance from a small village club in a division containing a number of 2<sup>nd</sup> XI sides from EAPL and First Division clubs.

Bury St Edmunds II started off the brightest, compiling a six-match unbeaten run, with Long Melford and Sudbury II in reasonably close attendance. By mid-season Sudbury II had established a decent lead, with Bury and Long Melford dropping back and Little Bardfield now in second place but some 37 points adrift have lost four matches already. However, what was to propel Little Bardfield to success was the fact that their fourth defeat on June 10<sup>th</sup> was to be their last reverse. That, and the performances of the Graham brothers, captain Matt (577 runs and 34 wickets) and Tom (493 runs and 28 wickets). The last 13 weeks produced 11 wins and two rain-affected abandonments. Robbie O'Donnell, with 508 runs and 32 wickets, helped Sudbury to keep ahead of Bury and Long Melford and finish as runners-up. It was surprising to see that Halstead II and Wivenhoe II could only manage six wins between them and Haverhill II, who finished third bottom, were some 82 points better off.

A club on the rise are Kesgrave. They have steadily climbed the divisions since winning Division Seven in 2012 and, having won Division Five in 2016, took Division Four by storm last season.

Their record of 19 wins out of 22 matches, accumulating 395 points, was by far the top performance of the season. Not surprising when you have two batsmen, Mike Worne (950 runs) and Ben Colver (865 runs), in such good form all year. They also have some good young bowlers who weren't far off the top of the bowling averages.

However, Kesgrave were pushed all the way by Abberton and Walsham-le-Willows, who both recorded 18 wins and finished less than 20 points adrift. Abberton had a lot to thank Kevin Grant (889 runs) for as they managed to claim the runners-up berth by one point, both clubs having identical records. Unlucky for the second year running, Walsham were probably rueing Woolpit's return to the Two Counties from the EAPL.

A single-point gap also helped Mildenhall III to escape relegation, even though they suffered a poor season, both their wins coming against Hadleigh II. Hadleigh II also won a mere two matches and fell back to Division Five along with Brightlingsea, who recorded five wins but were deducted points having conceded three matches. The second back-to-back title winners of the season were Stowmarket in Division Five. A





*Cody Golding bowling for Worlington in their Division One match at Halstead in May which the home team won by 65 runs.*

stellar performance from Dale Watling, with 1,104 runs and 37 wickets, enabled them to keep ahead of Eight Ash Green. Come the end of the season there was just five points difference between first and second, with both teams recording 16 wins from 22 fixtures.

Keith Hammond's 767 runs and 21 wickets for Eight Ash Green kept the pressure on Stowmarket all season, despite the Essex side losing both head-to-head fixtures. The title could have been won a touch more comfortably had Stowmarket's last two matches not been abandoned.

Nacton had a particularly good second half of the season, their eight wins being enough to finish above Witham II and not too far behind Eight Ash Green. Whereas Great Bromley failed to remain in Division Five having chalked up seven wins, it was a case of 'alas poor Yoxford' with no wins out of 20 and two rain cancellations. Earl Stonham had a lucky escape from relegation, with a skin-of-the-teeth one point better total than Great Bromley.

Having arrived from different divisions, Stowupland (winners of Division Seven in 2016) and Worlington II (relegated from Division Five in 2016) held sway in Division Six for most of the season. Approaching the end of July, the challenge to the promotion places appeared to come from Tendring and St Osyth, although there was quite a narrow point difference between third and bottom.

The title decider occurred on the third from last match of the season when Worlington lost by ten runs on their visit to Stowupland. Stowupland had much to thank Tom Wray for his 830 runs and the two Gregorys, Scott and Keiran, who collected 59 wickets between them.

West Mersea's six wins might have been enough to avoid the drop from some divisions but not in this competitive division. They returned to Division Seven for 2018 along with Tendring whose form slumped after beating St Osyth on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

With Battisford and Sudbourne Hall both in contention for the promotion places, Division Seven had a remarkably similar look to the previous year's Division Eight.

Worlingworth were again in contention for promotion out of Division Seven, but a couple of late defeats dented their hopes, although they did finish third, one place better than in 2016. The two captains led from the front, with Battisford's Jordan Peacock taking 47 wickets and Sudbourne Hall's Alan Burt claiming 40. Fitting perhaps that Battisford managed to win the division by gaining one

more victory than Sudbourne Hall.

At the foot of the table, Halstead III finished some way adrift, but by virtue of an extra four points Mildenhall IV survived, leading to the demise of Sudbury III.

Division Eight turned out to be one of the most competitive divisions in the championship, with the top three teams separated by only seven points. The unlucky team in third place were Abberton II, but breathing a sigh of relief were Maldon III and Frinton on Sea III. David Richardson's 27 wickets for Maldon obviously held more sway than veteran Pat Patel's 550 runs for

Frinton as Maldon prevailed by a mere three points.

It was an unhappy year for Ipswich III and Elveden as they both managed only four wins at the foot of the table. Sadly for Elveden, they suffered a number of penalties having conceded several matches.

Propelled by 676 runs and 21 wickets from Jordan Warren, Eye & District claimed the Eastern section of Division Nine with a commendable record of 14 wins and just two losses. Sympathy for Kesgrave II as they finished runners-up for the second year running, although they ended a distance away.

Having been relegated the previous year, Coggeshall III stamped their authority on the Southern section, winning 13 out of their 16 matches. Glen Bolton's 655 runs and Gary Booker's 35 wickets were to the fore.

After winning in the West the previous year, Lakenheath II asked to stay in Division Nine. This set up another tussle with Bardwell, but with a much better ending for Bardwell, as 485 runs from Rick Wakeman and 337 from Chris Grimwood ensured that Bardwell finished a massive 66 points ahead of Lakenheath II.

On one hand, it was pleasing to see in an increase in the number of teams competing in the ladies' competitions, but it would have been preferable to have a few more teams competing in the 35-over competition.

The biggest disappointment was the loss of Ipswich CC, who had been in the competition since its inception in 2004. With just five teams in 2017, it was decided to play 35-over games home and away plus one T20.

This format obviously suited Woolpit and Mildenhall as they dominated the division all summer. With Sheldene Ford-Keeble (338), Helen Atkinson (327), and Natalie Samuels (326) leading the run scoring charts, it was no surprise that Woolpit headed the division. Eight wins and just one defeat, which came at the hands of Mildenhall, saw Woolpit collect the trophy for the first time since 2013.

The T20 competition was split into two sections due to the increase in numbers. Also, it would be unfair to pitch the new teams against the stronger teams who had been in the league for a number of years.

Five teams competed in Section A which turned into a personal triumph for Candy Cornelius, with 288 runs and 15 wickets, as she led Mistley to their first title since 2011. After a difficult first season in the Challenge, the switch to Section

*Continued bottom of Page 62*

## Two Counties 'A' make it nine wins in ten!

A VERY strong Marshall Hatchick Two Counties 'A' team won the John Hutton Over-60s Shield for the ninth time in ten years following a dominant performance.

The Two Counties comfortably beat the Suffolk Alliance by 53 runs in the final of the annual four-team tournament which was played in fine weather at Ipswich CC.

Colin Walters (36 not out), Kevin Dobson (36 not out) and Steve Bulger (28 not out) scored the bulk of the runs as the Two Counties totalled 154-6.

Simon Sargeant was the only batsman to make an impact in the Suffolk Alliance reply of 101-8 as the Two Counties bowlers made sure that they kept a firm grip on the shield for another 12 months.

The consolation final saw the Two Counties 'B' team beat host club Ipswich by 18 runs.

Trevor Money top-scored with an unbeaten 35 in the Two Counties' total of 128-7 while Ken Jones and Nigel Peartree took three and two wickets respectively.

Peartree's undefeated 37 proved in vain as Ipswich fell short of their target, closing on 110-6.

Ipswich had lost by 30 runs to the Two Counties 'A' team in the morning semi-finals.

Walters (36 not out) and Dobson 34 (not out) were both unbeaten and Don Curtis contributed 25 as the Two



*Steve Bulger, who scored 28 not out in the final for the winning Two Counties team.*

Counties compiled 145-2.

Peartree (36 not out), Jones (26 not out) and Ricky Ratford (24) ensured Ipswich made a fist of it, but their 115-4 was not enough.

The second semi-final saw the Two Counties 'B' team restricted to 93-4, with Trevor Money making 29, before the Suffolk Alliance replied with 97-4, Andrew Gallant scoring 35 not out, to win by six wickets.

## SUFFOLK OVER-50S T20 INVITATION TOURNAMENT

### Hosts Ipswich win tournament for first time

THE Suffolk Over-50s T20 Invitation Tournament was won for the first time by host club Ipswich.

Ipswich comfortably beat 2016 winners Hertfordshire by six wickets with five balls to spare in the final at their Clay Hall ground as the batsmen excelled and few wickets fell on a sunny day.

Herts, batting first, made 154-2, with Richard Wilson top-scoring with 40 not out and both former Suffolk batsman Simon Clements and Jon Mather reaching the retirement mark of 35.

Kevin Dobson (36 not out) and skipper Steve Bumphrey (35 not out) shared a productive partnership in Ipswich's reply, with Nigel Parmenter, Colin Walters and Ken Jones all chipping in.

The third and fourth play-off match resulted in an eight-wicket win for the Two Counties, who chased down the

Suffolk Alliance's 149-2 with eight balls unused as Trevor Money and Simon Sargeant both scored 35 not out.

Ipswich had defeated the Marshall Hatchick Two Counties Championship side by 14 runs in their semi-final which could have gone either way earlier in the day.

Graham Underwood finished on 40 not out and there were useful contributions from Walters, Parmenter and Paul Pallant as Ipswich posted 157-5.

The Two Counties closed their reply on 143-4, Steve Henderson scoring 38 and Adrian Stockton 31, both undefeated, with Jones and Pallant picking up two wickets apiece.

In the other semi-final on the adjoining pitch, Hertfordshire made exactly the same score as Ipswich, with the Suffolk Alliance side unable to rise to the challenge and losing by 38 runs.

*From Page 61*

B of the T20 worked wonders for Saffron Walden. Only one weather-related cancellation prevented a 100 per cent record, with nine wins from ten fixtures. Lori Morrison topping the averages with 11 wickets at an average of 3.64. The decline in Sunday cricket continues to be a concern as the 2017 Sunday League was contested by just seven teams. However, it still remains a good introduction to league cricket for a youngster. A total of 843 runs from Elliot Mann and 25 wickets from Tom Dodd helped a young Great

Bromley team prevent Wivenhoe from winning the competition for a third successive season. During the season, in which each team played each other three times, Great Bromley won 16 of their 18 matches.

Long-time members of the Two Counties, Exning CC, delivered a blow to the league following the conclusion of the season when they announced that as from 2018, they would join forces with Burwell CC and compete in the Cambridgeshire League.



# Successful tour to Yorkshire to be repeated

*Marshall Hatchick Two Counties veterans' review by match manager GEOFF NEWMAN*

AS EVER, our Representative side had a full season with no less than 53 games arranged. Unfortunately, we lost quite a number to the weather, cancellations, etc. In addition, a number of county games had to be rearranged at short notice which affected availability.

During the season we did lose two of the Two Counties Seniors, Russ Abbott, which was a huge loss, and Andrea McNally, who sadly passed away. They will be sorely missed by everyone.

We are indebted to the clubs and individuals who go out of their way to make sure that we are always well looked after. Our captains during the season, Pat Patel, Edgar Dunkley, Richard Kemp and Bruce Tompkins, who helped when Richard was unavailable, were all a great source of help with arrangements for the games and selection of teams. Richard has relinquished the captaincy of the Over-70s; we would like to thank him for all his work in the past and welcome Bruce Tompkins who has taken over this role.

For the record the results were as follows:

	P	W	D	L	A
<b>Over-50s:</b>	29	11	2	9	7
<b>Over-60s:</b>	17	8	1	4	4
<b>Over-70s:</b>	7	1	1	3	2

In the end-of-season Suffolk Invitation Tournament our Over-50s team lost in the semi-final to Ipswich, whilst the Over-60s team retained the John Hutton Trophy. Both these events took place at Ipswich Cricket Club at Clay Hall.

As usual, we were well supported by a host of umpires and scorers who regularly turned up to make sure that we were a professional organisation. Without their help the games would not take place or run as smoothly. To name a few; Ray Digweed, Barrie Philpotts, Charles Revell, Hugh Newman, Phil Smith, Bob Barnes, Mel Mildenhall, Lesley Scott, Alan Rogers, Yvonne Dolphin-Cooper, Steve Dack, Phil Cox, Geoff Cullum, Kevin Walker, Bob Barrell, Tony Seaman, John Abbott and Peter Howes.

During the season we were made welcome by our member clubs who went out of their way to make sure both our teams and our visitors enjoyed their games. The clubs that staged our games plus entertained us in their cricket weeks were Abberton, Mistley, Long Melford, Ipswich, Elmstead, Halstead, Maldon, Ipswich and East Suffolk, Eight Ash Green, Billericay, Kelvedon and Feering, Witham, Copford and Frinton. We are indebted to the officials of these clubs and particularly the groundsmen and kitchen staff.

We had a very successful tour back to Yorkshire, with a total touring party of 34 people; the hospitality received was excellent. We played four games, winning two and losing two; they were all close games. We are planning to visit there again this year, during the last week in June, with slightly different venues.

There were a few new names attending the annual Golf Day at Clacton-on-Sea golf course.



*Mick Thew batting with Mark Paget keeping wicket.*

Ian Robinson's guests were his son and son-in-law (both well under 50 years of age!), whilst Simon 'Eggy' Everitt brought along Darren Kempster. Stuart Berger introduced Rod Cook and Steve Dack, who plays his golf at Colchester Golf Club, was also a debutant.

Although there was a chilly wind, the sun shone briefly and the golf was enjoyed in dry conditions. Defending champion Rod Fowler cut himself two shots, despite his club handicap being already cut by two since winning the previous year. His 39 points was just good enough to retain the title, as Craig Robinson – playing off a handicap of 10 – missed a very short putt on the last green to deny him outright victory.

In the end Craig was second, losing to Rod on count back. Andrew Porter (guest of Rupert 'Mr Bear' Haxell) came third on count back from Vicki Khan and Martin Southwell.

The best back nine prize went to Rupert Haxell with a magnificent 23 points (which doesn't say much for his front nine!) and the front nine was shared by Craig Robinson and Martin Southwell, who took the prize as Craig had already won one, with 19 points.

As we had five groups of four, we had a team event, won by Vicki Khan, Steve Dack, Rod Fowler and Andrew Porter, with a total of 137 points. The day finished with an excellent meal, at which our 50+ captain Pat Patel joined us to present the prizes.

I would also like to express my appreciation to John Gallant, who organised and managed the tour, Bruce Tompkins, Mark Paget and Martin Southwell for all their assistance during the season.

Well, another successful season concluded. Let's hope 2018 will bring us more enjoyment in the spirit of cricket. This will be my 31st year in this job and let's hope that it can be happy and successful.

## OVER-50s RESULTS

**Two Counties v Suffolk Over-50s.** Match cancelled due to bad weather.

**Two Counties 249-3 dec** (J Gallant 68, S Henderson 65, E Davy 62no). **Essex Seniors 145-7** (J Stuck 85, M Comber 2-31). Match drawn.

**Two Counties 203-8** (J Gallant 55, E Davy 50, D Griffiths 2-10, K Cooper 2-26). **Essex Police Veterans 20-2** (C Hills 2-14). Match abandoned due to rain.

**Two Counties 291-5** (A Stockton 103, S Henderson 72no, J Gallant 55, R Stannard 2-37). **Suffolk Alliance 180-7** (P Maynard 45, M Southwell 3-11). Two Counties won by 111 runs.

**Two Counties 242-6** (S Henderson 53, J Wiseman 50, T Charrington 50, C Sparrow 3-37). **Suffolk CAMRA 78** (C Sparrow 38 no, M Southwell 4-32). Two Counties won by 164 runs.

**Two Counties 236-4 dec** (S Henderson 61, N Meakin 58no, K Ross 56no, J King 2-39). **Kelvedon & Feering XI 116** (M Warner 26, M Southwell 6-42, T Oram 3-29). Two Counties won by 120 runs.

**Two Counties 210-5** (S Henderson 71 ret hurt, K Ross 40, C Roper 3-40). **Halstead Seniors 212-7** (M Johnson 103no, C Hills 3-39, K Ross 2-47). Halstead Seniors won by 3 wkts.

**Two Counties 269-3 dec** (P Tomkins 128no, N Meakin 69, P Crego 2-60). **Nomads 270-6** (J Thornton 74, T Oram 3-90). Nomads won by 4 wkts.

**Two Counties v Gents of Essex CID.** Cancelled - waterlogged ground.

**Two Counties 190-6** (P Tomkins 67, M Southwell 38no, G Wellen 3-49). **Suffolk Alliance 136-7** (L Cruse 50, A Gallant 48, M Southwell 2-17). Two Counties won by 54 runs.

**Two Counties 277-4** (S Henderson 124, N Meakin 68, B Tompkins 4-82). **Long Melford Seniors 221-5** (J Stuck 99, M Thew 47, T Oram 3-37). Two Counties won by 56 runs.

**Two Counties 182-6 dec** (S Henderson 60, M Paget 40, M Southwell 36no). **Maldon 183-4** (M Shinn 64no, P Bardo 49). Maldon won by 6 wkts.

**Eight Ash Green 193-6 dec** (L Keeble 74, J Young 58no, M Southwell 3-35). **Two Counties 66** (J Harris 4-17, P O'Donnell 3-7, T Lee 2-11). Eight Ash Green won by 127 runs.

**Two Counties v President's XI.** Cancelled - waterlogged ground.

**Two Counties v Copford.** Match cancelled due to waterlogged ground.

**Two Counties 240-8 dec** (M Southwell 71 no, S Everett 2-42, J Orriss 2-26, A Uren 2-32). **Mistley Seniors 240-9** (R Mills 100no, C O'Connell 50, C Hills 3-56, A Parsons 3-54). Match drawn.

**Ipswich & East Suffolk 173-8** (D Bloomfield 33, K Ross 3-24, T Shahid 2-17, S Stobbs 2-24). **Two Counties 177-5** (G Artindale 43, P Patel 33, J Lander 2-29). Two Counties won by 5 wkts.

**Two Counties 202-4** (S Sergeant 104no, J Stuck 43no, B Tinha 2-29). **Witham 203-5** (T Jackson 56, J Sambrook 56, A Parsons 2-24, M Southwell 2-45). Witham won by 5 wkts.

**Two Counties v Norfolk Over-50s.** Match cancelled due to bad weather.

**Two Counties 176-6** (K Ross 54no, G Artindale 45, J Reeves 3-7). **Middlesex Over-50s 177-4** (A Haig 43, A Marshall 43no, R Bonnywell 34no). Middlesex Over-60s won by 6 wkts.

**Halstead Seniors 124-4** (J Rose 62, G Dicker 42, B Tompkins 2-14) v **Two Counties.** Match abandoned due to rain.

**Two Counties 202-4** (B Tompkins 55, S Sergeant 65no, T Shahid 2-31). **Ipswich 184-5** (N Parmenter 76, K Ross 45, A Stockton 2-25). Two Counties won by 18 runs.

## TOUR TO YORKSHIRE

**Two Counties 162-8** (J Gallant 79, S Robinson 2-8). **Embsay 165-5** (B Hodgson 44, S Bulger 2-32). Embsay won by 5 wkts.

**Steeton 198-6** (Wynne 40, Perce 43, Howack 39no, S Stobbs 3-47, C Hills 2-20). **Two Counties 181** (S Isaac 42, S Stobbs 35, Tennant 3-14, Akrigg 3-19). Steeton won by 17 runs.

**Glusburn 145** (Barker 35, D Hinchcliffe 3-28, M Southwell 2-16, C Withams 2-30). **Two Counties 147-7** (N Meakin 45, Windell 3-28). Two Counties won by 3 wkts.

**Yorkshire Over-60s Select XI 140-6** (Allan 35, A Cooke 31 no, C Hills 2-15, S Carpenter 2-17). **Two Counties 144-5** (P Patel 34, D Curtis 33, S Bulger 32no, Allan 2-25). Two Counties won by 5 wkts.

## SUFFOLK OVER-50s INVITATION

### T20 TOURNAMENT

Semi-Finals: **Ipswich 157-5** (C Walters 35, G underwood 40, A Stockton 3-

16, T Shahid 2-37). **Two Counties 143-4** (S Henderson 38, A Stockton 31, K Jones 2-27, P Pallant 2-33). Ipswich won by 14 runs.

**Hertfordshire 157-5** (J Pierre 36, J Stanley 36, D Sinha 2-13). **Suffolk Alliance 119-7** (J Lewis 22, J Stanley 2-19). Hertfordshire won by 38 runs. Third & Fourth Place Play-Off: **Suffolk Alliance 149-2** (N Bloch 37, E Davy 34). **Two Counties 150-2** (T Money 35, S Sergeant 35). Two Counties won by 8 wkts.

Final: **Hertfordshire 154-2** (R Wilson 40, J Mahter 35, S Clements 35). **Ipswich 155-4** (K Dobson 36, S Bumphrey 35). Ipswich won by 6 wkts.

## OVER-60s RESULTS

**Two Counties 215-5** (J Stuck 52, A Sims 51, J Clark 2-28). **Suffolk Over-60s 214-8** (C Watson 51, B Tompkins 2-22, B Turley 2-55). Two Counties won by 1 run.

**Billericay Veterans 171-6 dec** (P Wakefield 62, M Southwell 2-22, G Webster 2-37). **Two Counties 172-3** (S Stobbs 79no, S Mehotra 3-53). Two Counties won by 7 wkts.

**Surrey Over-60s 184-3** (P Furner 84 no, G Ross 82no, D Hinchcliffe 3-12). **Two Counties did not bat.** Match abandoned due to rain.

**R Kemp's XI 103** (B Ball 29, M Southwell 2-3, I Robinson 2-12). **Two Counties 106-5** (A Sims 38, L Hall 2-19). Two Counties won by 5 wkts.

**Two Counties v Surrey Over-60s.** Cancelled - waterlogged ground.

**Two Counties 229-9** (R Black 120, M Thompson 3-36). **Hockerill Veterans 231-5** (P Smith 134, G Webster 2-49). Hockerill Veterans won by 5 wkts.

**Chelmer Veterans 234-6 dec** (M John 67, P Adcock 45). **Two Counties 211-7** (R Black 50, G Artindale 45, M John 2-26, D Griffiths 2-30). Match drawn.

**Chelmer Veterans 26-3 v Two Counties.** Match abandoned due to rain  
**Two Counties 144-8** (A Sims 31, B Ball 31, G Hutton 3-28, J Young 2-31, Ali Day 2-30). **Mistley 138-9** (R Mills 54, A Mills 30, G Webster 3-19, S Carpenter 3-32). Two Counties won by 6 runs.

**Two Counties v Norfolk Over-60s.** Match cancelled due to bad weather.

**Billericay Veterans 174-7** (S Sood 111no, S Carpenter 2-32). **Two Counties 175-6** (M Thew 64, D Muldoon 2-40, P Wakefield 2-40). Two Counties won by 4 wkts.

**Hertfordshire Over-60s 247-8** (D Baker 99, J Dovey 68, B Tompkins 3-49, G Webster 2-54). **Two Counties 229-4** (M Thew 122, J Stuck 68). Hertfordshire Over-60s won by 18 runs.

**Two Counties 152-3** (A Elsbury 51, A Sims 44). **Ipswich 153-9** (P Brown 33no, M Maxim 5-47, A Carpenter 4-22). Ipswich won by 1 wkt.

## JOHN HUTTON OVER-60s INVITATION

### T20 TOURNAMENT

Semi-Finals: **Two Counties A 145-2** (C Walters 36, K Dobson 34). **Ipswich 115-4** (N Peartree 36, S Bulger 2-20). Two Counties A won by 30 runs.

**Two Counties B 93-4** (T Money 29). **Suffolk Alliance 97-4** (A Gallant 35). Suffolk Alliance won by 6 wkts.

Third & Fourth Place Play-Off: **Two Counties B 128-7** (T Money 35, K Jones 3-19). **Ipswich 110-6** (N Peartree 37, I Johnson 2-27, B Tompkins 2-35). Two Counties won by 18 runs.

Final: **Two Counties A 154-6** (C Walters 36, K Dobson 36, S Sergeant 3-35, B Perrett 3-41). **Suffolk Alliance 101-8** (S Sergeant 35, S Bulger 2-15, S Carpenter 2-43). Two Counties won by 53 runs.

## OVER-70s RESULTS

**Suffolk Over-70s 212-6** (D Andrews 102, B Turley 2-42). **Two Counties 217-1** (J Stuck 129no, B Ball 50no). Two Counties won by 9 wkts.

**Herts Over-70s 273-9** (P Morris 64, M Lurie 51, B Turley 3-53). **Two Counties 186-8** (J Stuck 86, G Basil 3-22, P Cramer 3-24). Herts Over-70s won by 87 runs.

**Two Counties 121-7** (W Mugglestone 24, S Sood 2-14, A Patil 2-31, M Southwell 2-35). **Billericay Veterans 125-2** (A Patil 52no, G Willey 47no, B Tompkins 2-27). Billericay Veterans won by 8 wkts.

**Two Counties v Ipswich Seniors.** Cancelled - waterlogged ground.

**Two Counties 91** (A Cooke 22, G Woodrington 3-2, M Jergic 3-28). **Hockerill Veterans 92-1** (G McKay 50, B Tompkins 1-33). Hockerill Veterans won by 9 wkts.

**Billericay Vets 32-0 v Two Counties.** Match abandoned due to rain.

**Two Counties 168-5** (B Ball 43, A Rashid 3-24). **Herts Over-70s 103-3** (C Garside 53no). Match abandoned due to rain.



# Woolpit wrestle title from Mildenhall's grasp

By Gerard Artindale, league secretary

THE year 2017 proved to be a good season with favourable weather and competitive cricket in all divisions as, for the first time in a number of years, no team went through the season unbeaten.

Woolpit regained the league title they had previously won in 2013, putting an end to the run of three consecutive successes by Mildenhall.

Bury St Edmunds and Battisford were also in contention at times, but in the end Woolpit clinched it by chasing down Mildenhall's 275-6 in the final game.

At the other end of the table it was Bardwell who returned to the Second Division after two seasons in the top division. The highest individual score was Jack Loveday's 156 not out for Mildenhall against Acton and Battisford's Jonathan Doughty produced the best bowling performance, taking 7-9 against Bardwell.

After narrowly missing out on promotion in 2016, Long Melford won Division Two with a little bit to spare from runners-up Edwardstone. Brettenham and Brockley also had good seasons whilst at the other end of the table conceded games cost East Bergholt and Hartest & Coldham their place in the division.

Matt Hoadley's 140 not out for Long Melford against Edwardstone was the highest score in the division. Long Melford were on the opposing end of the best bowling figures, 5-12 by Dean Sykes for Brockley.

In Division Three Tuddenham gained their second successive promotion in some style, losing only two games all season. Mildenhall II finished in second place, with Risby taking third place. At the other end of the table Long Melford II suffered the opposite fate to their first team, finishing bottom of the table just below Rougham.

G Rout's 167 not out enabled BSSSC to chase down Bury St Edmunds' 11s 279-5 for the loss of just one wicket. BSSSC also had the best bowling performance, A Taylor taking 6-34 against Risby.

BSSSC also featured in the highest aggregate match score in the league, scoring 283-8 in reply to Tuddenham's 319-5.

There was a similar story in Division Four. This time it was Mildenhall who gained their second successive promotion, after losing only two games all season.

The battle for second place between Hadleigh Academy, Earl Stonham and Lakenheath eventually ended in that order. Battisford IIs and Elveden ended up adrift at the foot of the table.

A Simmons's 119 not out for Battisford was the highest score and the best bowling was by J Smith, who took 5-10 for Mildenhall against Hadleigh.

Division Five was won by Twinstead in just their second year of league cricket. They also lost only two games, with newcomers Freston finishing in second place.

Struggles with availability meant that Walsham-le Willows ended at the foot of the league despite winning six matches. One of those was against Great Cornard, where P Newman scored 167 not out.

Great Cornard, however, did gain the distinction of bowling

out the opposition for the league's lowest score in the season, dismissing Horringer for 32. Figures of 7-28 by J Hutchings for Freston against Old Newton was the best bowling performance.

A one-off League Cup was run during the year with teams mainly from Divisions One taking part in the Senior section and those largely from Division Five in the Junior section. Ironically, after a relatively dry season, the monsoon arrived on finals day. Bury St Edmunds beat Acton in a bowl-off to win the Senior section and Great Cornard beat Old Newton and the rain in the Junior Plate.

The Junior final between Twinstead and Mildenhall and the Senior Plate between Woolpit and Battisford were both cancelled with titles shared between them.

The Hunts County Bats player of the month awards were won by:

**April/May:** Senior – M Stevens (Old Newton); Junior – H Skinner (Battisford)

**June:** Senior – C Thomas (Risby); Junior – D Stobbart (Nowton)

**July:** Senior – S Kelly (Bardwell); Junior – O Colby (Mildenhall)

*Continued on P66*

## League tables 2017

DIVISION ONE	P	W	L	C/A/T	Pts	Avg
Woolpit CC	14	11	3	0	246	17.57
Bury St E CC	14	9	5	0	214	15.29
Battisford	14	8	6	0	206	14.71
Mildenhall	14	8	4	2	153	12.75
Acton CC,	14	5	8	1	152	11.69
Walsham	14	7	7	0	155	11.07
Stowupland	14	4	9	1	128	9.85
Bardwell CC	14	2	12	0	115	8.21
DIVISION TWO	P	W	L	C/A/T	Pts	Avg
Long Melford	16	11	4	1	239	15.93
Edwardstone	16	9	5	2	206	14.71
Brettenham	16	8	7	1	198	13.20
Brockley CC	16	9	6	1	195	13.00
Stowmarket	16	7	9	0	201	12.56
Cavendish	16	7	9	0	191	11.94
Nowton CC	16	7	9	0	187	11.69
East Bergholt	16	7	7	2	104	7.43
Hartest	16	3	12	1	70	4.67
DIVISION THREE	P	W	L	C/A/T	Pts	Avg
Tuddenham	16	12	2	2	252	18.00
Mildenhall	16	10	4	2	225	16.07
Risby	16	9	5	2	210	15.00
Bury St Edmunds	16	7	7	2	188	13.43
Thurston	16	7	8	1	184	12.27
BSSSC - 1st XI	16	8	7	1	182	12.13
Worlington	16	5	9	2	162	11.57
Rougham	16	3	10	3	83	6.38
Long Melford	16	3	12	1	87	5.80
DIVISION FOUR	P	W	L	C/A/T	Pts	Avg
Mildenhall 16	14	2	0	291	18.19	
Hadleigh	16	12	4	0	266	16.63
Earl Stonham	16	11	4	1	239	15.93
Lakenheath	16	11	5	0	240	15.00
Stowupland	16	7	9	0	175	10.94
Lavenham	16	5	10	1	142	9.47
Woolpit	16	5	11	0	149	9.31
Battisford & District	16	2	12	2	65	4.64
Elveden	16	3	13	0	071	4.44
DIVISION FIVE	P	W	L	C/A/T	Pts	Avg
Twinstead	16	14	2	0	285	17.81
Freston	16	11	5	0	248	15.50
Horringer	16	10	6	0	220	13.75
Bardwell	16	7	9	0	178	11.13
Elmswell	16	7	9	0	177	11.06
Great Cornard	16	8	8	0	174	10.88
Old Newton	16	3	12	0	132	8.80
Tendring Park	16	5	11	0	126	7.88
Walsham Le Willows	16	6	9	0	83	5.53

# Easton remain unbeaten to lift league title

By ROSS STANNARD, league chairman

THE 2017 season seemed to have followed a trend in east Suffolk, as numbers continued to fall for Sunday league cricket. This left us with two divisions of seven, with Woodbridge withdrawing early in the season.

Although a smaller league programme took place, there were many notable performances.

**Section A – Batting:** Rob Taylor (Easton CC) 149; Jack Hobbs (Easton CC) 129; Steve Owston (Saxmundham CC) 121no; Glen Machan (Easton CC) 108no; David Driver (Saxmundham CC) 108no; Kevin Nunn (BT Waldringfield CC) 107no; Athul Sarangan (Easton CC) 106; Ben Garnham (Kesgrave CC) 104no; Ben Glading (Nacton CC) 102.

**Section A – Bowling:** Fred Heldreich (Easton CC) 7-21; Robert Harris (BT Waldringfield CC) 6-33;

**Section B – Batting:** Kyle Jay (Ipswich & East Suffolk CC) 158; Adam Colwill (Shotley Peninsular CC) 146 & 127no; Jordon Warren (Eye & District CC) 121; Jack Lord (Melton St Audry's CC) 116; Joe Whyte (Caribbeans CC) 109 & 105; David Dyer (Worlingworth CC) 107.

**Section B – Bowling:** Luke Mellish (Shotley Peninsular CC) 5-11 & 5-25; Fred Ramsden (Worlingworth CC) 5-56; Jordon Warren (Eye & District CC) 5-46.

The Cup was once again hosted at Easton CC. I would like to say a big thank you to Easton for getting the final on, in what appeared to be some very localised storms, leading to a very wet square and outfield.

BT Waldringfield batted first and were bowled out for 89, in reply Saxmundham reached 90-1, winning by nine wickets. Man of the Match was Saxmundham's David Driver, who returned figures of 7.2-2-17-4.

The Plate final saw Easton take on Brantham at Melton St Audry's. Batting first, Easton made 175-8, and in reply Brantham were 108 all out. The man of the match award went to Thomas Harper of Easton.

I would like to thank John Oldfield for sorting the umpires out for the finals and those umpires for giving their time up and to Melton for holding the Plate final and also our end-of-season awards evening.

Congratulation to all winners and runners-up.

As we prepare for the 2018 season I also have to report more clubs withdrawing, some moving to other leagues and some deciding on Saturday cricket.

With this in mind the remaining clubs met about carrying on the league and with some input we will look to implement some playing changes.

Rules that we will hope to bring in to help keep our competition entertaining will include:

1 – Top four teams play-off at end of season for Cup

## Suffolk Alliance tables 2017

Section A	P	W	L	C/A/T	Pts	Avg
Easton	10	9	0	1	176	19.56
Brantham	12	6	5	1	150	13.64
Saxmundham	11	5	5	1	144	13.09
BT & Waldringfield	12	5	7	0	136	11.33
Castle	11	4	6	1	120	10.91
Kesgrave	12	5	7	0	120	10.00
Nacton	12	4	8	0	107	8.92

Section B	P	W	L	C/A/T	Pts	Avg
Shotley Peninsula	10	8	2	0	171	17.10
Melton St Audry's	10	8	2	0	164	16.40
Caribbeans	10	6	4	0	120	12.00
Worlingworth	10	4	6	0	112	11.20
Eye & District	10	2	7	1	84	9.33
Ipswich & ES	10	1	8	1	46	5.11

2 – Bottom four teams play-off for the Plate trophy

3 – Look at bringing in some of the aspects from T20 to make it more interesting for the Youths including: a) front foot no balls, free hit with next legitimate ball, b) fielding restrictions with 30-yard area, four fielders in circle at all times plus the bowler and wicket-keeper (this may need tweaking if playing 9v9), c) penalising wides in a different manner, etc.

4 – Look at playing some games as a T20 if circumstances dictate

5 – Greater communication between teams in case teams have fewer numbers, perhaps even players helping out other teams or playing 9v9 or similar

6 – Reduced overs matches, with points awarded for win/loss to be reflected on reduced number of overs

7 – Set time to bowl overs at 2.5 hours with 30 minutes for tea, leaving all matches with rough finish time of 6.30pm (this would then fit with below)

8 – Rain affected matches – possibility of using Duckworth-Lewis to form results.

It is clear we need to change something to keep clubs and attract clubs back, so we are looking forward, engaging with clubs and players, hopefully enabling the Suffolk Alliance to continue.

I would like to thank all the committee for their work over the last year, with extra thanks to Conrad Wright for sorting all the results out and most other problems that arose.

*Continued from P65*

**August/September:** Senior – H Rout (BSSSC); Junior – T Marston (Worlington)



In a year when for once there was no obvious outstanding candidate, the Team of the Year award was won by Tuddenham, with Milden and Twinstead narrowly missing out.

The Les Francis Trophy, given to people who do outstanding long service to their clubs, was

awarded to Tim Parker (left) of Woolpit.

We were saddened by the withdrawal after the end of the season of East Bergholt and, for the second time, of Lavenham, which was my predecessor's club. Hopefully they may regroup and come back again.

On a much more positive note we welcome for 2018 Castle Hedingham, newcomers to league cricket, Castle, Easton and Nacton, who were previously in the Suffolk Alliance, and Acton who will be playing a second team in the league. This influx of clubs has widened the geographical area the league covers which will bring its own challenges, but it is encouraging that we appear to be seen as a vibrant league, albeit not immune to the wider problems of participation levels in cricket.





## Suffolk U-13s on Tour

*SUFFOLK Boys' Under-13s are pictured batting versus Berkshire in the shadow of Ascot racecourse on the third and final day of their Berks & Bucks Tour last season.*

## SUFFOLK YOUNG CRICKETERS

### U-10s Boys

Archie Miller  
Benjamin Thomas  
Bobby East  
Charlie Laws  
Freddie Butcher  
Freddie Foyster  
Ishaan Rakesh  
James Bettley  
Joe Kearton  
Kieran Lilley  
Malan du Toit  
Monty Morgan  
Ollie Knight  
Toby Toombs  
William Menzies  
Zachary Gandy

### U-11s Boys

Alex MacLeod  
Archie Jones  
Archie Magnus  
Conor Berry  
Conor Crowley  
Dylan Hardy  
Frank Rogers  
Freddie Paffett  
Harry Bishopp  
Henry Clark  
Nathan Porter  
Ned Hayward  
Odin Thomas  
Oliver Grimwood

Percy Moore

Roan Tucker

### U-12s Boys

Alexander Bettley  
Arthur Summers  
Ben Palmer  
Bo Machan  
Charlie Bennett  
Freddie Cloud  
Freddie de la Rue  
Freddie Dyer  
Freddie Thompson  
Jake Kiddy  
Joseph Rinaldi  
Louis Blanchard  
Lucas Howard  
Nat Salsby  
Shaanjeai Tharaneetharan

### U-13s Boys

Alexander Dunning  
Ben Smart  
Callum Woolston  
Caspar Hall  
Finlay Barbrook  
George Jackson  
Harry Barbrook  
Henry Dinwiddy  
Isaac Toombs  
Kajeai Tharaneetharan  
Max Egan  
Merlin Stamper

Rory Hollis

Samuel Slatter  
William Bettley  
William Stace

### U-14s Boys

Arthur Phoenix  
Ben Tweedy  
Cameron Towers  
Connor Cobbold  
George Bennett  
Harry Hitchen  
Harry Parker  
Henry Nicholls  
Jacobi Bishopp  
Josh Jones  
Louis Francis-Smith  
Luke Ellis  
Ollie Gallop  
Sam Burkitt  
Thomas Harper  
Varun Sharma

### U-15s Boys

Alasdair Marlow  
Bailey Farrant  
Callum O'Connell  
Charlie Coe  
Daniel Norman  
Euan Tickner  
Gabe Jones  
George Tillbrook  
James Whittle

Lewis Millions

Marcus Packer  
Sam Paisley  
Will Froggatt  
William White

### U-17s Boys

Alex Oxley  
Alexander Cruickshank  
Billy Amas  
Daniel Leggett  
Fergus Atkins  
Freddie Heldreich  
George Offord  
Harvey Skinner  
Josh Frame  
Keelan Waldock  
Luke Froggatt  
Matthew Kent  
Max Dias  
Nick van Lint  
Oliver Melville-Ross  
Oliver Riddick  
Oliver Stace  
Stuart Lilley  
Thomas Sidhu  
William Spicer

### U-11s Girls

Amie Hunt  
Beth Gardens  
Cecily Jewers  
Charlotte Gaunt

Clara Simpson

Eliza Goodwyn  
Emily Pettit  
Evie Booker  
Henrietta Croot  
Ishani Soni  
Laila Hollis  
Lexi Barrington-Hibbert  
Lily Tillbrook  
Madison Haworth-McKenna  
Megan Haynes  
Mim Marvell  
Zara Uthwatt-Bouverie

### U-13s Girls

Amelie Clarke  
Beatrice Clark  
Charlotte Oastler  
Emma Williamson  
Evelyn Whitmore  
Jessica Logan  
Jessica Tarrant  
Katie Norman  
Lara Hopewell-Plant  
Lottie James  
Marnie Salter  
Millie Laver  
Nia Edwards  
Olivia Gaskin  
Petra Tweedy  
Sophie Hughes

### U-15s Girls

Bella Fairs

Elizabeth Firman  
Eloise Ward  
Emily Daltrey  
Esmæ MacGregor  
Frankie Stenning  
Georgie Cantrell  
Harriet Pettit  
Imogen Sidhu  
Isobel Sidhu  
Katelyn Wright  
Katie Dixon  
Megan Bureau  
Poppy Sidhu  
Sophie Harper  
Verity Iglesias

### U-17s Girls

Amelia Mahoney  
Annis Cousins  
Bethany Quinton  
Catherine Whittle  
Charlotte Stenning  
Elizabeth Woor  
Ellie Costin  
Eloise long  
Emma Howard  
Flora Johnston  
Freya Cannon  
Holly Mayhew  
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