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LYTHAM

Cricket Year Book

2017



2nd XI - Division 1 Champions 2016

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LYTHAM CRICKET CLUB

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Telephone: (01253) 734137

www.LythamCricket.co.uk
Founded: 1855

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Under 17: Richard Wood, Dan Yates

Foreword

Welcome to the 2017 edition of the Lytham Cricket Club Yearbook. I hope you have wintered well and that you are looking forward to a season of good weather and even better cricket.

Over the last couple of seasons we have sadly said goodbye to so many stalwart supporters and ex-players who played such an intrinsic part in the history of this club. They were such characters around the place and we will miss them in the bar and around the boundary.

But before the first wicket is prepared or the first ball is bowled, I must say a host of thank you's to so many people involved in the success of the cricket section. I am not going to name names as there is always going to be somebody I leave out but here goes. .

To our dedicated parents and coaches who give of their time so freely, to the guys and girls

who keep us fed and watered, the fundraisers, the grounds team, the umpires, our supporters, our business sponsors, our long suffering partners who forego many a weekend night out, The Exec and above all to our Cricket Committee who toil endlessly to keep this show on the road!

And last but not least, to the organisations who have placed adverts in this Yearbook - without them you wouldn't be reading this now. Please take note of who they are and support them whenever you can.

I will take this opportunity of thanking the players in advance for their commitment and a season of good sportsmanship and skilful cricket.

*- Antony Mulligan
Lytham Cricket Club
Committee*

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1st XI ~ 2016



The 2016 season had kicked off well before any cricket square had been cut, creases marked out and outfield been mowed, as meetings and negotiations were in process, well before Christmas 2015, to put pen to paper on our new signings for season.

As a result of all the hard work from those involved in the off season recruitment, we welcomed Toby Lester, Gary Knight, Matt Taaffe and Taylor Cornall at Lytham CC for our first match up against Leigh CC. Resulting in a well deserved draw against a strong Leigh line up.

The momentum was up and down like a 10 year old on a pogo stick with another 'good' draw against a very strong Formby, followed by some very close losses to New Brighton (losing in the second last over in a thriller), and falling short against Ormskirk by 18 runs. Until an eventual win against Colwyn Bay in round 5.

The points at the top of the table at this early stage in the season were very tight as expected and we sat only one good

win away from leading the ladder. Spirits were still high.

With a great win against always title contenders Bootle, we were right up there competing with the best with our very young squad that had an average age of 23.5 (that's including our most experienced men in Joey Davies and Antony Mulligan ☐).

The next 3 rounds went as followed- A convincing win against Birkenhead. A game we should have won against Northern and a very nervous draw against Wallasey where victory ended up being only 1 run away. The boys were still positive.

A familiar pattern in our performances then started to take shape. As the old saying goes, 'So close, but yet, so far away'. We were exactly that and as a result we were slipping down that greasy pole in the ladder.

Games that we were all but ruled out of a chance of winning- we won. And losses to teams that were in consideration for relegation for the 2017 season (Birkenhead Park, Colwyn Bay) who we had convincingly beaten in the first rounds of the season.

Another close draw to Northern CC, falling short by 3 runs- made for a frustrating end quarter of the season. With even fears of a relegation ourselves and only ourselves to blame.

Tensions did get tight around the club which was expected due to our performances. But I praise the guys in still showing their faces down at the club after these low periods during the season, enduring the well deserved 'spray'/advice from our passionate supporters. The cliché 'its an easy game

when you're winning' is spot on. No doubt about that. But it's how you handle when things aren't going your way, that's really shows your character. And for our boys, I couldn't be prouder in the way you just kept going.

Players to look out for this coming season are young Jack Saunders and Taylor Cornall. Two best mates playing in the Liverpool Premier League together at such a young age who produced solid performances in their first full season in the prem.

Personally, Thank you. Thank you for the mind blank that Lytham CC had every year when the decision was made to keep asking me back. I've spent 6 great seasons at Lytham. Highlights being the 2010 premiership and the people that I have met that I now call friends for life. To where it all started with Mully and Knighto back in 2010, to the Changing of Guard with the young crew that are rolling through now (pests), I now have very fond memories of my whole experience because of you. Thank you Beefy and the wonderful Claire for taking me on board. I'm frequently asked back home here in Aus if I miss it. My straight answer is 'I miss my mates - not necessarily the weather'.

See you all again sometime
Dom



1st XI ~ ECB PREMIER LEAGUE

	Pd	W	L	D	ab	nd	T	bf	bg	Pts
1. Leigh	22	14	3	4	1	0	0	42	41	368
2. Formby	22	12	4	4	1	1	0	58	37	345
3. Ormskirk	22	12	4	4	1	1	0	54	32	335
4. Northern	22	12	6	2	1	1	0	50	24	324
5. Bootle	22	11	5	4	1	1	0	48	44	320
6. Wallasey	22	8	10	2	1	1	0	29	60	257
7. New Brighton	22	7	10	2	2	1	0	43	56	254
8. Rainhill	22	8	9	3	1	1	0	31	45	246
9. LYTHAM	22	6	9	6	1	0	0	37	65	227
10. Colwyn Bay	22	6	11	3	1	1	0	33	52	215
11. Rainford	22	4	14	2	2	0	0	17	56	163
12. Birkenhead Park	22	3	18	0	1	0	0	38	40	143

Welcome 😊

Danny Edwards (Captain)

Danny returns to the club after a year away playing in the second tier of our league. He has been appointed as 1st X1 Captain and we hope you get behind him as Skipper this season! We look forward to him leading both the team and our spin attack this summer.



Michael Gutpil- Bunce

Michael is a quality signing from New Zealand. He is a full time professional and is currently the opening batsman for Auckland Aces in New Zealand's First class competition. His signing was endorsed by our previous pro's Peter Fulton and Warren McSkimming. Michael and his partner Susannah arrive just in time for the first league game and we hope you welcome them to The Club and Lytham life in general!

Josh Holden

Josh is a hard hitting all-rounder who has played all his cricket to date with our Palace Shield neighbours Freckelton CC. He was a consistent top performer within the PS and is looking to improve his game by playing in 'the Comp'



Steven Croft

The Lancashire County Cricket Club Captain needs no introduction!! What a privilege it is to have the current County Captain playing in our ranks whenever he is available. We hope you enjoy watching him!! *(Photo courtesy of Lancashire CCC)*

Alex Moore

Alex is a young cricketer from the Lincolnshire League studying in the North West at Myerscough College. He is an off spinning all-rounder and will add strength and depth to both our batting and bowling departments.

Goodbye 😞

Dominic O'Brien

Dom arrived at Lytham CC in 2010 and was part of the premier league winning side in his debut season and captained the 1st XI in his final summer. Dom has been part of the furniture at Church Road since 2010 and we are all sad to see him go. He has made friends for life here in England and anybody visiting Brisbane for this year's Ashes should give him a shout!. We wish him all the very best for the future and look forward to welcoming him back as a visitor in the future - Terry, stock up the bar!!

Dom O'Brien's Lytham CC Record
137 matches
128 innings, 19 not outs, 4184 runs, 38.39 average
highest score: 121 not out, '50s': 27, '100s': 7
126 catches, 16 stumpings
31 overs, 5 maidens, 127 runs, 5 wickets

Luke Williams

Luke has moved onto Roe Green CC who play in the newly created Greater Manchester Cricket League. Luke will be playing under the guidance of his former Rossall house master, Guy Emmett, who has recently been appointed pro at the Worsley club. Luke's all round skill and general athleticism is very natural, and his full potential is yet to be fully realised. Some time away from the club will help him develop even further to him becoming one of the best genuine all-rounders about.

Gary Knight

Gary has returned to former club and our competitors Ormskirk CC. Gary's wicket keeping skill and speed impressed all members during his short time at the club and we look forward to seeing him back in action at Church Road later this year....stay in your crease boys!

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2nd XI ~ 2016



Dan Yates receives the First Division Trophy from Mike Watkinson

It has been a great season for our 2nd XI team; after 7 years of trying we not only gained promotion to The Premier Division but did it in style by leading for the whole season and winning the title.

The best and most crucial game of the season fell against Ainsdale at home where, if we beat them, we would go 30 points clear at the top. We did beat them but tried our best to lose! Great stuff from Chilli & Aarin to hold their bottle at the end.

This year we had an overseas play for us called Andrew Ciantar better known as 'Dingo'. He brought experience and a good mentality onto the pitch and helped to keep the lads in a good mind-set. Towards the latter half of the season Dingo began to get wickets/runs more frequently and helped us in some big games to get the required result. Many thanks to him for his performances both ON and OFF the field and good luck for

the future. He certainly left his mark in and around Lytham!

This year saw young and slightly older faces representing us, including Martin (the older) & Fred (the younger). Martin played whenever available and kept superbly as he always did back in the day for the 1s. He brought sensibility to the team as well as increasing the average age hugely!

New faces included Freddie Hackett only 12 years old playing in most of the matches.

One of my most memorable occasions of Freddie's year was when he came on for a spell against St Helens with a batsmen on 0 and a batsmen on 40's. The batsmen on 40 was on strike and Freddie's leggies had him bamboozled leaving him walking down the crease giving Martin, his dad, the chance to stump him. Almost in slow motion Martin took the stumps. The square leg umpire

raised his finger, followed by joyous celebrations from players and spectators - and a Dad gleaming from ear to ear at his son's first 2nd XI wicket ever. Top stuff!

Alex Higham, at 14 years old, came into the side like an old pro. Booming with confidence and batting at 7 throughout the year and consistently hitting opening bowlers out of the attack.

Harrison Child also played a few games for us this season bringing a lot of laughs to the changing room and committed fielding to the side. My favourite moment of his season was away at Colwyn Bay when the last pair, Harrison & Freddie really frustrated the opposition, by seeing off their opening bowlers, lasting another 8 overs and also scoring a few runs in the process.

As always the Cartmell brother's brought their experience to the 2nds,

endeavouring to play in most of the matches with many valuable contributions.

When one of our 1st XI stepped down to assist us they always made a valuable contribution. Joe Davis lead the way at the beginning of the season playing 3 matches and amassing 98 runs with an average of 49. He also took two 5 fors with an average of 2.2 and an economy rate of 1.29!

Matt Taafe's cameo performance saw him knocking off 102 runs (not out) and the two Tom's, Hessey 65* and Morrisson 41* saw off Colwyn Bay by 10 wickets. My sincere thanks to all of those who played, especially to those who stepped in when players were scarce.

Now to my thanks you's. As always to Len for his umpiring, scoring and advice. To Dom Ashton who frequently umpired and to Scott and Patrick who also

2nd XI - FIRST DIVISION

	Pd	W	L	D	ab	nd	T	bl	bg	Pts
1. LYTHAM	22	12	4	2	3	0	0	30	36	346
2. Wigan	22	13	5	0	4	0	0	32	21	333
3. Ainsdale	22	13	2	5	1	0	0	43	32	330
4. Rainford	22	6	7	3	6	0	0	40	41	231
5. Orrell Red Triangle	22	7	6	4	4	1	0	24	35	230
6. Spring View	22	6	6	4	6	0	0	26	28	204
7. Highfield	22	5	6	6	4	1	0	46	30	201
8. Rainhill	22	5	6	5	5	0	0	18	32	200
9. Maghull	22	5	9	4	3	1	0	29	47	196
10. Northop Hall	22	4	7	5	3	2	0	31	37	166
11. St Helens Town	22	4	12	1	5	0	0	30	30	165
12. Colwyn Bay	22	3	13	3	2	1	0	33	55	163

umpired a few games. Thanks to Alan & Liz for supporting me on and off the field with encouragement and from time to time a bit of advice, which was not always taken!

Also to Beef and the support of The Management. Heartfelt thanks must go to all those who drove to away matches

and supported us. Without you there would be no match and finally thanks to Terry for those lovely teas he always arranges and also for putting up with our off the field antics.

- Dan Yates



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Jewson's Sponsorship

We are delighted to announce that Jewsons have committed to a three year kit sponsorship deal with Lytham Cricket Club. Jewson has been an active supporter for many years and we thank them for their continued support to grass roots cricket, and our Club in particular.

A Spokesperson for Jewson told us "Jewson is the UK's leading supplier of sustainable timber and building materials, and is proud to sponsor sport across all levels; from elite to grass roots. Through sponsorships we aim to bring local communities together. We work in partnership with the England and Wales Cricket Board to promote participation and engagement in the sport. At Jewson we supply a wide range of building materials nationwide, from paint for picket fences, to replacement roof tiles (for repairing any broken by 6's!)."

Paul Edwards, Jewson Business Development Director commented "As a proud sponsor of Lytham CC we wish them every success in the Liverpool and District Premier League this season. We look forward to seeing the Lytham teams resplendent in their new kit in the summer. Let's hope it brings them some good luck out there on the field!"



Steven Croft joins Lytham

We are delighted to welcome the current Lancashire captain, Steven Croft, to Lytham Cricket Club who will be playing when he has no county commitments.

Now 32, he made his Lancashire 1st XI debut in 2005 and has scored over 7,000 First Class runs and taken over 70 First Class wickets. In one day and Twenty20 cricket he has scored a further 7,000 runs and taken 120 wickets. He is also an outstanding fielder and has taken over 300 catches in all formats for Lancashire. *Photo courtesy of Lancashire CCC.*



JEWSON

3rd XI ~ 2016

Lytham 3rd team opened the 2016 season with a strong feeling of optimism after narrowly missing out on being league champions on a technical interpretation of the points allocation the year before.

The batting highlights of the season were Mathew McGreehin's 89 taking us to a comfortable lead at home to Widnes and Miles Child's 81 ensuring victory against Southport and Birkdale.

Whilst the average batting score for the season was 134 the scores achieved by our younger players are certainly cause for optimism. Some of the notable performances include Curtis Fletcher with 34 against Highfield, Joe Ashton's 30 against Sefton Park, Alex Higham's 41 against Leigh, not forgetting Kyle McCauley's memorable 52 at Leigh. No doubt Kyle will recall that day, and his duel with the bowlers, or perhaps one in particular, with something of a wry smile!



The 2016 season gave us much to cheer about. Perhaps the most memorable moment was when the Child brothers came to bat at Northop Hall. Upon arrival at the crease the team was floundering

3rd XI ~ SUNDAY PREMIER DIVISION

	Pd	W	L	D	ab	nd	T	bt	bg	Pts
1. Highfield	18	9	3	2	2	0	0	17	35	292
2. Newton-le-Willows	18	10	3	4	0	1	0	34	28	267
3. Rainford	18	8	2	4	3	1	0	30	39	249
4. Widnes	18	6	4	4	2	0	0	41	18	204
5. Leigh	18	6	4	3	5	0	0	26	30	201
6. Fomby	18	3	4	8	2	1	0	38	48	161
7. LYTHAM	18	5	8	1	2	1	0	20	35	160
8. Southport & Birkdale	18	3	8	3	3	1	0	37	29	146
9. Northop Hall	18	1	8	3	4	2	0	20	36	106
10. Sefton Park	18	3	10	0	1	3	0	10	18	98



on 52 for 7. It was beginning to look like a spectacular collapse but the pair batted confidently with Miles finishing on 57 and Harrison on 37, the victory belonged to Lytham by some 19 runs.

Finally, it would be remiss not to mention some of the bowling highlights with Alex Higham taking 4 wickets in 9 overs for the season and young Freddie Hackett with 12 wickets. We can expect much in 2017 from those two. Captain Josh Eales

in particular gave cause for celebration with 9 wickets for 63 against Widnes. Would it be ill fated to ponder on the possibility that Josh might take home 10 wickets in 2017?

- Jack Henriques



The Hackett Boys

Senior Award Winners . . .

1st XI:

Batting : Gary Knight
Bowling: Toby Lester
Performance: Taylor Cornall

2nd XI:

Batting: Matthew Cartmell
Bowling: Dan Yates
Performance: Chris Cartmell

3rd XI:

Batting: Myles Child
Bowling: Josh Eales
Performance: Matt McGreehin

Under 17s:

Batting : Taylor Cornall
Bowling: Myles Child
Performance: Elliot Cleasby

Over 35s:

Batting: Rob Hezel
Bowling: Steve Dodd
Funniest Moment: Russ Thomas
'Special' Award: Craig McIntyre



Under 18 Player of the Year:

Taylor Cornall

Under 21 Player of the Year:

Dan Yates

Clubman of the Year:

Dan Yates

Additionally:

Myles Child (Under 17s) Hat Trick
Chris Cartmell, 7-13
Josh Eales, 9 wicket haul

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Junior Reviews 2016

UNDER 17s

The U17s had a good year as they won the Palace Shield Rose Trophy for the first time in the Club's history. It was a tight fought match, the fortunes of which fluctuated between the 2 teams. Lytham batted first and got a total of 152 for 5 in 40 overs. In reply Penwortham were all out for 141. Having elected to bat first Taylor Cornall and Myles Child got off to a slow start. However an excellent partnership between Elliott Cleasby and Nathan Wood took Lytham to a respectable position of 152 for 5. The first wicket came early for Lytham, but the hunt for the 2nd wicket was more difficulty due to 2 of Penwortham's batsmen putting on a 59 run partnership. Strong bowling from Taylor Cornall, Alex Higham and Calum Doyle swung the game back in Lytham's

favour. A special mention to Myles Child who took a hat-trick in the penultimate over of the game.

Throughout the season Lytham were undefeated in their matches including their group matches where they saw off the likes of Fulwood and Broughton, Kirkham and Wesham and Longridge. In the quarter final of the Palace Shield Rose Trophy, Lytham were drawn against St.Annes which was always going to be a tough game, but Lytham batted and bowled really well to secure the win.

- Jack Saunders



For all the latest news from the club **LIKE LYTHAM CRICKET CLUB** on Facebook



UNDER 15s

For the 2016 season our aim was for inclusive competitive club cricket with focus on the lads enjoying the game. The squad formed an effective team, under the capable captaincy of Callum Doyle, they played 11 matches, winning 8.

Thanks to all the parents and Len Hackett who umpired most of the games and to the players from the lower age groups who played for the U15s, particularly to Harrison Child and Alex Higham of U14 who played in every match.

The U15 came second in the league winning 6 out of total of 8 matches. In the representative knock out county cup they won 1 against Roe Green and narrowly lost to Euxton who went on to win the county competition. There was 1 friendly where they destroyed Preston.

We have had some explosive batting this season and some measured batting to create some excellent scores and run chases.

Our bowling was on the whole very efficient but didn't always take the opportunities that came to us due to the fielding and some of the bowlers would have had better figures had the catches gone or stayed in hand! Catches win matches and that is one area of our game we are looking to improve upon next year.

Highlights:

- We always managed to turnout 11 players and sometimes 12.
- Second highest score in the league of 166 v Kirkham
- Second highest win margin of 105 against Kirkham (Highest was 107)
- The only team in the league to win by 10 wickets against Tarleton
- Highest run chase win in the league chasing 143 against Leyland
- We were only all out 1 all season.

- Richard Wood

UNDER 13s

First of all, thanks to the parents who help out each week at training and during games.

Thanks also to the parents who help off the pitch and to all who have been supportive in making their boys available sometimes at short notice and I'm sure that meant re-arranging plans... it is appreciated.

Weather wise it has been atrocious, in hindsight the snow game against Blackpool was good weather in comparison to some of the ill timed rain we had. However, we played all our games in a spirit that was commended by a number of opposition coaches and umpires. In a higher age group the boys did well to win 3 games and were close to winning others, putting in good performances in each game.

I started playing cricket 30 years ago ...the summer of 2016 was the first in which I have been involved in a game where it snowed. I was stood umpiring, in my 6 tops, thermal long johns, hat and gloves, thinking, "It's snowing" and "thank god we fielded first!" Thankfully the sun won the day and so did Lytham by one wicket!!

We made a decision at the start of this summer that the U12B team might be better served in the Plate competition of the u13s. This would allow boys in the U12A team to get more cricket as we moved from pairs and not everyone was guaranteed a bat and bowl. It would also enable us to give game time for some U13 boys who weren't getting much A team action and who didn't have a B team to play in. All in all that has worked well.

Due to the decision we made about the team we have had a lot of players turning out across the 8 games, 22 in total. Thanks to all those boys from the U11s, U12s and U13s. Once again this summer there has been a lot of improvement. In particular, the team batted well in most games, with some good individual performances not only in terms of run scoring, but also seeing games over the finishing line. As a bowling unit, the boys did not take as many wickets as we would've liked, but there was some good economical bowling in a number of games.

- Dan Gregson

UNDER 11s



We fielded both an A & B team at U11 in 2016 and both played in the same division; thus the B team played against the same teams as the A team. The U11A team led by Elliot McKnight and Mark Williams narrowly missed out on Finals Day. They won 8 of their 11 matches, losing to all 3 local rivals, Blackpool, St Annes (Lancashire Cup) and Thornton Cleveleys. These matches were close and another 10-15 runs in each game would have made the difference.

The batting was led by Archie Dowds who was rewarded by being selected for the age group above on occasion. The bowling was led by Noah McKnight who was one of the few spinners in this age group. Two younger boys were regulars in the side. Jack Williams (U10) behind the stumps and often opening the batting and Mathew Wood (U9) showed great guile with both bat and ball and who also represented Lancashire U10s. The U11B side was led by Garry Stirrup and assisted by Stephen

McGregor who both went to great lengths to ensure the remaining members of the squad played regular matches. As with most B teams competing against A teams, they were up against it for the first 6 games losing to much stronger sides, but they never gave up and achieved a great win in the last game against Norcross. The boys deserved the win and their patience certainly paid dividends. The result and the pleasure can be seen in this photo!

- Steve Davies

UNDER 10s



In 2016 Lytham fielded two Under 10 teams, with both doing very well. The U10 A Team only lost one game all season, the Palace Shield League Final to the eventual winners and the U10 B won four of their eight games. That was a very good achievement when you remember that many of these boys

are 8 and 9 year olds and this is their first season of playing cricket with a hard ball.

The 2016 U10s are a special group, who have a range of cricketing talents and abilities, many of which improved significantly in a very short space of time over the summer and bode well for the future.



Their performances against Blackpool and St Anne's Cricket Clubs were so good that the Coaches of those Clubs both comment they were the best team for their age group on the Fylde Coast.

I know the family and parents would agree, that the team enjoyed themselves and got a lot of pride out of playing together and their individual performances. Our fielding came on leaps and bounds – and the ability to hit the stumps consistently and make run outs was great to see.

My thanks to you the families and parents for supporting the boys and for your help in getting extra players to games at the last minute.

- Bill Pickbourn



KWIKS

KWIKS

The 2016 season saw an intake of 34 children eager to learn and play some cricket. As in previous years, the assistance of willing parents to get involved and help out during the training sessions is greatly welcomed and hugely appreciated.

The focus is to try and split the children into smaller groups of 5 or 6, each assigned at least 1 or 2 coaches, and then each group would normally learn and practise the same skill. Using smaller group numbers should hopefully mean the children keep active and have more

opportunity to repeat the drills without becoming distracted.

The coaching ethos is really to make the sessions as much fun as possible, whilst ensuring that the key cricketing skills are repeatedly worked on namely; bowling with a straight arm; batting with a straight bat and catching with 2 hands. All the children progressed immensely throughout the season, and towards the end they were all participating fully in mini matches during training.

Whilst trying to make the sessions fun for all involved, cricket is also a sport that requires a lot of discipline and patience. The assist with this a 'Kwik

of the Week' trophy was awarded to the child who the collective coaches felt had performed well during that training session, not only in demonstrating cricket related skills, but also in general behaviour and attitude. This quickly become a sought after award, and it was encouraging to see that everyone really wanted to listen, train hard and improve in order to try and win the trophy.

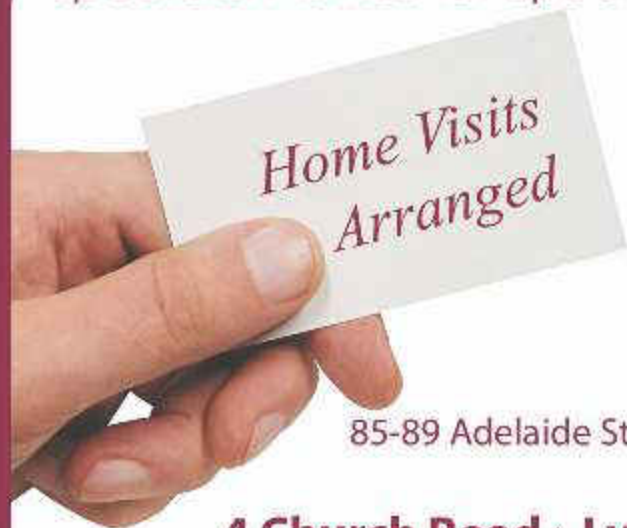
We wish all the best to the children moving up an age grade and look forward to seeing those who are returning in 2017.

- Craig McIntyre

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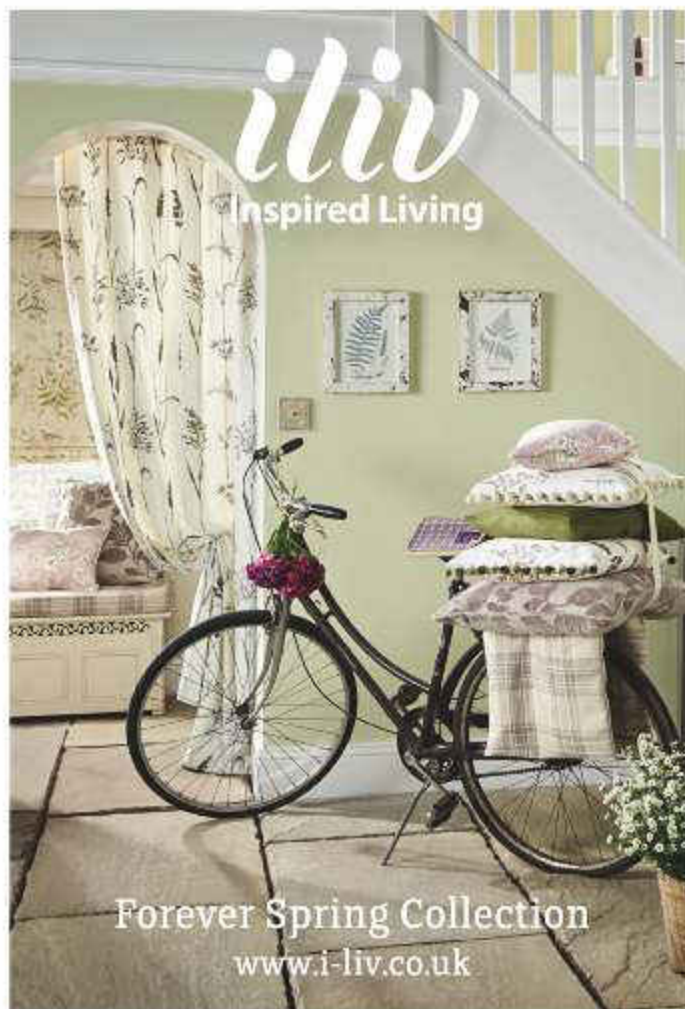
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Junior Presentation Evening



Junior Award Winners 2016

Under 10A -

Batting: Freddie Nichol
Bowling: George MacKenzie
Player of Year: Matthew Wood

Under 10B -

Batting: Gianluca Moretti
Bowling: Nathaniel Francis
Player of Year: Ben Lavin

Under 11A -

Batting: Charlie Read
Bowling: Noah McKnight
Player of Year: Archie Dowds

Under 11B -

Batting: George Mason
Bowling: Cody Moore
Player of Year: Daniel Rowe

Under 12 -

Batting: Tristan Woodman
Bowling: Tim Woodman
Player of Year: Morgan Davies

Under 13A -

Batting: Fred Hackett
Bowling: Morgan Davies
Player of Year: Ewan Macaulay

Under 13B -

Batting: Oliver McIntyre
Bowling: Zayd Ali
Player of Year: George Thompson

Under 14 -

Batting: Harrison Child
Bowling: Alex Higham
Player of Year: Surya Kollapudi

Under 15 -

Batting: Callum Doyle
Bowling: Harrison Ross
Player of Year: Will Dowbiggin



Cricket Force

Every spring you'll find helpers young and old, skilled and not so skilled, flocking to crickets clubs all over the country to whip their facilities into shape in readiness for the forthcoming season.

Last year at Lytham was a beautiful day and it was all hands on deck to get the ground shipshape. Many thanks to everybody who contributed!



Sleep under the stars at Lytham Cricket Club

Family Camping Weekend
Friday 19th May
Saturday 20th May

- Mums & Dads vs Juniors match on the Friday night
- 1st XI Lytham vs New Brighton on Saturday
- Bar open all weekend
- BBQ manned all weekend
- Fun and games from Blackpool Bounce
- Music



£30 one night plus £10 for 2nd night

Toby Lester

LYTHAM 1st XI and LANCASHIRE CCC



So here I am, in my plane seat ready to embark on my mammoth journey back home to the other side of the world. A perfect opportunity to sit back and reflect on what I would regard as the best three months of my life.

Ever since I started playing cricket at a young age, I have always dreamed of making the trip over to Australia to play a season out there and finally, at the age of 23, the opportunity arose. It all began when I had finished my first professional season for Lancashire last September and clubs in Sydney invited me over to play for them. North Sydney cricket club came forward with the generous offer of paying for my flights as well as accommodation in a perfectly positioned apartment - I couldn't wait to start the next chapter in my life.

I was quite anxious on my flight over as I would be joining a team of people I didn't know with the weight of expectations on my shoulders. However, I was met at the airport by one of the lads at the club who drove me to my apartment. The journey there took us over Harbour Bridge with a really awesome view of the Opera House, not a bad start to my new way of life for the next few months. After a good first week of training and meeting everyone at the club, it was time to put on my whites and represent North Sydney for the first time. It was a tough first game for me, adjusting to the conditions and temperature was a major hill for me to climb, alongside the fact that it is notoriously hard for bowlers to take wickets in Australia. I went wicketless in my first game but took a lot away from the experience. The following weekend we were chasing 450 in 75 overs, this really did open my eyes as to how differently cricket is played in the Southern Hemisphere. At that



point, I think I realised how challenging it may possibly be over there as a fast bowler. After settling into the team environment and finally overcoming the jet lag, I found myself beginning to perform for the team. I began to believe that I could fulfil the expectations that come with being a club's overseas pro.

The weeks just flew by and before I knew it Christmas was around the corner. Being a devout lover of family time at Christmas, I knew this was going to be my first struggle, being on the other side of the world to my brothers and parents. Fortunately I was invited by a player at the club to join his family for a festive dinner followed by a day on the beach - something I struggled to get my head around!



Before I knew it February had arrived, I couldn't believe that my adventure was almost at an end. Luckily North Sydney had already invited me back for their next season which was just incredible. My parents arrived, I was scheduled to play the next day and they couldn't wait to come and watch. Then something happened that I would never have thought possible in Australia, the game was called off due to the weather forecast suggesting that the temperature would reach highs of 45 degrees! The cricket association agreed that it would be too dangerous to play. I couldn't believe it and my parents were even more surprised having just flown from rainy England expecting to see some cricket in the sunshine. They had spent the previous weeks staying up all night following the matches live online and were looking forward to watching in daylight hours. The more I think about my time in Oz, I genuinely could not recommend a better place for any aspiring cricketers to make the trip overseas to experience the Australian way of life whilst challenging yourself in unfamiliar cricket conditions.

I will hopefully be doing this for many more years to come! It was by far the best time of my life so far. But for now it's time for me to focus on my English season here in this freezing British weather!

- Toby Lester



For all the latest news from the club **LIKE LYTHAM CRICKET CLUB** on Facebook



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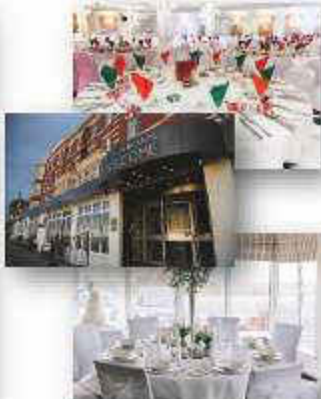


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2015



2016



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Captain
Steven Croft
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Patrons' Day 2017

Saturday 29th July

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Sportsmen's Dinner

On 15th September 2016, almost 300 people enjoyed a fantastic evening's entertainment at The Sportsmen's Dinner in The Woodland Suite at Ribby Hall Village. Guests enjoyed a delicious 3 course dinner followed by an evening listening to the stories and antics of the stars of talkSPORT. Ray Parlour, ex England and Arsenal legend, Alan Brazil, ex Ipswich Tottenham and Scotland International and Ossie Ardiles, World Cup Winner.

This amazing evening was organised by Jewsons in conjunction with Lytham Cricket Club. Paul Edwards, Business Development Director of Jewsons, said "It was a fantastic evening and a great time was had by all. Thanks to the guys who came up from London to appear at the event, they really enjoyed Lytham and all it has to offer. I would also like to thank everyone who supported the evening and to all who had a hand in organising what turned out to be a great event."





LYTHAM CRICKET CLUB

SPORTSMEN'S DINNER

Thursday 15th September 2016 at 7pm



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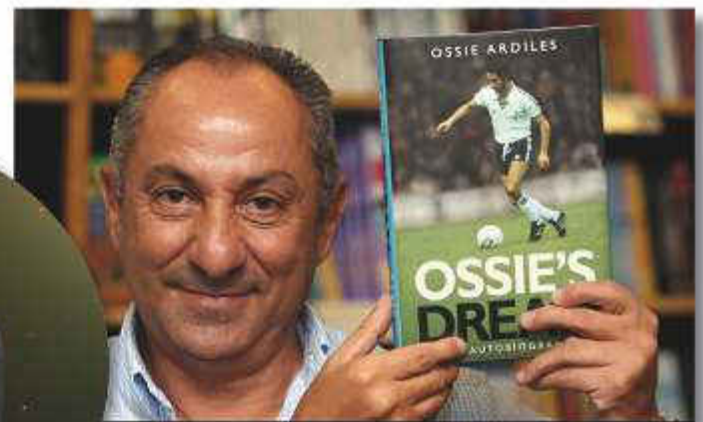
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Lytham Cricket Club Annual Ball

The Annual Lytham Cricket Club Ball took place at The Grand Hotel on Friday 17th March 2017. It was a fantastic evening and 140 guests enjoyed a delicious 3 course dinner followed by great entertainment provided by The Deadbeats! Grateful thanks must go to everybody who had a hand in organising this terrific fundraising event. Look forward to seeing you next year!





2Works wish Lytham CC all the best for 2017

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View from the bar . . .

As I approach my tenth season of summer sports here as Club Steward, it is great to see all four sports sections working together to achieve a common goal; to provide a brilliant sports facility here at Lytham which will serve us well into the future. We owe it to our Club ancestors as much as to sports men and women of the future, in order to give the Club a future as long as its past. All members can do their bit by raising funds through "easyfundraising.org"



and doing all their on-line purchasing via "Lytham Sports Foundation Trust". Or you can donate any amount directly to the trust via the bar. Our partners, Robinson's Cheshire Brewers, are donating 5p to the fund for every pint of

Dizzy Blonde Ale purchased. Members will see the first phase of our plans realised this autumn, when we make way for new courts and cricket nets.

Grateful thanks to those involved in this initiative and in all the other fundraising efforts throughout the year.

With planning, funds, hard work - and a little bit of luck -we will prevail!

- Terry Batty

Voices from the past . . .

Some say there's no point dwelling in the past, but sometimes having a look at what has gone on before is really interesting.

Last year, whilst co-incidentally trying to find out exactly when the Club was founded, I received an email out of the blue from a local man called Nick Moore.

The message contained an article from the weekly paper, The Preston Guardian, dated 24th August 1844. It was in the sports column reporting on a cricket match held on the previous week.

The details (shortened slightly) below appear to report the first ever sports activity on the ground. The event pre-dates the previously believed foundation date of 1855 by some eleven years.

Of course, it may be that the Club didn't have a 'physical' base or Club House until 1855 - as the article hints that nothing existed at Church Road at the time.

Or we could assume the founding of the Club began when the first team sport was played in our name - in which case we need to re-write our history - and change our date to 1844.

A fascinating discussion ensued between long-time members David Holgate, William Huxham and Tony Hale as to what it all means, as they too assumed 1855 was the year everything started

(affirmed by their recollection of the Club's 150th anniversary in 2005).

I have checked and the match was definitely played at Church Road.

The article also points to a start date for the Club as the last week in July 1844!

Until we know more, read on and form your own opinion. It's an interesting article nonetheless....

Preston Guardian - 24th August, 1844

'CRICKET - A match between first XI the Lytham Cricket Club and the first XI of the Kirkham Club was played at Lytham on Wednesday last.

Notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather, a large number of spectators were present... John Talbot Clifton Esq. and his lady, also honoured the party with their presence.

After some excellent bowling by Messrs. Miles and Clarkson, Kirkham retired with a score of 37. The gentlemen of the Lytham Club then went in, with light hearts, for they had fully expected the Kirkham gentlemen scoring 60 or 70....

With what consternation and surprise did they behold the wickets of one member after another fall, by the superior bowling of Messrs. Park and Brown. ...with very

few, if any notches, the Lythamites retired with only a score of 8.

Which was certainly far from creditable to their skill, but it is worthy of remark that the Lytham Club had not been formed five weeks and about five of the players never handled a bat before.

The umpires (Messrs. Mills and Brown) then agreed that Lytham should take to the bat. For they thought that the Kirkham gentlemen would have no occasion to go in again!

But the Lythamites were a little more careful of their wickets than before, scoring 52.

Thus requiring Kirkham to get 24...the game now appeared to favour the Lytham Club.....but Kirkham's superior batting was not to be overcome... and they won the game, having two wickets to go down. Kirkham retired with a score of 30, thus winning by seven runs.

The utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed during the whole game, not a single dispute arising. A tent was erected on the ground, for the accommodation of the spectators. Wickets pitched at two. The game finished at half six, lasting some four hours and a half."

- Terry Batty



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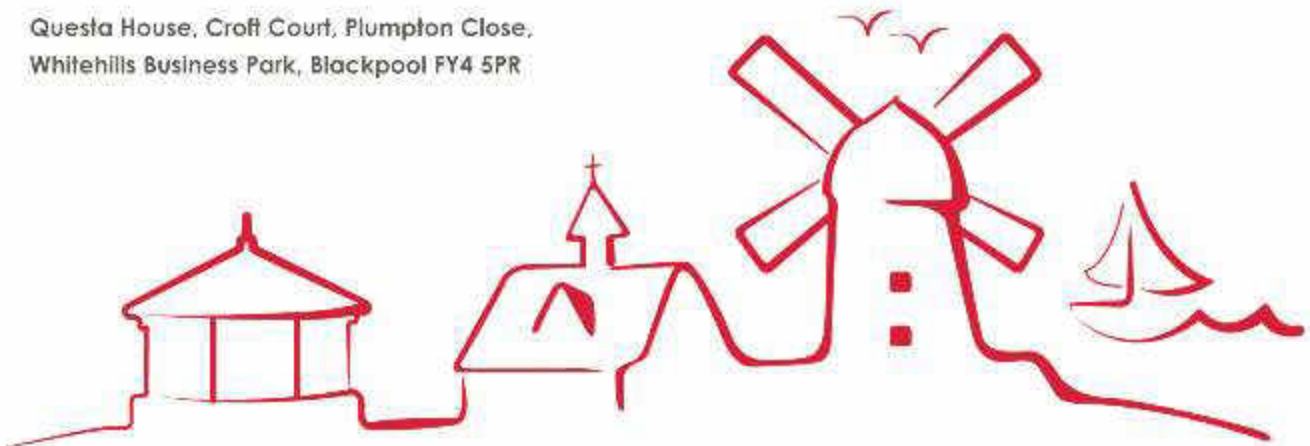
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Questa Chartered is led by Stuart Dewin and Lytham Cricket Club member of over 30 years: Anthony Hoskisson.

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Senior Fixtures 2017

1st XI

ECB PREMIER LEAGUE

April	22	Northern.....	H.....
	29	Colwyn Bay.....	a.....
May	6	Rainhill.....	H.....
	13	Ormskirk.....	a.....
	20	New Brighton.....	H.....
	27	Leigh.....	a.....
June	3	Formby.....	a.....
	10	Southport & Birkdale.....	H.....
	17	Ainsdale.....	a.....
	18	Northern *.....	a.....
	24	Bootle.....	a.....
July	1	Wallasey.....	H.....
	8	Northern.....	a.....
	15	Colwyn Bay.....	H.....
	22	Rainhill.....	a.....
	29	Ormskirk.....	H.....
Aug	5	New Brighton.....	a.....
	12	Formby.....	H.....
	19	Southport & Birkdale.....	a.....
	26	Leigh.....	H.....
Sept	2	Ainsdale.....	H.....
	9	Bootle.....	H.....
	16	Wallasey.....	a.....

* = Ray Digman KO Trophy

2nd XI

2nd XI PREMIER DIVISION

April	22	Bootle.....	a.....
	29	Sefton Park.....	H.....
May	6	Birkenhead Park.....	a.....
	13	Ormskirk.....	H.....
	20	New Brighton.....	a.....
	27	Leigh.....	H.....
June	3	Wigan.....	H.....
	10	Southport & Birkdale.....	a.....
	11	Southport & Birkdale *.....	H.....
	17	Formby.....	H.....
	24	Wallasey.....	H.....
July	1	Northern.....	a.....
	8	Bootle.....	H.....
	15	Sefton Park.....	a.....
	22	Birkenhead Park.....	H.....
	29	Ormskirk.....	a.....
Aug	5	New Brighton.....	H.....
	12	Wigan.....	a.....
	19	Southport & Birkdale.....	H.....
	26	Leigh.....	a.....
Sept	2	Formby.....	a.....
	9	Wallasey.....	a.....
	16	Northern.....	H.....

* = Chester Cup

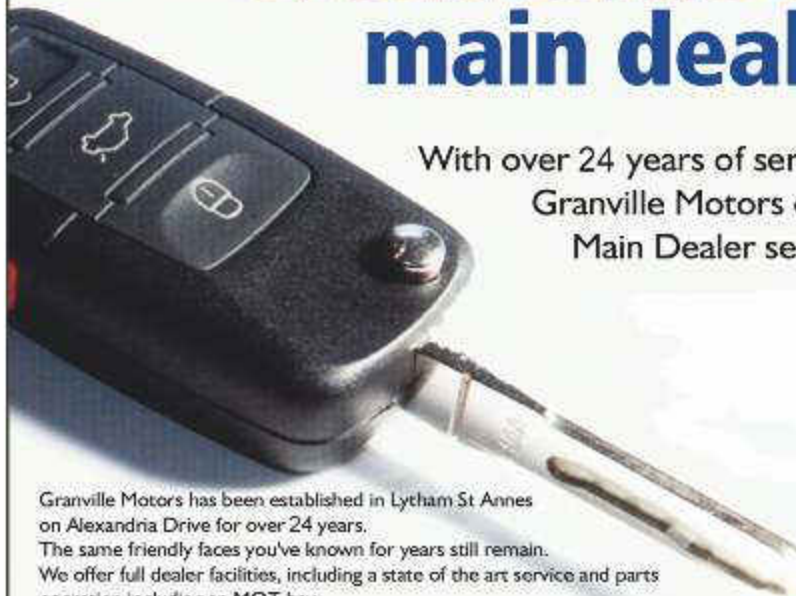
3rd XI

SUNDAY PREMIER DIVISION

April	23	Hightown St M 3.....	H.....
	30	Highfield 3.....	a.....
May	7	Fleetwood Hesketh 3.....	H.....
	14		
	21	Bootle (AE).....	a.....
	28	Newton-le-Willows 3.....	H.....
June	4	Leigh 3.....	a.....
	11	Formby 3.....	H.....
	18	Southport & Birkdale 3.....	H.....
	25	Rainford 3.....	a.....
July	2	Highfield 3.....	H.....
	9	Fleetwood Hesketh 3.....	a.....
	16	Bootle (AE).....	H.....
	23	Newton-le-Willows 3.....	a.....
	30	Leigh 3.....	H.....
Aug	6	Formby 3.....	a.....
	13	Hightown St M 3.....	a.....
	20		
	27	Southport & Birkdale 3.....	a.....
Sept	3	Rainford 3.....	H.....

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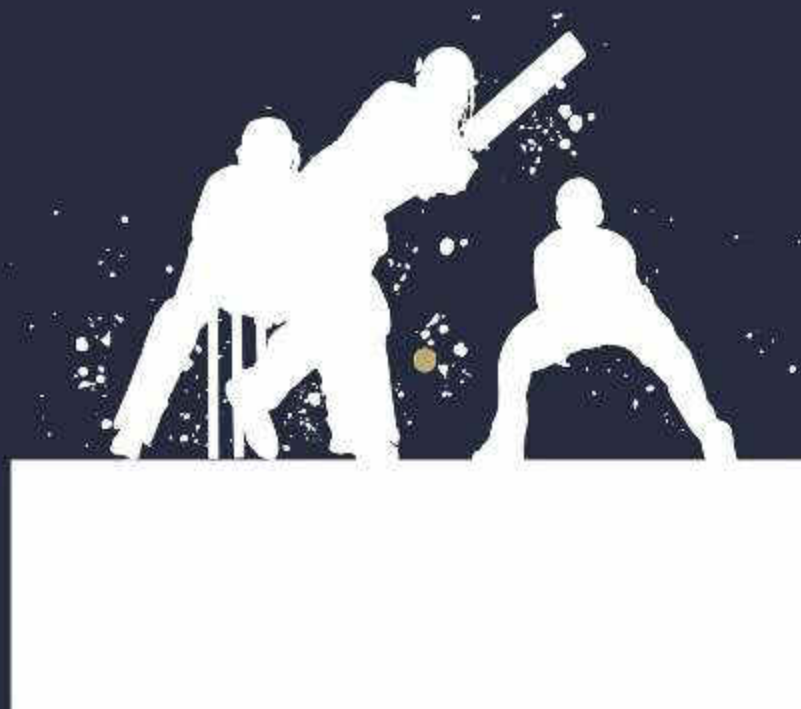




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