

LYTHAM *Cricket* YEAR BOOK 2020













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LYTHAM CRICKET CLUB

Church Road, Lytham, Lancashire Telephone: 01253 734137 www.lythamcricket.co.uk Founded in 1855

Officers of the Club 2020

Vice Chairman - Martin Hackett

Treasurer - Susan Chiekrie

Secretary - Susan Chiekrie

Junior Cricket Chairman - Susan Chiekrie

Fixture Secretaries -Antony Mulligan (Snr), Susan Chiekrie (Jnr)

Lytham Cricket & Sports Club Executive Committee Representatives -Peter Legge, Dom Ashton, Susan Chiekrie

> Annual Ball Co-ordinators -Nigel Seddon, Dom Ashton

Child Welfare - Steph Hodgkinson

Patron Membership - Nigel Seddon

Captains 2020

1st XI - Matt Taaffe 2nd XI - Pete Burn 3rd XI - Dom & Joe Ashton (Team Manager) Over 35's - Mark Hodgkinson

Junior Coaches 2020

Kwiks - Anthony Woodman

Under 10's -Allan McKeown, Senthil Murugesan

> Under 11's -TBC

Under 12's A - Peter Legge

Under 12's B -Tim Wyles, Cere Blackburn

Under 13's A -Chris Burgon, Mark Hodgkinson

Under 13's B - Pete Legge

Welcome to the 2020 edition of the Lytham Cricket Club Yearbook. In these difficult times I must begin by expressing my sincere hope that everyone is keeping safe and well. It is proper that cricket take a back seat as we and our families endeavour to cope with the immense changes and loss that the present circumstances have brought. It is also right to say that at such times we crave the normality and security that belonging to the club brings - the enjoyment of the outdoors, the camaraderie of friends and the gentle noise of willow upon leather. I am sure I am not alone in greatly missing being at the club, cup of tea in hand watching Lytham's finest methodically chase down a score, followed by friendly conversation with friends in the bar over a drink. The club lies at the very heart of our community. These times will return and everything is being done by the club with the support of its members to ensure that.

As I write it is unsure how much of the cricket season will take place this year. The normal league programme has been delayed and, in my view, will either not take place at all or be severely curtailed. The League has already stated that should fixtures commence, promotion and relegation for 2020 will not apply. It had been hoped that the 1st XI would bounce back from last year with the assistance of a South African Professional, Zakariya Paruk and that the 2nd XI would follow up their best ever Premier League season in the L&DCC with further success and new opportunities for home grown players. This is not to be however, so from a full league perspective we now look to 2021.

On a positive note it may well be that at a senior level a number of games will take place in the 2020 season. All games will be dependent upon ECB and government guidance. These may be competitive outings with L&DCC Clubs in a revamped, limited overs format on a regional basis or possibly as series of friendly games with local opposition. All our endeavours are focused upon providing entertaining cricket within the permitted framework. I am sure that these games will be played in a different spirit in tune with the changing focus of our community. I am sure they will invoke genuine excitement and celebration in players and spectators alike.

Also, one of our first priorities will be to try and organise games for our large junior membership. They and their families provide the vibrancy that will be required as we face the future. I should pause at this point and thank all the junior coaches and their families who gave so much time and endless enthusiasm last year; without you we would not be the club that we are. Should cricket resume this year at senior level then a greater number of juniors than normal may get the opportunity to experience senior cricket. This is a real tangible achievement of all the work that is put in.

It will be a difficult year and beyond for Clubs at all levels and whilst the ECB has indicated available funds to club cricket to assist, it is unclear at this stage how these will be allocated. To be perfectly blunt, your club needs continued support once restrictions are lifted. To that end we express great gratitude to our sponsors and all those who have contributed to membership renewal at this time. These funds are invaluable. Also we thank everyone who has helped and continues to help in any way. It is the only way that a community club can survive.

Finally, many of you will be aware that our long serving Chairman Len Hackett passed away in January, this was a huge loss for the Club. I cannot pay tribute to his service enough. He epitomised what it is to be a club person and we will do everything we can to remember his contribution and preserve his ethos of upbeat and kindly stoicism. It is in this positive mind set and with your support we try to look beyond these difficult times and to the future.

I thank Susan Chiekrie for her tireless work putting together our Yearbook. Her quiet generalship has once again triumphed. Our message as a Club is simple: we look forward with excitement for our cricketing community to come together once again and for everyone to play a part in making new memories.

Keep well, stay safe and see you soon.

Martin Hackett Vice Chairman

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1st XI 2019

A View From The Box

Well, here we go again. The 2019 season was just around the corner, fresh cut grass, bar was stocked and everything was in place for what should be a good season ahead. The club started off by signing Scott Howarth from Thornham CC, Ed Fiddler from Freckleton CC, Alex Mason from Ormskirk CC and opening batsman Ross Zelem from Leigh CC. Ben Saunders carried on as captain after an improved 2018 season, finishing 7th.

First up on a sunny April afternoon was Colwyn Bay. "The Bay" won the toss and elected to bat. They amassed 203-4 from 55 overs, a tough start for the 1st XI. They had us 97-8 but with a solid batting performance from Antony Mulligan and debutant Alex Mason we batted out the last 20 overs. Not the start that we would have hoped for. The following week saw us travel over the Ribble Estuary to S & B. We had them 69-8 off 37 overs with 4 wickets from Josh Holden and 2 wickets each for TJ and Mason, but sadly the rain came and spoilt our fun! A game which I believed we would have won! No Result. We sadly exited the Royal London Club Championship to Horwich RMI in Round 1.

The merry month of May arrived but it wasn't so merry, losing to Wallasey and Ormskirk in the league and exiting the National T20 to Leigh. Next up, Rainford in the Ray Digman Trophy. They won the toss and put us in to bat. Halfway through our innings they had is 104-8. A sensible batting performance from Howarth (51) got us to 198. We bowled them out for 166 with 2 overs left seeing us through to the next round. We sadly exited the Lancashire KO to Kendal losing by 7 wickets; They were heavily reliant on their overseas.

Coming to the end of May saw us have a double header weekend against Formby, a league game on Saturday resulted in a draw thanks to a terrific knock from Steven Croft (118*). Sunday saw us field a weakened XI and sadly Tom Jefferson's maiden century (124*) was in vain as we lost by 8 wickets. We made our debut in the Liverpool Echo KO which saw my brother Ryan captain the team in the absence of Ben. The 2nd XI under Ryan had won 9 out of 10 games, drawing the other. However, it was not to be, we lost by 1 run in the closest of games, this ultimately was to be our last cup game in 2019. June was a month to forget, four defeats coming against Leigh, Northern, New Brighton and Rainhill with one match abandoned (Home to ORT), picking up only 17 points.

July was here and we were away to Bootle. They were top and we were bottom. This had a Bootle win written all over it. We fielded first, they amassed 224-7 off 52 overs. We



went out before tea and lost 2 early wickets. Bootle had us 103-7 going in to "last20". Ben Saunders and Alex Mason were at the crease and wow! Who would have predicted this? They put on 80 runs in just short of 9 overs. It certainly had Bootle thinking, but sadly we fell short by 10 runs.

July was certainly another month to forget, defeats to Bootle, Ormskirk and Colwyn Bay with another match abandoned. August was upon us and word got round the league that Rainhill had fielded an ineligible player. The story was true and they were deducted 71 points with a bonus of 25 points being awarded to Lytham. Massive for us! But our fragile hopes were soon dented when we got thumped by Wallasey. Following a no result v's Leigh, we were away to Northern. The home side won the toss and elected to bat. We bowled them out for 135, Ben claiming his career best figures of 7-38. He was also the man to get us over the line and claim our first victory, hitting the winning runs and top scoring in the game with 42*.

Our final two games of August were Formby at home and Orrell Red Triangle away. We bowled well in both games, bowling both sides out, but once again the batting let us down, costing us the games and putting ourselves in further danger of relegation. September was here, three games left. Three "must win" games to give ourselves a chance of staying up. The first of the three was New Brighton at home. I was unavailable for this game as I was called to play for the 2nd XI. And what a win... for both teams!! The 1st XI won by 5 wickets and the 2nd XI won by 17 runs with only 9 men!!... I may as well carry on playing... ha ha ha. A special mention to Alex Mason who took 5-14 and scored 43*. Matt Taaffe also contributed with 57*. Many

thanks also to David Tattersall for covering me at such short notice!

Our penultimate game of the season was away at Rainhill. The home side batted first and posted 250 in 87.3 overs ... yes, you read that right!! Little to no chance of getting anything from the game, we had no option but to chase down the target, it failed. Now the final game of the season was here. Bootle at home. A win would give us hope of staying up, with Bootle needing to secure three points to be crowned Champions. Lytham won the toss and elected to field. We bowled them out for 167. By tea S&B had lost to Wallasey and word had reached us half way through our innings that Leigh had beaten Colwyn Bay. It was in our hands. Needing 8 runs off 6 balls with 2 wickets remaining everyone was on the edge of their seats. Our whole season had come down to the last over of the season.

Some great fielding and clever bowling by the worthy League Champions prevented us from reaching our target by 5 runs, and ultimately relegating us by ten points.

Overall, a disappointing season with early cup exits and a common theme of our batsmen not scoring enough runs was sadly the disappointing factor in us not playing ECB

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Premier League cricket next season. Heading into my 10th season at this club, here's to a better 2020!

We'll be back!

Luke Norris Scorer

Looking Forward 2020

Season Preview - 1st XI

In my first draft of this article, as the new 1 st XI Captain I was full of excitement and trepidation for the new season. After a busy winter's preparation, I was looking forward to welcoming our new club professional Zakariya Paruk and our Australian imports Nick Owen and Lachlan Campbell who I am sure would have fitted in straight away, both on and off the field.

My outlook for the forthcoming season was not to dwell on what happened last year, but instead look forward to the new challenge that we would face in Division 1. I had planned our pre-season training accordingly and was keen to build on the team's determined and positive mindset to bring a successful season to the club and get promoted back up to the Premier Division.

Sadly, this is not to be. However, I am hopeful that we will be able to play some form of cricket this season and we will use this opportunity to improve our game and prepare for a return to competitive cricket in 2021.



Despite the lockdown you will notice that the ground is looking fantastic and we have our new groundsman Tom Wells to thank for this. He has continued to work throughout the current restrictions to ensure that when it is safe for us to resume play, the ground will be ready. Thank You Tom! I would also like to thank our outgoing groundsman, Adam Cooper for all the hard work he has put in over the years. Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus situation we were unable to give him the send-off he deserves but we wish him well. Adam has decided to scale back his workload but I am sure you will bump into him at Fulwood & Broughton CC where he continues to look after their ground. I would like to reiterate that it was such an honour to be named 1st Team Captain. It has always been an ambition of mine ever since I started playing Senior Cricket at the age of 12.

I will do my utmost to work with the Management Committee to provide a good standard of cricket to play and watch as well as to provide opportunities for both senior and junior cricketers to develop their game.

Matt Taaffe 1st X1 Captain

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Seconds Push for the League Title

The 2019 season turned out to be the highest ever finish by the Lytham 2nd XI in the premier division and a fantastic season it was finishing 2nd with 362 points. A team, I was proud to say that I had captained, more importantly, was a part of, a group of lads that enjoyed playing cricket together, every weekend as a team!

In pre-season, myself and a few of the expected 'regulars' of the team got together on more than one occasion, whether that be in Peter Burn's new house, The Taps or the Cricket Club itself, to discuss how I intended to captain and win games for the upcoming season. It was quite clear we weren't going to be afraid to lose therefore every game we would set out to win.

We agreed that the top 6 would look to take the attack to the opposition's bowlers, with the aim of getting to 200+ when batting first. When bowling, we agreed that attacking field placements would be set, knowing that we would be conceding runs, but most importantly it would give us a greater chance of bowling a team out, which in the 2018 season, we only managed to do 5 times in 20 league games.

Ten games into the season we had won 7, 2 rain affected draws and 1 game abandoned, we were unbeaten. There was a great sense of positivity in the 2nd XI squad; everyone felt that we were in with a great chance of pushing for the league title, sitting just 1 point behind Wallasey. Plus, we were into the semi-final of the Chester cup.

A slightly weakened 2nd XI saw us narrowly chase down 225 away at Northern CC, with thanks to a fantastic and mature innings from Myles Child (82*). In the quarter-final we hosted Formby, keeping things tight early doors and some clever bowling we restricted Formby to 101-6 from 30 overs, seeing them eventually dismissed for 130. After a slight wobble, 2 wickets down without scoring and again losing 3 swift wickets with the team total only being on 58. Yet another mature knock from Myles Child (60) saw us ease to victory with 4 wickets still intact.

Away to Liverpool was our 11th game of the season. At 9pm on the evening before the game I had 8 players written on the team sheet. Steve Davies along with Dom and Joe Ashton, thankfully made themselves available. We had XI men, travelling to struggling Liverpool. I lost the toss and the Liverpool skipper stuck us in; we were rolled for a mere 111, seeing only 3 batsmen reach double figures.

One of the opposition players, walking off

the pitch, laughing and joking, shouted up "let's go straight back out lads and get it finished before tea." Without giving it too much thought, I felt why not? Let's try and get a wicket or two early on and put them under pressure! 35 minutes later, Liverpool was 3 wickets down for just 5 runs. Unfortunately it wasn't to be. It was a valiant effort from all the lads, especially Chris Cartmell with figures of 21-9-27-5. Liverpool just got over the line with two wickets left to play with. A disappointing loss, which was extremely difficult to accept after such a tremendous start to the season.

The following week saw Will Bookless join the club. He instantly showed glimpses of what he was capable of adding to an already strong outfit, in all aspects of the game, batting, bowling and especially in the field. One to watch next year!

The month of July saw the 2nd XI stumble a little. Losing to fellow title challengers Ormskirk, through a questionable decision from their umpire, in a highly competitive match. Comfortably beating relegation candidates; Southport and Birkdale along with Colwyn Bay. Jason McGreehin really started to hit form with that bat along with Thomas Hessey they both were looking very good at the crease against any bowler they faced.

The final weekend in July saw us travel to league leaders Wallasey, not only in the league but in the semi-final of the Chester Cup, obviously with the opportunity of playing in the final but the winner would also host the Chester Cup final. With accommodation booked for 12 and travel organised, we headed off to Wallasey, only for the Saturday league fixture to be washed out! Nevertheless, the lads all headed out into Liverpool on the Saturday evening, with little to no chance of a semi-final to be played on the Sunday. We had a great night out in Liverpool. How everybody's evening actually ended I'm unsure, I myself got into a taxi at 4.20am and headed back to our accommodation to find only Steve, Pete Burn and the two McGreehin brothers. As expected no play on Sunday.

August proved a frustrating month too, 5 league games, 2 wins, 3 draws and the unfortunate loss to Wallasey in the semi-final of the cup.

Wallasey won the all-important toss and stuck us in to bat. We flopped to 108-9, Matt McGreehin and Morgan Davies were our last hope, both batted sensibly and managed to post a challenging 162. We had Wallasey in panic with them 49-5, only for the Wallasey captain to steady his team. Wallasey reached our under-par score with 9 balls to spare, despite another great bowling display from Chris Cartmell finishing with 5 wickets from his 9 overs.

With only the league left to play for and Wallasey 68 points clear at the top of the table and only 4 games left to play, we needed a miracle but the lads knew we had to ready ourselves again for one final big push.

The final 4 games of the season saw us twice post in the excess of 200 runs, which made it 9 scores of over 200 runs. Beating New Brighton with only 10 men, a hammering of Liverpool of over 120, a boring draw against Orrell Red Triangle side that seemed to enjoy batting in the excess of 45 overs most Saturdays. On this occasion a few more! ORT batted 59 overs leaving us only 38 overs. The final game of the season which saw us defeat Colwyn Bay saw the 2nd XI collect 75 points from a possible 100.

However it was not to be, Wallasey claimed the league title with 3 games still left of the season.

The 2nd XI wouldn't have been so successful if it wasn't for some key individuals that don't necessarily step out onto the field. To Terry and the rest of the team behind the bar, you were all fantastic hosts all year round. Susan and Nick Chiekrie, Alan and Liz Yates and the late Len Hackett thank you for all of vour time, advice and support throughout the season. Graham Openshaw and David Cartmell for the time they spent on selection evenings, always a phone call away to discuss team tactics. Steve Davies and David Tattersall for scoring home and away, Steve Norris for umpiring every single fixture that the 2nd XI had. Most importantly, the support from all of the spectators throughout the year applauding every boundary, wicket and win throughout the season, Thank you all so very much for your support, please continue to get behind the lads every Saturday in seasons to come.

In the 2018 yearbook you may recall that I wanted to challenge for the league and to do so we need 4 batsmen to score in the excess of 400 runs and at least 3 bowlers to take 40 plus wickets. The lads actually bettered what I said we would need to challenge for the league and it still wasn't enough!

Jason McGreehin finished the league's 2nd highest run scorer with an impressive 608 runs at an average of 38.00. Thomas Hessey, Chris Cartmell Matthew McGreehin, Myles Child and I shared 1,960 runs. A phenomenal amount of runs!

Chris Cartmell finished the leading wicket

2nd XI 2019

taker in the 2nd XI premier division with a fantastic 61 wickets at an average of just 11.89. Thomas Hessey, Peter Burn and I also shared 101 wickets.

Most importantly not forgetting that there are 3 parts to cricket, fielding. Somehow, by standing at 1st slip for the majority of the season I managed to top the league for most catches, even above all the wicket-keepers in the league with 17 catches to my name. Just thought I'd drop that in here, ha-ha.

The 2020 season will see a new Captain for Lytham 2nd XI, this is due to my career starting to take shape and I may not be available every Saturday. I personally believe it wouldn't be fair on the club, if the same person wasn't available to attend all training sessions, make selection meetings, and most importantly captaining every single week. Peter Burn has played at the club for a number of years now; he has a great knowledge of the game. Pete is a fantastic speaker, if you can actually understand him,

a great listener, patient and most importantly,

Peter will always encourage and motivate all of the lads. All important factors to creating a great foundation of any team.

I wish Peter and the 2nd XI all the very best for 2020, I'm sure it will be an eventful but positive season.

3rd XI 201

Ryan Norris 2nd XI Captain



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We finished 5th out of 7 teams in 2019, conceded one game when the 2nds had a rearranged cup semi-final due to lack of players and 25 points from that game would have seen us finish 3rd, showing how close the league was.

We had 31 players represent the club at 3rd XI level in 2019 and I must say a big thank you to both Pat Ford and Dom Ashton who between them umpired every game (Dom even donning his whites and captaining the side in one game). Thanks also to Dan Gregson, who captained the side in 5 of the games and provided a valuable bridge between Senior Cricket and the ten - U15/ U17 players that played 3rd XI cricket. The ethos of the 3rd XI in 2019 was that we had a balanced side, to ensure we introduced the juniors to senior cricket and to make sure we had enough drivers to get them to the games as well!

We gave three awards at Senior Presentation evening in January 2020:

Batting - in contention this year were Alex Higham, averaging 31 from 8 innings with 186 runs, Morgan Davies averaging 34 from 7 innings scoring 205 runs, and other batting highlights must include Harrison's 67 vs Wigan, Morgan's 91* vs Ainsdale (which idiot declared with him on 91*?) and Myles scoring the teams 2nd century against Orrell Red Triangle. But the 3rd XI batting award goes to someone who's 7 innings including 106* vs Ainsdale on a very difficult track, two other half centuries, scoring 344 runs in total at an average of 86. He captained the side in the absence of Dan congratulations to NATHAN WOOD.

Bowling - amongst the leading wicket takers this year were Eoghan Murphy with 9 wickets including 4/31 vs Southport Trinity, Morgan Davies with 9 wickets but the leading wicket taker with 12 wickets at an average of 7 who



receives the 2019 3rd XI bowling award was ALEX HIGHAM.

Performance of the Season - special mention must go to our 2 centurions in 2019, Nathan Wood and Myles Child but there is one bowling performance that sticks in the mind, imagine the scenario, we are playing Wigan here at Church Road, we had been bowled out for a respectable 177 in 37 overs. Wigan were 162 for 8 when Joe Ashton took the ball for the first time this season, his first ball goes for 1, then dot, then dot, his 4th ball, gets hit for 4, his 5th ball gets hit for 4, both rank long hops!

The over ends on 171 for 8. Eoghan Murphy takes the next over and conceded only a leg bye leaving the total on 172 for 8, 6 runs required with 2 wickets left, Dan Gregson looks around for volunteers to bowl the next over, everyone sheepishly walks away and Joe, with a big smile on his face says "I'll bowl it". "Oh dear" everyone thinks. The 1st ball is a dot, Joe's figures 7 balls, 9 runs conceded. The 2nd ball gets hit for 4, 1 run required to

tie, 2 runs to win with 2 wickets left. The 3rd ball is a dot, 2 balls left in Joe's over. Figures currently 9 balls bowled, no wickets, 13 runs conceded. The 5th ball is bowled, the ball pitches on a length, beats the captain who is bowled, the score 176 for 9 chasing 177, plenty of overs left.

Wigan's last batsman literally runs to the crease. Pat Ford asks him if he wants to take a guard, he looks blankly at Pat as he doesn't know what that means (there's hope for us yet!). Joe delivers the final ball of the over, it's short, the batsman tries to hit it over the Taps pub, he connects, the ball fizzes, straight back towards Joe who nonchalantly sticks out 2 hands and takes the catch.

Wigan are all out for 176 chasing 177, Joe finishes with 2 overs, 0 maidens, 2 for 13 the game is won!!! This year's performance of the year goes to JOE ASHTON.

Steve Davies **3rd XI Captain**

Presentation Evening 2019

Senior Award Winners

SENIOR CRICKET AWARDS 2019

1st XI

Batting: Alex Mason Bowling: Alex Mason Performance: Ben Saunders

2nd XI

Batting: Jason McGreehin Bowling: Chris Cartmell Performance: Tom Hessey

3rd XI

Batting: Nathan Wood Bowling: Alex Higham Performance: Joe Ashton

Under 17's

Batting: Eoghan Murphy Bowling: Harrison Child Performance: Tristan Woodman

Under 18's Player of the Year: Morgan Davies Under 21's Player of the Year: Myles Child Clubman of the Year: Dom Ashton



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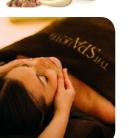






















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Junior Reviews 2019

U17's

At the end of this season we said farewell to the last 2 players from the Rose Bowl Trophy winning team of 2016; Alex Higham and Harrison Child. This just goes to show that, even with a strong winning team, the U17 have always depended on those in lower age groups playing up to make a successful team. As well as Alex and Harrison the junior section also said goodbye to Eoghan Murphy and Ari Holloway. We look forward to seeing them continue to play in the senior section in the 3rds, 2nds and possibly the 1st team.

It was a short season made shorter by the weather and team availability. One of the biggest challenges, other than the opposition, was getting 11 players to be available. We had a total of six games; 1 was called off due to weather and rearranged then we had to concede as we only had 9 players which reduced to 6 by lunch time; 1 game the opposition conceded; another was called off due to weather resulting in a draw. That left us with 3 games completed.

We were well beaten in the first game against Fleetwood being all out in 16 overs for 64 chasing 117. An eight man team lost to Fylde where we were all out for 64 (again) chasing 141. The pick of the games was the game against Blackpool, the only game where we had 11 players. We set a very good target of 146 in our 20 overs, with Morgan Davies, Tristan Woodman and Eoghan Murphy all scoring in the 40's with Tristan and Eoghan both being Not Out. At the end of the 18th over Blackpool were on 140.

Captain Alex Higham came on for his final over going for 6 runs and leaving the scores tied at the end of the 19th over. Charlie Nixon came on for his second and the final over of the game. Could he secure us the highly unlikely result of a tie? The over went Dot, wicket, dot then all hope was lost as the 4th delivery went for 4 runs leaving us only 2 deliveries away from a tie. A close game with some good cricket but unfortunately Lytham were on the wrong side of the line at the end.

Batting Award

No player made it to retire at 50 but the best performance goes to Eoghan Murphy with 44 not out against Blackpool.

Bowling Award

Best performance with the ball was Harrison Child. He bowled a full set of 4 overs in all the games and was the most efficient bowler.

Performance Award

Tristan Woodman for performance with the Bat and the Ball. Scoring 43 Not out against Blackpool and the best bowling figures in the game against Fleetwood.

Richard Wood U17's Coach

U15's

.....

2019 was a less successful summer than the league winning campaign of 2018.

We were deservedly knocked off our throne by teams that have improved significantly over the last few years, in particular Blackpool and Fulwood & Broughton. We were also hampered by a reduction in size of the squad, the availability of that squad and the inability to call on the year group below who left en masse, mostly to join St Annes.

The under 15's are made up of a group of talented all-round sportsmen, which means that they are called on for their services across different sports. Sports which - unlike cricket - are now played in all 12 months of the year. We have representation at AFC Fylde academy, Lancashire Rugby and England Rugby. Fantastic achievements for those guys involved.

The lads remain a pleasure to coach and showed only minor signs of being troublesome youths! They play the game in the right spirit, ensure that they don't take it or themselves too seriously, but apply maximum effort and respect for the game.

The team still won more than half the games and finished a creditable 5th in the league. Seven of our under 15's played senior cricket in 2019. Great experience for the future and good for the club.

Three players stood out this season and are the award winners:

Batting Award

Despite only being available for three league games, the winner reached 50 in each of these games without being dismissed. Showing us what we missed in the games he was not available for. He also scored runs for the Under 17's and 3rd XI.

Batsman of the Year - Tristan Woodman

Bowling Award

Our quickest and most accurate bowler, with the right amount of fire in his belly to have the potential to be a successful fast bowler in years to come. The winner was the leading wicket taker for the U15's and also took wickets for the 2nd and 3rd XI, where he has shown great promise.

Bowler of the Year - Tim Woodman

Coach's Award

The coach's player of the year has led the team from the front for several years, none more so than this year when we have missed key individuals at times. The leading run scorer, he also stepped up to taking on wicketkeeping duties despite his abilities as a leg spinner. He shows maturity in how he approaches training and each game; a valuable support for the coaches.

He has also been a regular for the U17's, 3rd and 2nd XI, making contributions for those teams with bat and ball.

Player of the Year - Morgan Davies

Dan Gregson U15's Coach

U13's

As we entered the 2019 season, we knew it was going to difficult as the majority of the players were playing a year up in the Under 13's competition. As the season went on and we got used to the longer 21-yard pitches and the higher standard our performances improved in both the A and B teams. Although we did not record any wins, we competed in a number of games giving our older opposition scares at times.

All players worked hard in training which showed in their performances on the field. We had numerous players who reached the figure of 30 runs and had to retire including Felix Twitchett, Harvey Barber and Ben Wright. My favourite innings has to be by Nate Francis who at the beginning of the season said he was a bowler and wanted to bat low down the order. In a B team v's A team game Nate brought the B team from the jaws of defeat scoring 25 and hitting a match winning 4 of the last ball! Well done Nate. The awards this year went to:

Batting Averages Award - Toby Curran with 10 innings, 4 Not Out's, 125 runs, with a high score of 30 retired not out and averaging 20.83. **Bowling Averages Award** - Ethan Brown bowling 12.4 overs, 2 maidens, 58 runs for 6 wickets. Average of 9.67.

Girls Coach's Award - Rachael Collinson

Boys Coach's Award - Ethan Burgon

Standout Performance - Nate Francis, for his performance mentioned above.

At time of writing we have no idea when the 2020 season will commence due the Covid-19 outbreak. This is a real disappointment given we had high hopes in competing for the under 13's league title this year given we would have been playing against our own age group and had built on the progress we made last year in the winter net sessions. I firmly believe that the group of boys we have will win trophies and let's hope we can get back to playing the wonderful game of cricket in the near future.

Mark Hodgkinson U13's Coach

U11's

Following the huge success of last year we entered our usual 2 teams with one playing a year up in the U12 category and the other as the U11A team.

The purpose was to push those that were ready and introduce them to real cricket (when you're out you're out) whilst also enabling those that weren't quite ready to still play pairs. Ultimately all we ever want to do is ensure kids enjoyment and real cricket at times can be tough.

For those playing up a year, you lot didn't disappoint. An opening game against Great Eccleston, who were untimely the unbeaten league champions, was a daunting task and to only lose by 7 runs was just amazing and a testament to each and every one of you. Amazing compliments from the Great Eccleston coach topped it all off.

Of the 5 remaining games, winning 2 and losing the rest by no more than a handful of runs was impressive, well done again boys. These games will stand you all in great stead for next year it really will.

Bowling Award - How I'm supposed to give out a bowling award when all of you bowl so well and consistently well is beyond me. Feedback from a lot of coaches this year has been on how strong our entire bowling attack has been. But this kid isn't winning this just because his bowling has come on so much, his batting and general willingness to practice, develop and play numerous different roles, from captain to wicket keeping. The award goes to Will Wyles.

Batting Award - As with bowling, how are you supposed to pick! There's been some wonderful individual performances this year. At U12 you retire at 25 and a couple of you have achieved this. This lad has the most wonderful hand eye co-ordination, technique is getting there. He has had three retirements, his forearm smash (he plays a lot of tennis!!) or as we call it, cover drive has earned him this...Harry Jackson.

Player of the Year - All of you who have played up a year deserve a player of the year you really do. Against some strong bowling attacks, none of you have looked out of place, but ultimately this award is going on overall contribution for the season. He's got more runs than anyone from U14 down to U10's, with retirements. Many wickets with his new leg spin and 2nd leading wicket taker across the junior section (U14's down). At U12 level you cannot coach the kids on the field you are there to encourage the captain without giving them any technical help, that's not easy out there and he has done a great job without any hesitation. Always has to bat against the stronger bowlers and bowl against the strong batters which puts some perspective on his stats Leggey (Archie Legge), you've earned this!

U11's – playing in their natural age group. As previous the groups were split with some playing both formats to support and again you lot made Tim and I so proud. Playing 5 and losing 3 left you as league champions, congratulations boys and very well deserved.

I think what was is equally as encouraging is seeing the development these boys are going through. Some hard-fought games in there ending in the well-deserved league champions.

Bowling Award - This lad rarely misses training, always available for matches, works hard and this year it all seemed to click. Well done Ted Thompson.

Batting Award - Harrow sized bats help and his natural timing for hitting that ball means it doesn't stop when he connects. Keep going Ted Brown.

Player of the Year - One for the future. Playing one year up is difficult, playing 3 years up. Wow! Regardless though, he fits in incredibly well, regular wicket taker and run scorer. Fielding for a kid so young, brilliant. Well done Henry Roberts.

And finally.....

Tim and I have massively enjoyed coaching you all this year, at times your cheek and over confidence is a challenge but the way you all bring it together shows you are taking in what we go through at training (even though you pretend to not listen!!).

You are credit to the club and yourselves in all you do. Well done Lytham U'11s and already looking forward to next year.



Presentation Evening 2019

Junior Award Winners



JUNIOR AWARD WINNERS 2019

Under 10 Batting: William Thompson Bowling: Zac Legge Player of the Year: Alec Fairhurst

Under 11 Batting: Ted Brown Bowling: Ted Thompson Player of the Year: Henry Roberts

Under 12 Batting: Harry Jackson Bowling: Will Wyles Player of the Year: Archie Legge

Under 13 Batting: Toby Curran Bowling: Ethan Brown Player of the Year: Ethan Burgon Stand out Performance: Nate Francis Girls Coaches Award: Rachel Collinson

Under 15 Batting: Tristan Woodman Bowling: Tim Woodman Player of the Year: Morgan Davies













Women and Girls Cricket

Women and Girls Cricket



In April 2019 we started discussions with Julie Durrant from Lancashire Cricket Foundation about introducing and developing Women & Girl's cricket to Lytham.

.....

Although we have a number of young ladies who play, they are of varying ages and there are not enough of them to create an all-girls team. This problem is not just specific to Lytham and many other clubs in the area have the same issue.

As a first step we thought it would be an idea for the local clubs to pool resources and create a "Fylde" all girls team. This would allow us to share facilities, coaches and ultimately allow some matches to be organised. The girls would continue to train with their mixed teams on a Friday but would have the extra sessions with their girl's squad too on a fortnightly or monthly basis.

Lancashire Cricket Foundation have been supporting this idea over the winter months and we were hoping to have something in place for the 2020 season. However due to the outbreak of COVID -19 most of our plans look likely to be delayed.

As a result of our meeting in April we were invited to take part in a Women's Softball Tournament at St Annes CC. I received a great response from the female members of the club, so off we went to St Annes with not one but three teams and an entourage of supporters.

We registered our teams. (Fine Legs, The Old Ducks and No Balls) collected our T-shirts, bottles of Prosecco (part of the incentive to play) and started our warm ups!!

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening – only a few had played before but we all got to bat & bowl and I was amazed how competitive everyone was!!



With such a good response to the tournament we have decided to start up a ladies softball team which will include our older Junior girls (if they wish to get involved). Training will be on a Friday evening while the junior training is taking place to make it easier for mums to take part. We hope to organise our own Softball Festival and of course arrange some friendly matches once we feel we have reached that standard.

I am delighted to say that Lisa Burgon volunteered to do her Level 2 coaching course at Myerscough and will head up the W & G'S training on a Friday. Lisa will also help out with the "Fylde" group when that is up and running.

There is one other person who has been working behind the scenes to push W & G's cricket forward. Craig McIntyre has been heavily involved, running with the ideas, taking the pressure off of me and I am grateful to him for all his efforts.









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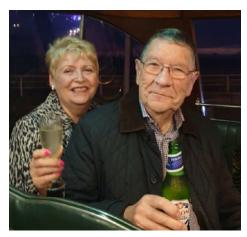




For the second year running members from all sections boarded their own private heritage tram for a ride through the Illuminations to The Sheraton Hotel in North Shore where they enjoyed a delicious buffet meal and were entertained by the fantastic Robbie Williams tribute "JK".

Over £1300 was raised from the evening which was donated to Lytham Sports Foundation for Phase 2 of our Club Development Plan - to build a much-needed new Clubhouse and Changing Rooms.

A big thank you to Nigel Seddon and all the staff at The Sheraton for being great hosts and to Dom Ashton for helping to organise it all.













In Rememberance

A Tribute to Leonard Hackett

We are all here to celebrate and remember the life of Leonard Hackett.....Our great friend.

Len was someone of few words but wise opinions; who gave his time and his care; someone who did not like a fuss rather preferring to quietly get the job done; well today Len we will fuss, celebrate and remember you with pride and say thank you for everything you gave.

We all knew Len in different ways whether that be through being a neighbour or work, Snooker Club or through the great game of Cricket and we all come here to celebrate his life because we knew him in those different ways; what we all share is our respect, friendship and love for Len.

Truly our lives made better by knowing him. He was born on the 20 December 1940 Edgeworth in Bolton to parents James and Florence... "Father and mother". His mother was a nurse and his dad had served with the London Irish in the First World War as a Sergeant Major and on his return worked at the Mill in Edgeworth.

Len recently confided that he only arrived in this world because of a rubber shortage due to the submarine blockade at the start of the war.

Edgeworth Cricket Club was where as a child took up the game that was to be the focus of his life, Mother made teas, Father played and Uncles Umpired and were grounds men. A wonderful cricketing and community education that shaped his selfless approach to everything and everyone.

He attended Bolton School where he found that he detested Latin; until the end he was a proud member of the old pupil's association and they expressed their condolences when I spoke with them two weeks ago.

Len was also a Mountaineer in the 1950's; helping to organize the British Mountaineering Society. It came up in the conversation when we drove back from an away cricket fixture together last year (how we got from the lack of application in third team batting at Fleetwood Hesketh to pre 1970's crampons and Mallory and Irvine I do not know) however he told me how he would visit the Alps and Scotland scaling peaks and planning expeditions in a pre GPS world. Ultimately and thankfully for us all...He came to the Fylde coast with his parents when they retired where he played cricket for South Shore for 20 years bowling off spin and caring for his mother right up until her death at the age of 92. He became a cricketing stalwart of the Fylde coast and beyond, he was involved with South Shore and Palace Shield Cricket and eventually Lytham Cricket Club in 2001. Committee member since then...



and Chairman of our Club since 2013...he involved himself with grace and endeavor in all the work that that role involved. He was a huge part of Lytham Cricket club our rock and sold base; so much so that his views and approach will remain our guide as we face the seasons ahead; Umpiring, sitting on committees...soundly advising and quietly guiding us all in the right direction.... after a match always stoic in defeat and thoughtful in victory.... a shake of the head or a well done in the bar.

He umpired the second team up until 2017 and took great joy in umpiring junior games. Rain or shine in the summer he umpired giving selflessly his enthusiasm to our cricketing community.

In an imperfect world one of the most joyous and admirable things anyone can do is to foster the development of a caring community and strive to play a role in it. So, it was with Len. And it was this community that pulled together around him in the last few weeks of his life.

He was wonderfully independent right until the end. Retaining his encyclopedic knowledge of Blackpool tram and bus time tables, playing snooker and having an active role in cricket meetings.

It was hoped to move him into accommodation in Lytham. He quashed however any thoughts of meeting a rich widow saying "I have been avoiding doing that all my life!!"

He passed away following a very short illness having been cared for right until the end by his Club.

The same club was his family and he looked upon us as his family....whether it be sipping tea in the corner with his newspaper and kindle, kindly asking "is there sugar in that?' going to League meetings in Liverpool (on public transport) to saying...'that's th'over' before marching off to square leg and eventually scoring games last year shouting in ringing tones "bowlers name??" across the ground; he was always there for us and that is why we are here to give thanks for his life. What can I say to you Len? Apart from; how could that stumping not be out?

Thank you for caring for us all and giving so much; Thank you for reminding us that we are privileged to live in a community that cares; Thank you for your quiet honest dignity. We shall remember you always so you will remain with us and the club forever; nobody can ask for a better epitaph....and that is why we celebrate you my friend.

Martin Hacket

.....



Andrew Ciantar (Dingo): This is so sad. It was an absolute pleasure to have met him. My condolences to everyone.

Andy Gregson: Sad, sad news - from first meeting him at South Shore CC in 1990 through to umpiring the U11s, 13s & 15s at Lytham CC when I was coaching, he was a lovely man full of vast cricket knowledge and always willing to chat about the game he loved. A sad loss.

Kulwinder Singh Virdee: *Can't believe it... just saw him not long ago in Lytham and he was his usual self. Loved having a laugh with him on and off the field.*

Michael Rigby: Really sad news. Great bloke and a big part of the club and the success we had. A gentleman and genuine nice bloke who I've known since I was a kid. R.I.P Len a true legend who will be missed by all.

Alex Yates: I don't even know what to say - gutted. Was always there at the end of my over to encourage me & give me advice (or tell me I was bowling rubbish!). Without him, I wonder how well the junior section at the club would have done. "Legend" gets thrown about a lot these days but Len is truly a Lytham Legend - RIP

David Mulligan: So many Cricket Club stalwarts have passed recently, but none will be missed more so than Len. He was always the voice of reason. RIP Len.

A Tribute to Leonard Hackett

Peter Buchanan: *RIP Len Great Man. Was always up for a Chat and used to get me the Cricket Paper weekly. Lytham Cricket Club Legend.*

Terry Batty: A very special friend. Thanks for all the laughs Len. Tara fella.

Matt Cartmell: *I will miss our debriefs on the latest Lytham batting collapse. An exceptional appetite for seeing people get the best out of their ability. RIP you great man x*

Craig Allen: *RIP Sir Len, a gentleman, a source of unbelievable knowledge, a calm influence on all captains to have played under his umpireship, a great loss to a fantastic club.*

Dave Cartmell: Such sad news. Will reflect so fondly on some wonderful times on and off the cricket field. A total gentleman in every way. Generous and supportive to everyone and always with a lovely sense of humour. Will miss him enormously. RIP friend. Dan Yates: Speechless honestly, absolute legend of the club and my life, always supported me through the years from being 8 years old and now being 23. Supported me through captaincy and supported me through my choice of the Royal navy. Gonna be missed massively around the club. RIP XX

George Brookes: 'That's the over' 🧡

Jason McGreehin: *RIP mate.. not going to be the same without you*

Sam Owen: I send my condolences. Every club needs a Len. A lovely gent who did a lot for others, especially juniors. He will be missed by many. RIP

Andrew Gillibrand: *Our sincere* condolences from all at South Shore *Cricket Club. Len also played a huge part in SSCC playing in the teams and coaching the juniors. He was my first junior coach 42 years ago. Len will be sadly missed from local cricket but has had a positive impact on so many young cricketers.* Derek James: Another Lytham legend lost. Thanks Len, for all the insights into a game I love to watch but never played. The clubhouse won't be the same without him. RIP.

David Perkins: Desperately sad news, he'll be sadly missed. Len was involved in one of the funniest incidents I've witnessed on a cricket pitch when he umpired our U17s at Thornton and was the only one on the ground not to hear Ben nick it behind. When the next ball was dispatched back over the bowler's head and into the field for 6, it looked like WWIII would break out. Len was unfazed, signalled the 6, called the end of over and strolled across to square leg for the next over – priceless! We've lost another of the good guys, but he will be in good company. RIP Len, we'll miss you.

Gavin Wiggans: Very sad to hear this news. I first met Len when he umpired a South Shore v Lytham U13 game some 45 years ago - He worked tirelessly for the club and will be sorely missed.



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Lytham Cricket Club Annual Ball 2020

Until Next Time...





Sadly, this year due to the Coronavirus outbreak we were forced to cancel our Easter Ball. However, it will be back bigger and better. Save the date. It is already booked for Friday 26th March 2021!!

As we do not have any photos this year, I thought it would be nice to take a trip down memory lane with a few photos from previous Easter Balls. Enjoy!!!















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You could have been mistaken for thinking you were lost somewhere in Scandinavia if you visited the club on the evening of Saturday 6th July. There were all sorts of strange people lurking from Vikings to Abba look-alikes to a rasher of Danish Bacon to name but a few, not forgetting the odd Bjorn Borg! Our "Super Troupers" Nigel Seddon & Dom Ashton came up with a great fundraising idea: A Scandi Night to raise "Money, Money, Money" for a new clubhouse.

We were entertained by Abba Glamma and enjoyed a delicious selection of Scandinavian food prepared by the chefs from The Elgin Hotel, authenticated by our very own Swedish "Dancing Queen", Pia Ashton.

A big thank you to all those who came along to support the evening.



Scandi Night









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Lytham Club Day 2019

Lytham Club Day!



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It is 5 years since we last entered a float in the Club Day Procession and once again all the hard work was rewarded with 1st Place in our category.

A huge thank you to all those parents and children who worked tirelessly throughout the season doing BBQ's, selling sweets and baking cakes to raise money to buy the materials we needed to decorate the float and to Kate Kelly for co-ordinating it all.

The float looked amazing thanks to the parents and children who all spent time drawing pictures, sticking bottle tops onto banners and blowing up balloons, all under the watchful eye of Louisa Hopcroft.

A huge thanks also goes to some local businesses who made it all possible; Wardens who made and painted the picket fences, Juta for donating all the artificial turf and of course M Threlfall Transport for providing the lorry and driver.

A great team effort!!!







Player Profile

Danny Yates



The most enjoyable part about being involved with the Cricket Club (apart from drinking a glass of Rose in the bar) is seeing how the juniors progress and develop over the years.

It is lovely to see them grow and become more confident, not only in cricket, but as young people.

One cricketer that I am particularly proud of is Danny Yates who I have known since he was about 9 years old.

Danny came to Lytham CC in 2004, at the age of seven. He may have been the smallest in his team but he was fearless. Danny played cricket any chance he got, often playing up several years and as soon as he could, for the 3 rd XI. It wasn't long before he was playing 2 nd XI on a Saturday and 3 rd XI on a Sunday holding his own against the adults with bat and ball.

At the age of seventeen Danny was asked to captain the 3 rd XI, agreeing without hesitation. He captained a very young side which included my own son and I have had many an enjoyable day, home and away, with the 3 rd XI watching them play with determination and spirit under Dan's leadership. This group of lads went on to top the 3 rd XI Sunday 1 st Division in 2013, gaining promotion to the 3 rd XI Premier League. They didn't stop there and in 2014 they topped the Premier League. A huge achievement!

In 2016 Danny captained the 2nd XI and to everyone's delight led his team to victory to become 2 nd XI First Division champions gaining promotion to the Premier League.

He is definitely one of Lytham's most successful captains, if not the most successful to date.



Danny's commitment to Lytham didn't stop there and after gaining his Coaching Foundation Degree at Myerscough College he coached the juniors on a Friday night and managed the U17 team.

His love of cricket also saw him head off to Australia for the winter of 2017 where he played for Buckley Ridges near Melbourne and coached their U17's.

As happens to us all, the time came for Danny to start thinking about his career, especially as many of his peers were heading off to University or College. A career in cricket, whilst it would have been ideal, is not an easy one to get in to. After talking to his many friends, family and some of his "cricket family" he decided that a career in the Royal Navy was the right path for him.



Danny signed up in 2019 and was soon off to Plymouth to complete his 10 weeks initial training.

True to form, Danny fitted in well and rose to the challenge. He had his passing out ceremony in October 2019 and is currently completing the next stage of his training as a weapons engineer technician in Portsmouth. Whilst we all miss him; we are extremely proud of him and grateful for all he has done for the club over the years. We will be holding him to his promise to play for the 2nd XI when he is home on leave!

Susan Chiekrie



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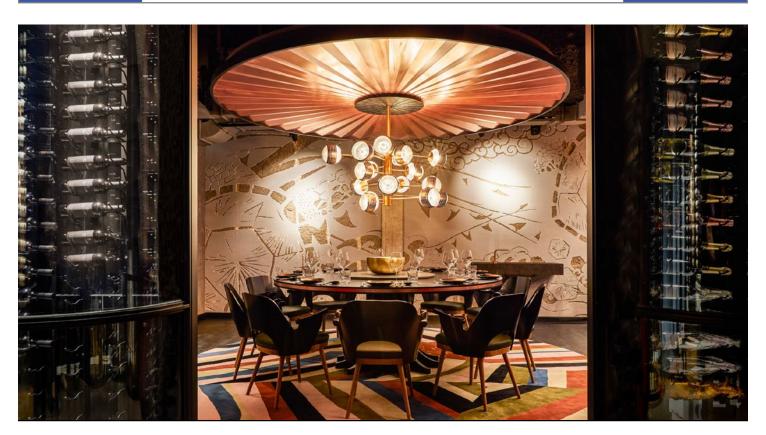
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View From The Bar

I don't want to talk about Cricket! I don't want to talk about Football, Tennis or Hockey either. And I'm not alone.

Pouring over the days' activities; the highs, the lows, the bad decisions, the great moves, the state of the playing surfaces, who did what and to whom.

The statistics alone are baffling and everyone has an opinion. To be honest, it's all a bit of a blur. Besides, I'm not qualified. I'm not alone in that either! So that was summer. Here one minute, gone the next – a bit of a blur too.

Here's the thing though. We're open all year round and yes, it's a bit quieter in the winter months, but we persevere. Why? Well, some people come down to the club just to have a good time. Hard to believe isn't it?

Apparently, they have the audacity to use the "hut" to meet friends and family. Sometimes just on their own, sometimes in a group and every now and then, in large numbers. How dare they have such a rollicking good time!

They come to enjoy special occasions, dress up, dress down. Eat food. Drink a

nice glass of something whilst they laugh and joke; employ their conversational skills on the latest concerns. Or just to get a bit of support in tough times.

To them, it seems, the sport is incidental to their being here and they have a sense of belonging to something bigger than they are. Who knew?

Sometimes we ought to remind ourselves that a great deal of comfort and satisfaction is derived from being a member of our club for many people. It is their continued patronage, regardless of the sport, that helps to drive everything. Not just in summer, but all year round.

Not something to be taken for granted. You never know what's round the corner that might injure our ability to "club together".

So next time someone asks, "fancy a drink down the hut?", "There's a fundraiser next month, shall we book?", "Are you joining the 200 club lottery?", may I suggest that you say "YES".

As you may be in danger of actually having a good time. Now there's something I do want to talk about. Now there's something I am definitely qualified in and it's the best sport of all.

Terry Batty Club Steward





Over 35's

2019 was our 2nd season in the Place Shield T20 Competition and this year we were drawn in the same group as St Annes, Withnell Fold, Walton-le-Dale and Tarleton. As St Annes had to withdraw from the competition, we were drawn to play both Withnell Fold both home and away.

We started the competition well at home to Withnell Fold winning by 20 runs with new signing Duncan Bennett and Steve Dodd both scoring 50's. Russ Thomas then chipped in with a 5-for with the ball to give us our first win in the competition. We travelled to Withnell Fold 2 weeks later and a good performance with the ball and in the field meant we restricted them to 105 all-out and knocked them off for 3 wickets giving us maximum points from 2 games.

Walton-le-Dale then visited Church Road and our highest score of the season of 151, assisted by a 73 from Kuli Virdee and 44 from Steve Dodd, put the pressure on them from the first ball of their innings. They only managed 105 from their 20 overs with Andy Gerrard taking 3 for 12 in an 'hostile' opening spell and Russ Thomas chipping in again with 3 for 17. 3 wins from 3 and we were starting to dream of finals day!

A win away at Tarleton the following week would have guaranteed a place on Finals day however it was one game too many for our aging bodies! We were held to 109 off our 20 overs with a few players getting in but not managing to push on to a decent score. A couple of early wickets and we were in the game, but a good 3 rd wicket partnership saw it run away from us eventually losing by 7 wickets.

Second place in the group with a run/wicket rate of 7.34 saw us narrowly miss out as best runner up to Kirkham and Wesham who had a run/wicket rate of 10.04.

Mark Hodgkinson Captain

POS	Team	p	w	1	t	n r	Pe n	Pt s	R/W
1st	Tarleton CC - Twenty20	4	3	0	0	0	0	10	23.57
2nd	Lytham CC - Over 35's	4	3	1	0	1	0	9	7.34
3rd	Walton-le-Dale CC - Twenty20	4	1	2	0	0	0	4	-7.96
4th	Withnell Fold CC - Twenty20	4	0	4	0	1	0	0	-13.59

OVER 35'S AWARD WINNERS 2019

Batting Award: Steve Dodd 4 inn / 1 no / 133 runs / Ave 44.3

Bowling Award: Russ Thomas

for his 5-for against Withnell Fold. (4 overs / 0 maidens / 28 runs / 5 wickets). Russ was also the leading wicket taker with 10 in 4 games.

Funniest Moment Award: Clive Holland

trying to see the ball on the boundary at Tarleton and then somehow managing to dive over the ball when it was at his feet. We had never seen as much effort made to avoid a ball everbefore.

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