

# THE 1940s

## MEMORIES

BY MR. REG KING  
PLAYER 1940-1961

WRITTEN JANUARY 1996



Reg. King  
Pictured in 1961

My earliest memories of Chesham Bois Cricket Club are, when, at the tender age of 9 or 10 years of age I was already an ardent lover of cricket and used to watch the games on Holmer Green common, where I then lived, until the age of 12, before moving to Little Missenden. I remember to this day how, towards the end of the each season, the needle matches always seemed to end with Chesham Bois, Chartridge, Ley Hill and Holmer Green vying for a kind of trophy which I later discovered was the coveted League Cup, (The Oliver Challenge Cup).

I can also recall two of your keen supporters who used to arrive at the Bat and Ball public house regularly in a three wheeled "Morgan". Sadly when I moved to Town Farm in Little Missenden there was no cricket to watch, so for several years. Having to help on the farm, I had to be content with "Footpatch Cricket", whenever I was free, with lads of the village.

I started work at the age of thirteen in the building trade, where I came into contact with Edgar Darvell, who was already a Chesham Bois member, and Frank Payne, who persuaded me to join Hyde Heath Cricket Club, where he was a member. I rather fancied myself as a fast bowler at that time, but as they already had two well established ones and I had made a start of three ducks in a row I realised I had better concentrate on batting, and finished up as opening batsman. I achieved this by constantly watching the best batsmen around at other matches.

I was eighteen when I joined Hyde Heath and was delighted when we won the League Cup in the second division in 1933, (Chesham and District League). For this feat we

were promoted to the league first division and this was when I first came into contact with Chesham Bois C.C. I never dreamt, as a boy, the day would come when I would be playing for "The Bois", but I did through meeting Fred Rance. We were both playing for the Home Guard team, which later became known as the "Fencibles C.C.". It was Fred who asked me to join Chesham Bois, where he was already a member, and I was lucky enough to be a member of the Oliver Cup winning team in 1940, (division one Chesham League). The Swan public house was the venue for the celebrations that followed and I shall never forget going to the Home Guard duties still in my cricket gear I was told by my colleagues next morning that I had fallen into a trench, and I think it was very charitable of them not to wake me up when it was my turn on guard duty. God help us if Hitler had invaded England that night as cricket was one of the first things he was going to put a stop to.

My wife, who was honoured to take the first sip from the treasured trophy, has always been a real stalwart through my years of love for cricket and she has been a great asset during my captaincy days, carrying out the duties of match secretary and scorer. Her great love of the game has surely made it possible to play Saturdays, Sundays and even Bank Holiday Mondays, three days in a row!!

It was near the Chesham Bois common pitch that I espied once again the old three wheeled Morgan that I had first seen all those years ago as a boy and at last discovered the "nicknames" of the occupiers – "Ghosty" Aris (Harry) and "Bobber" Darvell.

These were the bygone days when we had to erect and dismantle the pavilion at the beginning and end of each cricketing season, to the home of the "Morgan". The pavilion was stored at the home of Harry Aris, "Fern Cottage", in north road across from the common. (In the old days this used to be the village bakery).

I have played for and captained other clubs, namely Little Missenden, my own village, (when pitches were available), Hyde Heath, Great Missenden and while serving with the Royal Engineers throughout World War Two, until V.E. day, ran the cricket team when I was posted to the Middle East. I was very happy to return to Chesham Bois C.C. after the war, when Colin Ware suggested I might return to the "old haunts". An added pleasure was the day I scored 97 runs for the club against The Lee, but getting caught out on the boundary to a good catch by a Lee fielder was a bit of a disappointment after being 97 not out at tea. We batted on after tea for the sole purpose of getting my "Ton", it was not to be and this remained my highest ever score for Chesham Bois.

Colin Ware reminded me that I did reach 1000 runs in one season (1959) with the Bois. I recall another special occasion during an evening match at Coopers of Berkhamsted. When Len Hammond and I made an opening stand which was at that time a club record, apparently this shattered the averages of their top pace bowler, (O'Toole).

Cricket has been one of the greatest pleasures of my life and I played my last game at the ripe old age of 76.

It is good to have made so many friends along the way with whom to talk of games that were lost and won. Although, sadly, our playing days are over, a deck of cards has replaced bat and ball, Colin and I still meet regularly and the conversation soon turns to the "Old Game" and the many happy memories of time spent in the picturesque Chesham Bois ground.

## 1940

After a nine year gap Chesham Bois again won the Division One title.

Owing to the War the Chesham and District League consisted of one division, comprising seven teams as follows:

Ashley Green Institute, Brazils Sports Club, Chartridge, Lye Green, Chesham Bois, Chesham Social Club and Hawridge & Cholesbury.

The 'Bucks Examiner' used a different format for the reports by clubs this year with no match scorecards being printed.

From the reports found and one club photograph we know the Chesham Bois players for this year were mainly:

F. Wilson (Captain), R. King, L. Nash, H. Darvell, F. Rance, H. Foster, J. Reidelberg, A. Horwood, P. Collins, T. Hearn, S. Reynolds, G. King, G. Walton and F. Brandon.

### Please Note \* Denotes a Chesham and District League Match

\* 11 May Chesham Bois C.C. v Ashley Green Institute C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

116 for 8 dec. 58

Chesham Bois won by 58 runs

Whit.Mon.13 May Chesham & District League v Croydon & District League at Coleshill.

Croydon won the match, the result equalising the overall results for the last ten seasons.

The players and officials were guests of Mr. D.W. Oliver, the president of both leagues.

\* 18 May Chartridge C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Chartridge

36 63

Chesham Bois won by 27 runs

\* 25 May Chesham Bois C.C. v Brazils Sports Club C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

101 for 6 dec. 57

Chesham Bois won by 44 runs

\* 8 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Chesham Social Club C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

110 for 9 dec. 56

Chesham Bois won by 54 runs

\* 15 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Lye Green C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

73 65

Chesham Bois won by 8 runs

\* 22 June Hawridge & Cholesbury C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. at Hawridge & Cholesbury

37 47 for 6

Chesham Bois won by 4 wkts.

\* 6 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Chartridge C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

54 47

Chesham Bois won by 7 runs

\* 20 July Brazils Sports Club C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Barn Meadow

123 25

Brazils S. C. won by 98 runs

\* 27 July Chesham Social Club C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Woodley's Field

74 52 for 9

## Match Drawn

\* 3 Aug. Lye Green C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Lye Green  
38 52

Chesham Bois won by 14 runs

### LYE GREEN v. CHESHAM BOIS.

The above match was played at Lye Green on Saturday, August 3rd, resulting in a win for the Chesham Bois team by 14 runs.

In real cricket weather Chesham Bois took another step towards winning the championship when they defeated Lye Green in a very interesting and low-scoring game, in which the ball proved better than the bat throughout. Lye Green batted first, and were dismissed for 38. D. Mead (17), F. Rance, 5 for 14. For the Bois, R. King (19), and F. Rance (18), took the honours out of a total of 52.

### NECK AND NECK IN THE CHESHAM LEAGUE.

Chesham Bois met and beat Lye Green, at Lye Green on Saturday, and are thus running the Green neck and neck for the Championship of the Chesham League. Lye Green have 18 points and a match to play, and Chesham Bois 17 points and two matches to play. Thus:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Lye Green	11	9	2	0	18
Chesham Bois	10	8	1	1	17

## Bucks Examiner Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 1940

\* 10 Aug. Chesham Bois C.C. v Hawridge & Cholesbury C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

101 for 5 dec.

64

Chesham Bois won by 37 runs

### CHESHAM BOIS v. HAWRIDGE.

The above match was played at Chesham Bois on Saturday, August 10th, resulting in a win for Chesham Bois by 37 runs. On a very hard wicket Chesham Bois defeated Hawridge in their last home game of the season. Batting first Hawridge were dismissed for the moderate total of 64—F. Penn (19) and F. Tomlin (16); F. Rance (7—21). The "Bois" obtained 101 runs for the loss of 5 wickets—R. King (21), L. Nash (19), F. Wilson (17), and A. Norwood (15) being their chief scorers.

## Bucks Examiner Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August 1940

\* 17 Aug. Ashley Green Institute C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Ashley Green

30

78

Chesham Bois won by 48 runs

### CHESHAM BOIS CHESHAM LEAGUE CHAMPIONS.

### ASHLEY GREEN v. CHESHAM BOIS.

The above match was played at Ashley Green on Saturday, August 17th, resulting in a win for Chesham Bois by 48 runs. With a comparatively easy win over Ashley Green, Chesham Bois have won the League championship. Batting first the Bois obtained a respectable score of 78—F. Rance (20), H. Darvell (14), and A. Horwood (12). Against the bowling of F. Rance (6 for 9) and H. Darvell (3 for 19) the Green were dismissed for 30 runs—B. Pearce made top score (8) for Ashley Green.

Chesham Bois have gained the war championship of the Chesham and District Cricket League. They made certain of the honour last Saturday when they won at Ashley Green, beating the Institute; and their rivals, Lye Green, were beaten by Brazils Sports Club. Brazils have been the "bogey" men for the two chief contestants for the championship, Chesham Bois and Lye Green. They administered a defeat to Chesham Bois at the Common, the only defeat sustained, and at a time when a defeat seemed a great set-back, and as a solatium for Chesham Bois they on Saturday beat Lye Green at home. The figures of the two leaders are:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.
Chesham Bois	12	10	1	1	21
Lye Green	12	9	3	0	18

This is Chesham Bois eighth success since the league was founded in 1911, and they are to be congratulated on this splendid record. It has been

arranged to play the championship match at Chesham Bois on Saturday, August 24th—Champions v. Rest of League. It is hoped that the President (Mr. D. W. Oliver) will present the cup and medals to the champions after the match. The league would like to see a good number of spectators present. A collection will be taken for the league funds.

The following have been chosen to play for the Rest of League team:—Captain, P. J. J. Back (Hawridge and Cholesbury); vice-captain, A. Gomm (Lye Green); C. Collins, F. Penn (Hawridge and Cholesbury); G. Plested, F. Bates (Lye Green); S. S. James, A. Clarke, W. Rance (Ashley Green Institute); A. Ing, F. Wells, B. Gomm (Chartridge) (twelve-a-side). Wickets pitched 2.45. As Social Club and Brazils Sports have a match no players have been chosen from these clubs.

## Bucks Examiner Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1940

## Bucks Examiner Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 1940

## CHESHAM BOIS: CHESHAM & DISTRICT CRICKET LEAGUE CHAMPIONS



Photo by T. C. Proffitt, Amersham Hill.

The players in the photograph are:

Back Row L-R

Reg. King, Jack Reidelberg, Harold Darvell,  
Tom Hearn, Len Nash.

Middle Row L-R

Andy Horwood, Frank (Tug) Wilson,  
Percy Collins, Syd Reynolds.

Sitting L-R

Fred Rance, Harold Foster.

Chesham and District Cricket League has had a good season despite the vicissitudes of the war, and the work and care of the Hon. Secretary has been well repaid. As all know the championship was decided recently, and at the championship match last week Mr. A. E. Howlett, a vice-president of the league, who presented the cup and medals, to Chesham Bois, had the pleasure of not only congratulating them upon winning the championship this season, but also upon winning it eight times in the course of their career. Further, he had the pleasure of congratulating Andy Horwood and Percy Collins upon the fact that they have been members of the club on each of the eight times on which the club has won the championship. The final placings in the table are as follows. It will be seen that Chesham Bois were only defeated once, and that was by Brazils, who have beaten both champions and runners-up this season, although they are lowly placed in the league themselves, lower than their quality appears to justify. Lye Green ran a good race with Chesham Bois until nearing the close.

Table:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.
Chesham Bois .....	12	10	1	1	21
Lye Green .....	12	9	3	0	18
Social Club .....	12	5	5	2	12
Ashley Green Inst. ...	12	5	7	0	10
Brazils Sports Club ...	12	5	7	0	10
Hawridge & Cholesbury	12	4	8	0	8
Chartridge .....	12	2	9	1	5

### Saturday 24th August 1940 Champions v Rest of the League XI

Played at Chesham Bois Common

Chesham Bois C.C. v The Rest of the League XI

124 for 5

110 for 8 dec.

Chesham Bois won by 14 runs

#### CHESHAM AND DISTRICT CRICKET LEAGUE.

Chesham and District Cricket League has had an excellent season, and it has conclusively proved that enjoyable cricket can be played, even in war-time. The Champions v. The Rest match, played on Saturday, was a fitting finale: the match produced a good spate of runs and Chesham Bois won: the collection was generous: and everything was happy. Mr. Arthur Howlett, who distributed the medals (neat little affair), must have recalled old cricketing days at The-lee and Chesham Bois. He was deputising for Mr. D. W. Oliver, another old friend.

#### CHESHAM BOIS (Champions) v. THE REST (League).

The above match was played at Chesham Bois on Saturday, the 24th inst., resulting in a win for the Chesham Bois team by 14 runs. A very interesting game was witnessed in the championship match. The League batted first and obtained the century mark for the loss of 8 wickets (110)—W. Rance (41), F. Bates (21 not out), A. Clarke (17). The Champions, thanks to a fine opening partnership by Nash (60) and King (25), were able to obtain the necessary runs in an hour for the dismissal of five batsmen (124).

Bucks Examiner Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 1940

1941

Once again the Chesham and District League was only one division made up of just six teams as follows:

Ashley Green Institute, Chesham Bois, Lye Green, Brazils Sports Club, Chesham Social Club and The Home Guard 'B' Platoon.

Chesham Bois tied with Lye Green for the title but lost the play off match and had to settle for runners up spot. The Chesham Bois Captain this season was F. Wilson.

Please note \* denotes a Chesham and District League Match

\* 10 May Home Guard 'B' Platoon C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Hawridge

39

113

Chesham Bois won by 74 runs

**" B " PLATOON HOME GUARD v.  
CHESHAM BOIS.**

The above match was played at Hawridge on Saturday, May 10th, resulting in a win for the Chesham Bois team by 64 runs. Batting first " B " Platoon were dismissed for 39. E. Darvell (6 for 9), and F. Rance (3 for 15). After L. Nash and H. Darvell had paved the way runs came easily and notable scores came from F. Rance, E. Darvell, and J. Reidleberg.

**" B " Platoon Home Guard.**

J. Tomlin, b F. Rance .....	13
A. Penn, b H. Darvell .....	9
F. Penn, b E. Darvell .....	6
H. Dondrick, b E. Darvell .....	0
C. Warr, c H. Darvell, b E. Darvell .....	1
F. Rance, not out .....	2
G. Penn, b E. Darvell .....	1
L. Pearce, b F. Rance .....	1
T. Tilley, b F. Rance .....	0
W. Collins, b E. Darvell .....	0
S. Butchers, b E. Darvell .....	0
Extras .....	6
Total .....	39

**Chesham Bois.**

L. Nash, lbw, b G. Penn .....	5
H. Darvell, c Penn, b Warr .....	25
F. Wilson, c and b Warr .....	5
F. Rance, c G. Penn .....	22
E. Darvell, b F. Penn .....	34
S. Reynolds, b Pearce .....	1
F. Brandon, lbw, b G. Penn .....	2
J. Reidleberg, b F. Penn .....	12
P. Collins, b F. Penn .....	4
S. Upstone, not out .....	1
Extras .....	2
Total .....	113

Bowling.—" B " Platoon: F. Penn, 3 for 22; G. Penn, 3 for 28; C. Warr, 2 for 13; W. Collins, 0 for 14; L. Pearce, 1 for 34. Chesham Bois: F. Rance, 3 for 15; H. Darvell, 1 for 9; E. Darvell, 6 for 9.

Bucks Examiner Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 1941

\* 17 May Lye Green C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Lye Green

50

100 for 9 dec.

Chesham Bois won 50 runs

**LYE GREEN v. CHESHAM BOIS.**

The above match was played at Lye Green on Saturday, May 17th, resulting in a win for the Chesham Bois team by 50 runs. A fine innings by L. Nash (44) was the main feature of the Bois tot. Useful scores were also obtained by E. Darvell and F. Rance. W. Mothersole bowled well (4 for 21). Young Ray Holt deserves mention for his merry knock of 11 for Lye Green. Scores:—

**Chesham Bois**

L. Nash, b Mothersole .....	44
H. Darvell, b Mothersole .....	6
E. Darvell, c F. Gomm, b R. Holt .....	19
F. Rance, b R. Holt .....	12
F. Wilson, c A. Holt, b Dwight .....	2
G. King, b R. Holt .....	4
S. Reynolds, not out .....	6
A. Axford, lbw, b Mothersole .....	0
F. Brandon, c Mothersole, b Dwight .....	1
J. Reidleberg, c Cox, b Mothersole .....	0
P. Collins, did not bat .....	0
Extras .....	6

Total (9 wks. dec.)... 100

**Lye Green.**

R. Holt, c Reynolds b Rance .....	3
R. Lacey, c H. Darvell, b Rance .....	7
W. Dwight, b H. Darvell .....	7
W. Mothersole, c King, b Darvell .....	10
F. Gomm, b Rance .....	1
A. Gomm, b E. Darvell .....	3
A. Walker, c Reidleberg, b Rance .....	3
J. Cox, run out .....	0
A. Holt, not out .....	1
R. Wallace, b E. Darvell .....	0
Ray Holt, c Reidleberg, b E. Darvell .....	11
Extras .....	4
Total .....	50

Bucks Examiner Friday 23rd May 1941

\* 7 June Chesham Social Club C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. at Chesham Town Ground

34

88

(The Meadow)

Chesham Bois won by 54 runs

The Chesham Bois team was:

L. Nash, H. Darvell, R. King, F. Wilson, F. Rance, E. Darvell, S. Reynolds, T. Hearn, A. Axford, J. Reidleberg and P. Collins.

\* 21 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Lye Green C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

10

38

Lye Green won by 28 runs

Despite F. Rance taking 8 for 11 (including a hat-trick) this was the lowest ever score by a Chesham Bois team to date.



# CHESHAM BOIS v. LYE GREEN.

## HAT TRICK BY F. RANCE.

The above match was played at Chesham Bois on Saturday, June 21st, resulting in a win for Lye Green by 28 runs.

Chesham Bois suffered their first defeat of the season in a low-scoring game. Batting first the Bois were dismissed for the miserable score of 10. Showing lack of practice, and the "out before in" attitude against the reasonably good bowling of Mothersole (4 for 3), and R. Stanbridge (5 for 2). Of the visitors' total of 38, Reg Holt obtained 12. Notable performance was the hat trick by F. Rance (8 for 11).

# Chesham Bois.

Nash, b Mothersole.....	0
Darvell, b Mothersole.....	1
King, b Stanbridge.....	0
Rance, c & b Mothersole.....	2
Wilson, lbw, b Stanbridge.....	0
King, b Stanbridge.....	0
Ashford, run out.....	0
Reynolds, lbw, b Mothersole.....	0
Walton, b Stanbridge.....	0
Brandon, not out.....	0
Reidleberg, hit wkt., b Staubridge	2
Extras.....	5
Total.....	10

# Lye Green.

Lacey, c Reynolds, b Rance.....	2
Holt, c Reidleberg, b Rance.....	12
Clarke, b Darvell.....	1
Mead, c Reynolds, b Rance.....	4
Dwight, b Rance.....	2
Stanbridge, c Rance, b Darvell.....	1
Mothersole, c Walton, b Rance.....	2
Cox, b Rance.....	8
Gomm, F., not out.....	0
Gomm, A., b Rance.....	0
Holt, b Rance.....	0
Extras.....	6
Total.....	38

## Bucks Examiner Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 1941

\* 28 June Ashley Green Institute C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Ashley Green  
25 126 for 4 dec.

Chesham Bois won by 101 runs

# ASHLEY GREEN v. CHESHAM BOIS.

The above match was played at Ashley Green on Saturday, June 28th, resulting in a win for Chesham Bois by 101 runs. Scores:—

## Chesham Bois.

S. Reynolds, b W. Rance.....	0
R. King, b Murnane.....	48
F. Rance, c Clarke, b Jones.....	22
F. Wilson, c Rance, b Clarke.....	16
L. Nash, not out.....	21
H. Darvell, not out.....	1
Extras.....	18
Total (4 wks. dec.).....	120

Did not bat.—A. Axford, G. Walton, G. Berg, T. Hearn, and F. Brandon.

# Ashley Green.

W. Taylor, c Reynolds, b Rance.....	0
A. Clarke, b H. Darvell.....	4
J. Ruler, b F. Rance.....	1
P. Kilgair, b H. Darvell.....	0
N. Baker, c Nash, b Rance.....	14
V. Cryer, c Walton, b Rance.....	0
T. Reed, b Darvell.....	0
W. Rance, c Walton, b Rance.....	2
S. James, b Darvell.....	1
M. Cryer, c Axford, c Rance.....	0
T. Murnane, not out.....	0
Extras.....	3
Total.....	25

Bowling.—Ashley Green: W. Rance, 1 for 26; T. Murnane, 1 for 26; A. Clarke, 1 for 26; S. James, 1 for 20; V. Cryer, 0 for 10. Chesham Bois: F. Rance, 6 for 14; H. Darvell, 4 for 8.

## Bucks Examiner Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 1941

\* 5 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Brazils Sports Club C.C. at Chesham Bois Common  
70 69

Chesham Bois won by 1 run

# CRICKET.

## A LIVELY MATCH.

### WITH AN EXCITING FINISH.

Lured by the possibilities of what is called in colloquial language a "needle" match, I spent a pleasant Saturday afternoon on Bois Common, and a large crowd of young and old shared with me the delights of the high-placed Common at its July loveliest, and in the excitement of the match.

A Chesham and District Cricket League match, with much hanging to it, and the contestants Chesham Bois and Brazil's Sports Club. From the point of view of Brazils there was little hanging to it except the possibility of beating a side which is in the running for the League Championship. For Bois Common an all-important match. Lye Green then led them in the table by four points (14—10), but the Common have two matches in hand. With Lye Green having four points to the good "in the bag," and the Common keen on taking the full possible points from the two matches in hand—there you are!

A fast and hard wicket. Brazils batting first and making a real fight of it, faced by Edgar Darvell. So far as I could see Edgar has to moderate his pace by at least 15 per cent on the Common, but he was bowling superbly, and had the help of his brother, Harold, and Fred Rance. Not at all abashed by Edgar, Brazils hit lustily, and Hancock, who was afterwards to help considerably in the bowling, helped them. So well did they hit that there was about 30 up for 3. The middle wickets tailed off, and Gomm had a nasty smack on the mouth from a ball from Rance which hit him as he stooped over. The tail wagged considerably, although Edgar Darvell kept plugging away unflinched, and the fielding was alive. The last two men added nearly 30 to the score, and Chalwin with his sprightliness caused Brazils supporters to give tongue.

A total of 69 to face was no light one for Chesham Bois. Hancock bowling, and Stubbings at the other end keeping the batsmen well occupied. Hancock bowled exceedingly well, with "his head" and with a fine pace. It struck me that all the Bois Common batsmen paid him exaggerated respect: they were all subdued and over-anxious: and even Edgar Darvell, who was the only one to stick for a time, did not lash out in characteristic fashion. Hancock pursued a steady policy of attrition, and with the fall of the ninth wicket and the total at 29 Bois Common looked in a hopeless position, and you would have backed your coupon-sinner suit against aunty's comely aspidistra plant that Brazils had the points in the bag this time.

Then! A pretty problem! Should the Brazils captain have persevered with Hancock, so successful so far, and yet tiring a little, or should he have given Hancock a rest a little earlier and held him in reserve, fresh, to break up a last stand. He chose a late change, and the last pair for Bois Common, Reynolds and Brandon, faced change bowlers. Playing carefully and hitting out at anything loose, and not at all awed by the fact that the Common needed 40 to win, they proceeded to put up the 10's, and when a smack into the gorse was heralded by 70 going up there was a real cheer for the winning hit.

It was a lively, keenly fought, cleanly contested match, with Brazils on their toes all the time and as keen as mustard to prevent the Common from taking the points. The scores will be found below:

Brazils.	
J. Hancock, lbw, c E. Darvell.....	3
W. Cooper, c Walton, b Rance.....	5
S. Wincrow, b E. Darvell.....	29
C. Edwards, lbw, b G. Darvell.....	0
F. Rance, c Reynolds, b Rance.....	4
J. Gomm, retired hurt.....	0
A. Stude, c R. King, b E. Darvell.....	13
E. Stubbings, b E. Darvell.....	9
Z. Hazell, b E. Darvell.....	0
E. Mead, b E. Darvell.....	0
G. Ives, not out.....	8
Extras.....	7
Total.....	69
Chesham Bois.	
R. King, b Hancock.....	0
G. Walton, b Stubbings.....	2
F. Rance, c Hazell, b Hancock.....	6
F. Wilson, b Hancock.....	10
L. Nash, b Hancock.....	0
E. Darvell, c Edwards, b Hancock.....	3
H. Darvell, b Hancock.....	1
T. Hearn, b Stubbings.....	0
G. King, c Hazell, b Hancock.....	1
S. Reynolds, not out.....	18
F. Brandon, b Chalwin.....	17
Extras.....	12
Total.....	70

## Bucks Examiner Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 1941

\* 26 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Chesham Social Club C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

71 for 9 dec. 33

Chesham Bois won by 38 runs

The Chesham Bois Team was:

R. King, G. Walton, T. Hearn, F. Rance, E. Darvell, F. Wilson, F. Brandon, A. Axford, J. Reidleberg and H. Darvell.

30 August (Saturday) Division One play off match at Chesham C.C. (The Meadow)

Chesham Bois C.C. v Lye Green C.C.

30

50

Lye Green won by 20 runs

### A "NEEDLE" MATCH.

#### LYE GREEN WIN CHESHAM LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.

The championship of the Chesham and District League was settled on Saturday in a keen match at Chesham Cricket Meadow between Chesham Bois (holders) and Lye Green. The position was this. Both these clubs were concerned in a championship struggle last season, and Chesham Bois won on points. This season the struggle was even keener and more close, and they finished the season with precisely the same record: Played, 10; won, 8; drawn, 1; lost, 1—17 points. A championship match was indicated as the fairest way to settle matters, and perhaps to benefit league funds. The league record foretold a close and keen match, and it was so. The weather smiled on the event; there was a good crowd of partisans and unbiassed on-lookers; and if the wicket was dead slow and would not produce pace or "work" on the ball the match was exciting, full of incident; and the issue was in doubt almost to the finish.

There were several notable phases of the match. First, the paucity of scoring. It will be seen from the scores below that the two innings produced only 80 runs—50 for Lye Green, the winners, and 30 for Chesham Bois; that one man, Ron Mead (Lye Green) scored 28 of these; and that nobody else reached double figures. The score-book shows, further, that nobody reached the boundary; that nobody scored a three; that nobody besides Mead reached double figures; that Lye Green lost five wickets for three runs (in 15 mins.); and that Chesham Bois lost five wickets for seven. The fall of the wickets up to a point was very similar:—Lye Green: 1—6, 2—19, 3—20, 4—20, 5—20, 6—22, 7—22. Chesham Bois: 1—5, 2—8, 3—19, 4—19, 5—22, 6—22, 7—22. Each side was at the wickets 75 minutes. The one dissimilarity was that Lye Green found a man who "stuck" in Ron Mead. He went in second wicket; was there 70 minutes; carried his bat for 28; and at the close clumped the ball several times and engineered a quick passage from 30 for 8 to 50 for 10. Apart from his total; it was a sound, workmanlike bit of batting, with a bit of style about it, and pretty well chanceless until, at the end he forced the pace.

The smartness and soundness of the fielding. Little was missed. At the opening of the Chesham Bois innings it looked as though Lye Green were going to strike a bad patch, as there was a miss from an apparently dolly catch (off Stanbridge's bowling) and the chance of a run out was missed by a mis-gathering of the ball. Those were practically all the blemishes. Not a bye was conceded until late in the innings by Sid Reynolds, who stood up to Edgar Darvell and Fred Rance; Arthur Gomm was in fettle, and had a superb bit of stumping and another of catching to his credit. A capital "shy" by Reidleberg, who was "edge on" and yet broke the wicket and ran his man out with an accurate throw. F. Gomm, at point, took three, one a real snorter; Dick Lacey got short Tom Hearn's career with a nice catch in the deep; and there were excellent catches by R. King and Fred Rance. Generally the fielding was "mustard," and when Ron Mead started to let go several potential boundaries were cut off by quick field work.

The bowling was in safe hands, a pair for each side bowling virtually without relief. The wicket did not assist them. Edgar Darvell and Fred Rance struck oil in the middle piece when they secured five wickets at a cost of three runs, and in fact nobody except Dick Lacey (apart from Mead) stood up to them for any length of time, and he remained with Mead when the second wicket produced 13 runs. Bill Mothersole and R. Stanbridge found their proper length and the spot when they were changed over by Arthur Gomm, and then it was that six wickets fell for seven runs.

The teams were handled well by Arthur Gomm and Frank Wilson, and the match was umpired efficiently by W. Slade and G. Puddifoot.

Cup and medals were presented by Mr. Arthur Howlett, a vice-president of the league, who has been interested in local cricket since the old The-Lee days, who watched the match throughout and was greatly appreciative and interested. He paid tribute to the wonderful keenness of the fielding, the accuracy and success of the bowling, and the fine display of batting by Ron Mead. Mr. A. E. Hall, chairman of the league, who introduced him, gave his congratulations and spoke of the wonderfully good match. The scores and corrected league record (the championship match result being added) are appended.

#### Lye Green.

R. Lacey, b Darvell	4
R. Holt, b Darvell	4
R. Mead, not out	28
G. Plested, b Rance	1
W. Dwight, b Rance	0
W. Mothersole, run out	0
R. Stanbridge, c R. King, b Darvell	0
S. Clarke, b Darvell	0
F. Gomm, b Darvell	3
A. Rogers, c Rance, b Darvell (H.)	0
A. Gomm, b Darvell	5
Extras	5
Total	50

#### Chesham Bois.

G. Walton, b Mothersole	3
R. King, c Gomm (F.), b Mothersole	1
F. Rance, b Mothersole	6
F. Wilson, b Stanbridge	3
E. Darvell, c Gomm (F.), b Stanbridge	3
T. Hearn, c Lacey, b Stanbridge	0
H. Darvell, c Gomm (F.), b Stanbridge	5
F. Brandon, at Gomm, b Mothersole	0
S. Reynolds, not out	3
G. King, c Gomm (A.), b Mothersole	2
J. Reidleberg, c & b Stanbridge	0
Extras	4
Total	30

Bowling.—Chesham Bois: F. Rance, 2 for 15; E. Darvell, 6 for 19; H. Darvell, 1 for 11. Lye Green: W. Mothersole, 5 for 15; R. Stanbridge, 5 for 10; G. Plested, 0 for 1.

#### LEAGUE RECORD.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Lye Green	11	9	1	1	19
Chesham Bois	11	8	1	2	17
Brazil's Sports Club	10	4	4	2	10
Social Club	10	3	5	2	8
Ashley Green Institute	10	3	7	0	6
Home Guard B Plat'n.	10	1	9	0	2

Bucks Examiner Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 1941

This was to be the last season Chesham Bois played in the Chesham and District League. The league itself was suspended until 1946. On reforming in 1947 the club preferred to play friendly cricket. This was to be the case until 1997 when Chesham Bois joined the Mid Bucks League.



# THE EARLY YEARS

## (CLUB RECORDS AS AT END OF 1941 SEASON)

Obviously with the complete lack of scorebooks, fully detailed match reports or seasonal averages exact club records are impossible to set up. However, some feats, obtained from press cutting in various local newspapers, do deserve to be noted at this time.

### LOWEST SCORE BY A CHESHAM BOIS TEAM

21 June 1941

10 against Lye Green C.C. at Chesham Bois Common.

### LOWEST SCORE BY OPPONENTS

18 July 1892

7 by Holmer Green at Chesham Bois Common

3 May 1930

7 by Bellingdon C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

### HIGHEST TEAM SCORE BY CHESHAM BOIS

18 July 1914

232 against Amersham Adult School at Chesham Bois Common

(This was also the first recorded score over 200)

### HIGHEST TEAM SCORE BY OPPONENTS

1 July 1922

229 for 7 by Amersham Hill Athletic C.C v Chesham Bois 2<sup>nd</sup> XI at Bois Common

(First recorded score over 200 against the club)

### FIRST CENTURY SCORED BY AN OPPONENT

1 July 1922

117 n.o. by S. Dove for Amersham Hill Athletic C.C. ( N.B. in above match)

(This was also the highest individual score by an opponent thus far)

### HIGHEST SCORE BY A CHESHAM BOIS PLAYER

27 May 1912

82 by Andy Horwood against Holy Trinity (Westminster) at Chesham Bois Common.

### BEST BOWLING BY CHESHAM BOIS PLAYERS (N.B.ONE INNINGS)

1901 (6 July)

P. Aris

8 wkts. v Neasden Loco C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

1902 (16 Aug.) F. Cox	8 wkts. v Darvell & Jennings C.C. at Portobello Park
1906 (4 June) P. Aris	8 wkts. v The Moor C.C. at Chesham Moor
1906 (28 July) F. Cox	8 for 17 v Ley Hill C.C. at Chesham Bois Common
1906 (11 Aug.) P. Aris	8 for 15 v Little Missenden C.C. at Little Missenden
1909 (12 June) F. Cox	8 for 19 v Ley Hill C.C. at Ley Hill
1912 (7 Sept.) H. Atkins	8 for 4 v Boxmoor C.C. at Boxmoor
1913 (25 April) P. Aris	8 for 12 v The Lee C.C. at The Lee
1920 (15 May) A. Moreton	8 for 21 v Berkhamsted Chemical Works C.C. at Berkhamsted.
1926 (3 July) W. Mothersole	8 wkts. v Bellingdon C.C. at Bellingdon
1931 (8 Aug.) E. Darvell	8 for 6 v Chartridge C.C. at Chesham Bois Common
1937 (3 July) H. Darvell	8 for 20 v Lye Green C.C. at Chesham Bois Common
1941 (21 June) F. Rance	8 for 11 v Lye Green C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

In the early years, in matches of two innings, because of the low scores / quality of the wickets, it was not uncommon for some bowlers to take 10 or more wickets in a match.

#### HAT-TRICKS BY CHESHAM BOIS PLAYERS

1903 (1 Aug.)	J. Tomlin against Holmer Green C.C. at Chesham Bois Common
1903 (29 Aug.)	W. Nash against Bellingdon C.C. at Chesham Bois Common
1914 (15 Aug.)	W. Ambler against Coleshill C.C. at Chesham Bois Common
1941 (21 June)	F. Rance against Lye Green C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

CHESHAM BOIS C.C.  
CHESHAM AND DISTRICT LEAGUE RECORD  
DIVISION ONE

YEAR	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST	POINTS	POSITION
1911		NO FINAL LEAGUE TABLES FOUND				?
1912	14	12	0	2	24	
1 <sup>ST</sup>						
1913	10	7	1	2	15	
1 <sup>ST</sup>						
1914	10	8	1	1	17	
1 <sup>ST</sup>						
1915-1918		NO LEAGUE OWING TO WW I				
1919	10	3	1	6	7	?
1920	12	10	0	2	20	
1 <sup>ST</sup>						
1921	14	11	0	3	22	
2 <sup>ND</sup>						
1922		NO FINAL LEAGUE TABLES FOUND				4 <sup>TH</sup>
1923	12	6	0	6	12	=
3 <sup>RD</sup>						
1924	12	5	0	7	10	
5 <sup>TH</sup>						
1925	10	7	0	3	14	=
2 <sup>ND</sup>						
TIED WITH COLESHILL. LOST PLAY OFF MATCH						
1926	12	9	0	3	18	=
2 <sup>ND</sup>						
TIED WITH GREAT MISSENDEN. LOST PLAY OFF MATCH						
1927	14	3	2	9	8	last
1928	16	7	1	8	15	6 <sup>TH</sup>
1929	16	14	0	2	28	1 <sup>ST</sup>
1930	16	12	1	3	25	1 <sup>ST</sup>
1931	16	14	0	2	28	=1 <sup>ST</sup>
TIED WITH CHARTRIDGE. WON PLAY OFF MATCH						
1932	14	9	1	4	19	3 <sup>RD</sup>
1933	14	7	2	5	16	4 <sup>TH</sup>
1934	16	5	1	10	11	7 <sup>TH</sup>
1935		NO FINAL LEAGUE TABLES FOUND				6 <sup>TH</sup>
1936		NO FINAL LEAGUE TABLES FOUND				?
1937	13	8	0	5	16	2 <sup>ND</sup>
1938	13	5	3	5	13	5 <sup>TH</sup>
1939	13	9	1	3	19	2 <sup>ND</sup>
1940	12	10	1	1	21	1 <sup>ST</sup>

1941	10	8	1	1	17	=2 <sup>ND</sup>
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TIED WITH LYE GREEN. LOST PLAY OFF MATCH

	SECOND XI (DIVISION TWO)					
1921	16	4	0	12	8	8 <sup>TH</sup>
1922	6	0	0	6 (WITHDREW FROM LEAGUE)		

## 1942 – 1946

After the 1941 season the club was disbanded, owing to the increased severity of World War II.

During the years 1942 & 1943 the cricket ground was left untended.

During the 1944, 1945 and 1946 seasons the St. Leonard's Church Youth Club began to clear and use the ground, playing games against other youth clubs.

## 1947

Copies obtained from the Bucks Examiner of 1947 (below) announce the full rebirth of the club, by a combination of older members of the St. Leonard's Church Youth Club and former members of the club back from military service.

### Bucks Examiner Reports

Friday 27 June 1947

#### CRICKET CLUB TO BE REVIVED.

Strenuous efforts are being made to revive Chesham Bois Cricket Club, one of many local clubs that lapsed during the war. The lead is coming from the older members of Chesham Bois Youth Club, and former members of the club who have returned home after completing their military service. Restoring the cricket table on Chesham Bois Common to a reasonable standard for play has occupied many evenings, and now the great need is the offer of the loan of a motor mower to clear the out-field. A few friendly games are arranged for this Summer, and it is hoped that the club will be well established for next season.

Friday 11 July 1947

#### CHESHAM BOIS YOUTH CLUB.

#### YOUTH NOTES FOR JUNE.

The senior boys and club helpers have been responsible for the re-organising of the Chesham Bois Cricket Club. Working parties have been busy on the common cleaning up and cutting grass, and fitting posts and boxes to protect the table. A number of matches have been played and friendly fixtures are welcomed by the fixture secretary, Mr. S. F. Charles, c/o The Rectory, Chesham Bois.

After clearing the common of the vast quantity of gorse bushes that had thrived on the neglect of the common in previous years, and making the square playable once again, they arranged friendly matches with other teams in the area.

It was from this period that the club colours were originated, green and yellow, in recognition of the grass and gorse that had covered the common.

Unfortunately there are very few details of these matches in the local papers, three that have been found feature below.

30 Aug. Ballinger Sports C.C. 'B' v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Ballinger  
45 & 65 46 & 74

Chesham Bois won by 10 runs

Ballinger Sports "B" Team v. Chesham Bois.—Chesham Bois batted first and scored 46. Top scorers: A. Gurney (18) and I. Gough (10). Ballinger "B" replied with 45, of which M. Eldridge scored 20, and S. Bignell 10. Chesham scored 74, and Ballinger replied with 65, thus leaving Chesham winners by 10 runs. Both sides said that the game was the most enjoyable of the season.

### Bucks Examiner Friday 5 September 1947

31 Aug. The Lee C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at The Lee  
47 & 40 77 & 139 (J. Hearn 42 in 2<sup>nd</sup> innings)

(1<sup>st</sup> innings J. Lemon 6 for 19)

(2<sup>nd</sup> innings J. Lemon 6 for 9)

Chesham Bois won by 129 runs

The Chesham Bois team was:

J. Hearn, A. Gurney, A. Jones, J. Smith, P. Renshaw, D. Slade, I. Gough, I. Gomm, J. Lemon, D. Brewer and G. Randall.

6 Sept. The Lee C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at The Lee  
120 & 80 for 2 dec. 75 & 89

(1<sup>st</sup> innings M. Rance 5 for 51) The Lee won by 36 runs

The Chesham Bois team was:

L. King, J. Hearn, A. Jones, M. Rance, A. Gurney, D. Slade, D. Richardson, I. Gomm,  
D. Brewer, I. Gough and J. Lemon.

The-Lee v. Chesham Bois.—Played at The-Lee. The-Lee won the toss and elected to bat first. Runs came quite steadily against the bowling of I. Gomm (2 for 34), and M. Rance (5 for 51). A bowling change (J. Lemon 3 for 18), had its effect and The-Lee were dismissed for 120. The principal scorers were A. Rutland 21, W. Rutland 18, R. Brown 18 and C. Pratt 14. Against the bowling of W. Rutland (3 for 34), R. Brown (6 for 26), and B. Jones (1 for 6), it looked as if there might be an exciting finish, Chesham Bois having 70 on the board for five wickets. There was, however, a sudden collapse and Chesham Bois were dismissed for 75. The principal scorers were D. Slade 20, and A. Gurney 16 and A. Jones 14.

### Bucks Examiner Friday 12 September 1947

## 1947 Averages Chesham Bois C.C.

NAME.	BATTING				HIGHEST SCORE	BOWLING				
	INNINGS	NOT OUT	RUNS	AVERAGE		OVERS	MAIDENS	RUNS	WICKETS	AVERAGE
T. CLITHEROW	13	—	64	4.92	18	20	4	38	13	2.92
D. BREWER	16	2	62	4.43	16	88.5	20	165	50	3.30
I. GOMM	17	1	128	8.00	52	21	5	53	5	10.60
I. GOUGH	9	2	44	6.29	14					
A. GURNEY	20	—	147	7.35	18					
J. HEARN	9	—	114	12.66	42					
A. MEAD	8	1	41	5.86	15*					
G. RANDALL	16	5	26	2.36	6					
D. SLADE	21	2	112	5.89	20	21	5	58	7	8.30
J. SMITH	5	1	45	11.25	18*	31	6	65	20	3.20
E. STEPHEN	10	2	27	3.37	8					
A. JONES	9	1	96	12.00	32					
M. RANCE	14	—	127	9.07	35	96.2	19	191	53	3.60
J. WOLCHOVER	7	2	11	2.20	6	17.4	—	61	15	4.06
J. LEMON						2	—	13	2	6.50
P. RENSHAW	2	—	44	22.00	30					

Another feature that affected cricket in the area at this time was the final agreement with the churches and various other parties for Sunday cricket to be permitted.

We do know that in these early days of Sunday cricket the captain of Chesham Bois was Don Slade, a member of the notable Slade family in the area (See Fred Willis report).

Hopefully more details of this era will emerge in future times but for now this period must be left to nostalgia.

## MEMORIES

BY MR. FRED WILLIS  
PLAYER 1948-1957

WRITTEN IN 1983



Fred Willis  
Pictured in 1950



It was in the summer of 1948 that my Brother in Law, Terry, asked me if I would like to join Chesham Bois Cricket Club. I was a little confused at first as Terry was only a youth and I had visions of playing with a team of eleven to fifteen year olds! However once the confusion had cleared up I was more than happy to be playing cricket once more.

In my first game I batted at number ten. I managed to make eleven runs and as a result opened in the following game, sad to relate that I made about 3 or 4 runs only. After 37 years the memory is not too bright and if I should inadvertently forget to mention any members of the team at that time I must ask their forgiveness.

The team was skippered by Don Slade and although crippled in one foot, and having to use a runner at all times, was a very stylish opener and usually made quite a few runs. Other members of the team at that time who come to mind were Alan Gurney, Ron Fox, Terry Bird, F.W. King, Ivor Gough, John Lemon, John Hearn, Ian Gomm and my self.

In those days our fixture list was very local The Lee, Ballinger, Coleshill, Winchmore Hill, Chalfont St. Giles, Chalfont Colony, Hyde Heath, R.A.F. Halton Apprentices, Tylers Green, Challoners Old Boys, Chartridge and no doubt a few more I have forgotten.

It was pure village cricket, no pavilion, change in the bushes or at home. The scoreboard was a few tin plates hung on a board and the whole contraption leant against a convenient bench or tree. Tea was provided by wives and girl friends, and here I must tribute to all those ladies who week after week made sandwiches and cakes, and brewed tea in a large urn, afterwards washing up and stacking the clean crockery ready for the following week.

Although there was a roster of sorts for preparing the pitch, marking out and such like the whole team were usually to be found on the common before the weekend mucking in with all the chores. In those days the only equipment we had was the home made roller and a hand mower loaned to us by Alan Gurney, I can tell you that mower needed two men, one pushing and the other pulling, but was most efficient. The outfield was kept in some sort of order by the use of bagging hook's, it was a losing battle and was a continual source of worry to us.

Gradually the club acquired new members, Freddy Strong from the local pub, "the Boot and Slipper", Fred Parsons, Peter Platt, George Wilkins, Peter Nash, David Hearn, Jack Riley, Tommy Knowles, Terry Clitheroe, George Finch, Len Barker, Ron Smith, Billy Knowles, Len Hammond and Ernie Bentley, an American. Ernie was a great character. He would stride to the crease swinging his bat like a club, as though he was going to a baseball match. He never bothered taking a guard and wouldn't have known what middle and leg meant anyway! It was always a safe bet that Ernie would be out in the first few balls or he would make 20 or 30 which, in them days was terrific. No half measures for him, but whatever happened he would return to the bench telling all and sundry how he could have handled "that god damn bowling" had it not been for this or that!! He was passionately fond of apples and would sprinkle them with salt then eat them with immense enjoyment. I remember on one occasion we all prevailed upon Don Slade to try this delicacy, I shall never forget the look on his face as he took the first bite!

At this time I think we were losing the majority of our matches but this in no way deterred us and our keenness and enthusiasm seemed to thrive on our loses. One

incident that springs to mind, which only serves to demonstrate this, is the day Ron Fox was struck violently on the head by a savage square cut, the ball rebounding to me at third slip, and it was not until the ball was safely pouched that we turned our attentions to Ron's motionless body, fortunately he was quite alright. So much so that Don said to him, "You should have held that one Ron".

The table was, to say the least, becoming very uneven and more than one of us received some nasty injuries to the face and head, so we decided that in the close season we would try to improve it. To let the work out to contractors was an impossibility, as we had no funds to speak of, so with Alan Gurney in charge, bags of enthusiasm and very little knowledge we attacked the table, cutting our own turfs from the best of the outfield and re-seeding the better of the worn patches. The outfield was kept in check with bagging hooks, wielded in a very un-workmanlike manner, fortunately there were no casualties as we all kept a very healthy distance from each other.

To our delight the table played much better the following season, but the outfield had reverted back to a jungle. This was accepted by the local teams but was to prove some what embarrassing at a later stage. We were now extending our fixtures a little and including one or two all day games.

One such fixture was with Chisselhurst from Kent and we were on the common bright and early marking out and preparing everything. They arrived about 10 o'clock and it was obvious that, at least regarding equipment and turn out, they were in a far different class to us. This was confirmed when, having won the toss, they decided to bat first and their skipper was heard to say, "Will you pad up Mr. Jones", with us it was, "O.K. Len, get them on". They looked around in obvious bewilderment, looking for a place to change. Our skipper, I think it was Alan Gurney, sheepishly explained that we were waiting for permission to build a pavilion and could they change in their cars. Not a very good start, but worse was to follow.

They were soon scoring steadily and then the inevitable happened, a well struck ball soared over third man's head and into the long grass that covered the outer 10 or 15 yards of the common. Normally this would have been two runs at the most but after they had run four third man was joined by first and second slips, cover point, wicket keeper, Uncle Tom Cobley and all!! They could well have run 20 or 30. I will always remember Len Hammond, our fast bowler and a real rough diamond, muttering to me, "If you find it don't let on and we'll run the buggers out". Although we saw the funny side of it later it was most embarrassing at the time and we knew we would have to do something about it, very quickly.

Another incident later in the season made us think hard about increasing our finances by whatever means possible. It was a lovely summer's day and there was quite a fair crowd on the common. Johnny Hearn, our opening bat, and without doubt the hardest hitter of the ball in the club, was batting and hit a soaring six towards the South Road entrance to the common. An elderly gentleman was standing watching and obviously lost sight of the ball. To our horror he took off his hat to shade his eyes and we watched helplessly as the ball struck him fair and square on his uncovered head, we could hear the crack all round the ground. I am glad to say he was not seriously injured and insisted on remaining to see the rest of the game. He certainly must have been a tough old boy!

This incident made us realise we were under insured so we decided to raise the subscriptions the following season. During the close season we ran dances and held jumble sales, these, added to the weekly collections enabled us to buy a rotary mower and increase our insurance. Here I must say a few words regarding these collections.

They were taken by Len Hammond, and what a wonderful job he made of them. No one was safe, and even the players of opposing teams were cajoled into dipping in to their pockets. Sadly Len died in 1982. He was still involved with the club. Players like him are the heart and soul of clubs all over the country, full of enthusiasm, always in the thick of everything, keen as mustard and happy to do any task asked of him.

At the next A.G.M. we also decided to apply to the authorities concerned for permission to build a pavilion. Our president at that time was, I think, Lord Torrington and he helped us tremendously by meeting with Mr. Garrett Pegge, who was Lord of the Manor, and smoothing the way for us, as much as possible. Mr. Garrett Pegge had no objections to the idea but informed us that permission would have to be obtained from each and every commoner whose property faces on to the common. This meant going round the whole of North Road, including three small cottages just off the road, South Road and Chesham Road, adjacent to the common, and asking for their signed permission. A somewhat daunting task, but it was decided that Peter Platt and myself would try to carry this out. It was October before we started on this, and as the evenings were the best times to catch the occupants at home it was quite dark. I never realised how many elderly ladies lived around the common, nearly all of them were rather dubious about opening the door and our conversation was carried out through a three inch gap with the door chain firmly in place. They all, however, were very co-operative and even though we had to return to quite a few of them we finally completed our task, with the exception of one householder. This was an elderly gentleman, Harry Aris who lived with his sister, bright as a squirrel, one of our keenest supporters and as stubborn as a mule. He never missed a match and rumour had it that when the bushes grew too high Harry cut them down so he could watch the match from the comfort of his bedroom. He would not give his consent, and even more infuriatingly would not give his reasons I have an idea he may have been a member of the club in the old days as he would say, "We never needed a pavilion and we managed alright". He was an infuriating yet lovable character, a keen critic of all aspects of the game, and about a year later finally gave his consent. Even after I left the club we still used to meet on the common and chat over old times, until his death some years later.

The next season was, I think, one of the wettest we had, with game after game being curtailed or called off owing to rain. I must, however, mention one match that should surely go into some kind of cricketing records. We were due to play Winchmore Hill and should never really have started. However after several weeks without a game both sides were getting desperate, and after a short consultation decided to play on the practice area. It was a sea of mud even before we started and after a few overs down came the rain again. A hurried conference between the two skippers decided we should play on and so we did. I only wish I had taken a camera with me because, believe it or not, we finished up playing in raincoats and Wellington boots. Shades of W.G.....!!

I was voted in as skipper of the Sunday XI the following season, and it was about this time, mid 1950's, that two youngsters of about ten or eleven started coming to watch the matches. They were always early and always asked me the same question, "Any chance of a game Mr. Willis". As we were still quite often short of players I was able to give them the occasional game, and they proved well worth their place in the team. The opposition would usually give them a friendly long hop to start with, but after seeing it dispatched to the boundary in a truly professional manor soon reverted to bowling flat out.

These two lads both went on to greater things and I would like to think that they sometimes remember those games played on the common. They were, of course, the

Taylor twins, Michael and Derek. I wonder if Michael remembers impaling his leg on the broken branch of a tree in his keenness to retrieve a ball.

Michael later played for Amersham Hill, Chesham, Bucks, Notts. and Hampshire.

Derek later played for Amersham Hill, Chesham, Bucks, Surrey and Somerset.

The following season saw a few changes in the club Lord Torrington gave up his position as President and his place was taken by Mr. Bridgstock-Choat, a local historian. Terry Bird, our wicket keeper and Johnny Lemon, our fast bowler, were persuaded to join Fencibles C.C. and later on that season were followed by George Wilkins and Ivor Gough. This left the club desperately short of players once again, but we were also gaining a few new members. Players to join that season were Colin Hansford, Keith Parsons, Paddy Stone, Tony Franklin, Harry "Tug" Wilson, Ron Vince, Peter East and others.

I remember a game against R.A.F. Apprentices at Halton Camp. We batted first and their two opening bowler, West Indians and true to type fast, very very fast, had us reeling at a terrible 7 wickets for 4 runs, the shame of it. To make matters worse they changed to there second string but even so we only managed to make about 26 or 27 runs. Needless to say we were soundly thrashed, but that's cricket!

Another game I shall always remember was one of our all day matches played in Surrey. The oppositions opening bowler seemed very familiar to me and I wondered if we had met before, so I wandered over to the pavilion and glanced at the score book, it was then that I realised why he seemed familiar, it was Surridge, the county opening bowler. Needless to say we lost that one!

The next season we lost Don Slade, I think for business or personal reasons, he decided to give up the game. We were all sorry to see him go, he was a great captain with a marvellous sense of humour and a knack of bringing out the best in everyone. At one A.G.M. we had been shown a film show, on cricket of course, with commentary by a current test player. On the subject of catching he stressed that one must grasp the ball, not merely hold it but GRASP it. Don remembered this the following season and the first time a catch was dropped marched over to the offending fielder and solemnly admonished him with "You know, Ron, you didn't grasp it properly". At the usual post match inquest he would say "There's too many grasps being put down".

At last, almost three years after the first tentative feelers being put out, we started to prepare the site for the pavilion and it was not long before we were putting the final touches to it. There was no "long room" or "members entrance", but to us it was the most beautiful building in the country. One changing room, a tiny kitchen and an opening shutter for our scorers. We even made new numbered plates and our scorer, Bill Washington, could sit in comfort as he carried out his duties.

I have not mentioned Bill before simply because Bill was and had always been as much part of the club as Chesham Bois common itself, Bill was the club. He was with the club when I joined and as far as I know stayed with them until ill health forced him to retire.

(Actually Bill died in 1968 but was still scoring at the end of the 1967 season. He passed away during the close season he was in his 90's.R. W.). Bill was a character similar to Harry Aris, a real old timer, cantankerous and stubborn but lived for the club. He also had a wooden leg, not a false leg but a real Long John Silver type wooden leg. He also had a false leg that he had to click in to place but only used this one for away games. Not because he was embarrassed by the wooden one but simply because it was difficult to manipulate when getting into or out of a car. He was present at every match and took a great interest in all aspects of the club. About two years before I left the club he lost his wife after forty years of marriage and I know this really

shattered Bill. He was back scoring for us a few weeks later and I think this helped him to come to terms with his sad loss. We all loved Bill and I was pleased to see was remembered when the new pavilion was opened in 1965. No one deserved it more than Bill. ( A solid ships bell was engraved with the names of Bill Washington and Tom Gomm, for many years club umpire and father of Ian, and is still sounded to this day to celebrate 50's, 100's and big six hits ).

As I remarked at the beginning the memory grows a little dim, especially at the age of 67, but the memories of much that happened do not, they remain as clear now as when they occurred and I feel one or two are worth a mention, not in any sequence or order, because they along with many, many more made the time I was with the club one of the happiest of my life.

I mentioned Chalfont Colony as being one of our regular fixtures and we always looked forward to their visit and to visiting them, they were a really wonderful crowd. Many of their players were patients at the Colony and subject to epileptic fits at any time. This did indeed happen on several occasions but was never an embarrassment to either them or ourselves. We learned to leave them to the ministrations of their friends, and within a short space of time they were back at the crease as though nothing had happened they made us so welcome when we visited them and their teas were out of this world, all home made sandwiches and cakes, marvellous.

Another character I shall never forget was an old timer who played for Ballinger, I would think he must have been at least sixty years old and of course always known as "Pop". He was the hardest hitter of a ball I have ever seen. In one of our meetings he scored 53 and during the tea interval I congratulated him on his score. His answer was typical, "Ah Fred but the old eyes have gone and I have to get them in fours now the legs aren't too good".

Finally there was the student teacher from Newlands Park Training College. He came out to bat at number 6 or 7 wearing only one pad, no gloves and smoking a pipe, refusing all offers of a guard he smacked two fours off the first two balls, George Wilkins was the bowler and he was none to pleased. He immediately moved a fielder to fill the offending gap and prepared to bowl again. The student, after studying the new field placing called out to George, "I shan't hit it there", indicating the extra fielder, "I shall hit it there", and pointed, with his pipe, to the space just vacated. What's more he did and it was another four!

I had now been with the club for nine years and had seen many changes. I had skippered the Saturday and Sunday sides for four of those years, sat on most committees and played in almost every match, on both Saturdays and Sundays. The time had come for me to call it a day, but it was a very sad moment for me when the last over was called in that final match.

I still stroll along to the common occasionally and watch the last few overs played, it is easy, in the gathering dusk, to imagine once again Don limping out to open the innings with his runner by his side, or Ernie swaggering across to the crease eager to get at that "God Damn" bowling.

As my mind goes back over the years one thing is certain, I think I can truthfully say that were it not for that great bunch of lads with their willingness and dedication Chesham Bois Cricket Club may well never have been established again.

## 1948

This was the first full season after being reformed as the Chesham Bois Cricket Club. The club only played in friendly matches, with both Saturday and Sunday fixtures. Matches were also played in midweek from this season onwards. Their first match was played on the common against Ballinger on the 1<sup>st</sup> May, details below.

### 1948 Fixtures



SATURDAYS				SUNDAYS & BANK HOLIDAYS			
DATE	OPPONENTS	GRD.	RES.	DATE	OPPONENTS	GRD.	
May 1	Ballinger	Home		May 16	Coleshill	Away	
8	Chesham Social Club	Home		17	Ballinger	Away	
15	Marchants, Ley Hill	Home		23			
22	Slough Youth Centre	Away		30			
29	Hyde Heath	Home					
June 5	Hedgerley	Home		June 6	Little Kingshill	Away	
12	Ballinger	Home		13	R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton	Away	
19	Chalfont Colony	Away		20			
26	Chesham Social Club	Home		27	Coleshill	Home	
July 3	Marchants, Ley Hill	Away		July 4	Hedgerley	Home	
10	Chenies and Latimer	Home		11			
17	Hyde Heath	Home		18	R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton	Home	
24	Chalfont Colony	Home		25	Coleshill	Away	
31	Chenies and Latimer	Away					
Aug. 7	Chesham Social Club	Away		Aug. 1			
14	The-Lee	Away		2	Chesham Social Club	Away	
21	Slough Youth Centre	Home		8	Hedgerley	Home	
28	Ballinger	Home		15	Coleshill	Home	
Sept. 4	Hedgerley	Home		22			
11	The-Lee	Home		29			
18							
25							

1 May Chesham Bois C.C. v Ballinger C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common  
63 for 2 18

Chesham Bois won by 8 wkts.

**Chesham Bois v. Ballinger.**—In a match played at Chesham Bois on Saturday, Ballinger were defeated by 8 wickets. Ballinger were put in first and managed to get only 18 runs against the bowling of D. Brewer 4 for 8, D. Slade 2 for 2, and T. Bird 2 for 2. Chesham Bois replied with 60 for 2 wickets; A. Gurney 23, A. Mead 22 not out, and D. Slade 13 not out. Morgan had both wickets for Ballinger and finished with an analysis of 2 for 16.

Bucks Examiner Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 1948

The Chesham Bois team was:

A. Gurney, T. Clitherow, D. Slade (Capt.), A. Mead, J. Newth, D. Brewer, I. Gough, R. Jackman, G. Marshall, T. Bird and W. Olney.

8 May Chesham Bois C.C. v Chesham Social Club C.C. at Chesham Bois Common  
77 61

Chesham Bois won by 16 runs

15 May Chesham Bois C.C. v Marchants (Ley Hill) played at Chesham Bois Common

107 105

Chesham Bois won by 2 runs

**Chesham Bois 107, Marchants 105.**—  
 In a closely contested game, played at Chesham Bois, the home team won by 2 runs. Marchants batted first and started well with S. Twelftree (13), and Cotterill (20). But against the bowling of J. Lemon (3 for 36), and G. Marshall (2 for 23), lost two quick wickets. B. Elbourne (14), and J. Abrahams (12), improved the position. I. Gough bowled well and finished with 3 for 7. J. Brown (3 for 35), got an early wicket, but A. Gurney (18), and A. Priestner (20), took the score to 54 for 2. J. Newth followed with 33, but C. O'Sullivan (5 for 19), and Smith (2 for 5), brought the score to 100 for 9. One wicket to fall and 2 runs to get. T. Bird was facing the attack: the ball touched the edge of the bat and went for 4. An exciting finish to a very good game.

### Bucks Examiner Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 1948

The Chesham Bois team was:

A. Gurney, D. Slade, J. Priestner, J. Newth, T. Clitherow, I. Gough, J. Lemon, R. Jackman, G. Marshall, T. Bird and I. Hailey.

16 May Coleshill C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Coleshill  
 (Sun) 54 46

Coleshill won by 8 runs

17 May Ballinger C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Ballinger (N.B. 12 a side)  
 (Mon) 75 & 78 31 & 37

Ballinger won by 85 runs

22 May Slough Youth Centre C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Farnham Park  
 49 for 1 16

Slough Youth Centre won by 10 wkts & batted on

The Chesham Bois team was:

A. Gurney, T. Clitherow, D. Slade, R. Baert, R. Jackman, I. Gough, C. Smith, D. Hearn, T. Bird, E. Mayger and G. Marshall.

25 May Fencibles Colts v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Amersham  
 (Tues.) 68 52 for 7

Match Drawn

5 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Hedgerley C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common  
 59 & 56 for 1 dec. 37 & 16 for 4

(M. Rance 6 for 18 1<sup>st</sup> innings)

Chesham Bois won by 22 runs on first innings

12 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Ballinger C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common  
 30 & 15 132

Ballinger won by 87 runs

Ballinger Sports A, 132 for 9 ;  
 Chesham Bois, 30.—Ballinger batted  
 first and scored 132 for 9 wickets.  
 The chief scorers were H. Carr 48,  
 C. Yates 22 not out, D. de Belder 17,  
 and A. Harding 12. Chesham Bois  
 best bowler was Baert, with five wickets  
 for 49. Chesham Bois replied with 30,  
 but the game was not so one-sided as  
 the score suggests, for Baert held up  
 the Ballinger batsmen for considerable  
 periods and the other bowlers were not  
 easy to score from. Yates was the best  
 Ballinger bowler with four wickets for  
 7 runs.

Bucks Examiner Friday 18 June 1948

The Chesham Bois team was:

J. Priestner, A. Mead, A. Gurney, J. Newth, R. King, J. Lemon, T. Clitherow, I.  
 Gough, G. Marshall, R. Baert and F. Willis.

13 June Halton R. A. F. Apprentices v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Halton  
 (Sun.) 33 for 1 dec. & 105 16 & 23 (R. Baert 6 for 39 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 innings)

Halton Apprentices won by 7 wkts. & batted on

19 June Chalfont Colony C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Chalfont Colony  
 94 92

Chalfont Colony won by 2 runs

26 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Coleshill C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common  
 37 & 58 for 7 35 & 38 for 8 dec. (M. Rance 6 for 7 1<sup>st</sup> innings)

Chesham Bois won by 9 wkts. & batted on

3 July Marchants (Ley Hill) C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Ley Hill  
 58 33

Marchants won by 25 runs

7 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Shackmans C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common  
 (Weds.) 31 20 (D. Sawyer 6 for 4 including a hat-trick)

Chesham Bois won by 11 runs

10 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Chenies & Latimer C.C. played at Chesham Bois  
 Common

48 & 37 for 5 dec. 71 & 36 for 5

Chenies & Latimer won by 22 runs

17 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Hyde Heath C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common  
 123 (Reg. King 50) 56

Chesham Bois won by 67 runs

The Chesham Bois team was:

J. Newth, J. Priestner, J. Mortimer, R. King, A. Gurney, D. Brewer, T. Clitherow, R.  
 Jackman, I. Gough, E. Mayger and R. Fox.

19 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Halton R.A.F. Apprentices at Chesham Bois  
 Common  
 (Mon.) 33 103

Halton R.A.F. Apprentices won by 70 runs

21 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Shackmans C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common  
 (Weds.) 78 for 2 70

Chesham Bois won by 8 wkts.

24 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Chalfont Colony C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

27 & 57 for 6 54

Chalfont Colony won by 27 runs on first innings

25 July Coleshill C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Coleshill

(Sun.) 101 23 & 49 for 6

Coleshill won by 78 runs on first innings

1 Aug. Chesham Bois C.C. v Goya C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

(Sun.) 72 44

Chesham Bois won by 28 runs

The Chesham Bois team was:

W. Butterworth, R. Jackman, J. Hearn, I. Gomm, A. Gurney, G. Marshall, P. Gomm, I. Gough, R. Baert, I. Hailey and D. Hearn.

2 Aug. Chesham Social Club C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. at Chesham Social Club

(Mon.) 79 for 7

Match Drawn (Rain)

7Aug. Chesham Social Club Reserves v Chesham Bois C.C. at Chesham Social Club

38 (J. Lemon 6 for 12) 81

Chesham Bois won by 43 runs

14 Aug. The Lee C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at The Lee

53 & 20 for 3 18 & 49

The Lee won by 7 wkts.

15 Aug. Chesham Bois C.C. v Coleshill C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

(Sun.) 57 36 (A. Gayler 6 for 18)

Chesham Bois won by 21 runs

**Chesham Bois, 57 ; Coleshill, 36.—**  
Coleshill were put in to bat first on a drying wicket, and only D. Palmer (16 not out) could show any resistance against the pace bowling of A. Gayler (6 for 18, three being bowled in one over), the off breaks of J. Lemon (2 for 11), and the wily slows of R. Baert (1 for 2). 36 seemed an easy total to beat, but Chesham Bois were soon in trouble and lost two wickets for 10 runs. A. Gurney (15) and A. Gayler (12) came together, batted steadily, and the score was passed for the loss of four wickets. W. Whittle bowled steadily and returned 5 for 27, three being taken behind the wicket.

Bucks Examiner Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August 1948

The Chesham Bois team was:

J. Lemon, F. Willis, A. Gayler, A. Gurney, D. Slade, C. Baker, G. Marshall, R. Jackman, T. Bird, R. Baert and D. Lemon.

28 Aug. Chesham Bois C.C. v Ballinger C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

176 24 & 62 for 7

Chesham Bois won by 9 wkts & batted on.

In the Chesham Bois innings J. Hearn scored 101 not out. This is the first recorded century by a Chesham Bois batsman.

**A Century: Chesham Bois, 176; Ballinger, 24.**—Played at Chesham Bois. Ballinger won the toss and batted first, but could only manage to get 24 runs. Gomm and King bowled steadily, each securing five wickets for 11 runs, and eight good catches were made. Chesham Bois then went in and scored 176. Of this fine score J. Hearn played a splendid innings of 101 and retired. He had retired temporarily in the early part of his innings owing to a blow on the body, but returned to complete his century. This was the result of good clean driving, and hooking to leg when opportunities came. He hit one 6 and ten 4s. He was well backed up by A. Gurney, who scored 25.

Bucks Examiner Friday 3 September 1948

Scorecard copied from original 1948 score book

MATCH Chesham Bois v Ballinger		c/Bows/Innings Played at c/Bows		28 AUG 1948.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
BATSMAN		RUNS		HOW OUT		BOWLER		TOTAL																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
1	F. WILLIS	0//		Bld.		JOYNER		0																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
2	J. PRIESTNER	12//		RUN		OUT		12																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
3	J. HEARN	101		RETIREd *				101																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
4	A. GURNEY	25//		RUN		OUT		25																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
5	R. KING	11//		CT DEAR		DIXEY		11																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
6	T. CLITHEROW	0//		LBW		JOYNER		0																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
7	E. MAYGER	1//		CT DIXEY		JOYNER		1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
8	P. GOMM	1//		Bld		JOYNER		1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
9	I. GOUGH	0//		CT JOYNER		DEAR		0																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
10	ROG. BEART	6		NET		OUT		6																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
11	J. LEIGH.	7//		Bld		JOYNER		7																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
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TOTAL FOR INNINGS 176.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
RUNS AT THE FALL OF EACH WICKET 1 for 0 2 for 12 3 for 103 4 for 135 5 for 135 6 for 154 7 for 160 8 for 160 9 for 160 10 for 176																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
PROGRESS SCORE		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300
ANALYSIS OF BOWLING		RUNS FOR EACH OVER															Overs	Maiden	Runs	Wickets	Wide	No	Balls	Bowled	Average																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
1	C. DIXEY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	2	23	1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
2	J. JOYNER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	8	1	36	5																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
3	H. DEAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	10	2	40	1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
4	T. COPPARD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	5	-	33	-																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
5	E. DENHAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	3	-	20	-																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
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4 Sept. Chesham Bois C.C. v Hedgerley C.C. played at Chesham Bois common

63

32

Chesham Bois won by 31 runs

Chesham Bois, 62 ; Hedgerley, 32.—  
Chesham Bois elected to bat first and lost two wickets for six runs, but some patient batting by A. Gurney (14) and J. Newth (23) took the score to 46. Of the remaining batsmen only D. Hearn (7) showed any confidence, and the side were out for 62. Hedgerley never recovered from a bad start, in which they lost 3 wickets for 1 run, and were all out for 32, of which P. Ridgely (11) was the only one to reach double figures. P. Gomm (3 for 13) and J. Lemon (4 for 13) were the Chesham Bois bowlers.

Bucks Examiner Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 1948

The Chesham Bois team was:

J. Lemon, G. Marshall, A. Gurney, J. Newth, R. Jackman, D. Hearn, P. Gomm, E. Mayger, I. Gough, T. Bird and R. Baert.

## 1948 AVERAGES

NAME.	BATTING					HIGHEST SCORE	BOWLING					FIELD CATCHES
	INNINGS	NOT OUT	RUNS	AVERAGE			OVERS	MAIDENS	RUNS	WICKETS	AVERAGE	
A. GURNEY	21	—	157	7.47	26		11	2	21	1	21.00	8
T. CLITHEROW	14	—	34	2.57	10							—
D. SLADE	17	4	110	8.46	29*		18	1	51	5	10.20	4
A. MEAD	7	1	68	11.33	23							6
I. GOUGH	23	2	76	3.62	17*		56	13	115	19	6.05	13
J. LEMON	15	—	76	5.07	16		138	20	302	36	8.40	7
G. MARSHALL	15	4	25	2.27	6		27	5	90	6	15.00	6
C. SMITH	3	—	16	5.33	11							2
T. BIRD	13	1	19	1.58	5		9	2	22	7	3.14	3
W. OLNEY	4	—	11	2.75	6							1
E. MAYGER	9	2	22	3.14	12*							4
J. PRIESTNER	9	—	82	9.11	20							6
J. NEWTH	9	1	162	20.02	40*							1
I. HALEY	7	—	13	1.80	4							2
J. THOMPSON	1	—	7	7.00	7							—
J. PUDDEPHATT	1	—	1	1.00	1							1
M. RANCE	8	—	63	7.87	22		81.4	16	160	34	4.70	4
R. JACKMAN	17	—	46	2.70	10							1
D. HEARN	8	2	11	1.99	7		3.2	—	19	2	9.50	—
L. BARRATT	2	—	1	0.50	1							8
R. BAERT	20	4	40	2.50	7*		83	8	257	35	7.34	1
J. HEARN	4	—	120	30.00	101							—
P. FLEMING	2	1	1	1.00	1							6
R. KING	6	—	67	11.16	50		30	3	80	11	7.27	1
F. WILLIS	10	—	37	3.70	13							—
J. MORTIMER	4	—	8	2.00	5							1
J. MILLS	2	2	9	—	5*		14	3	29	4	7.25	1
A. GAYLER	5	—	13	2.60	12		27	5	56	14	4.00	1
I. GOMM	2	—	7	3.50	4		13.5	4	30	5	6.00	—
R. FOX	3	—	0	—	0		20	7	48	7	6.86	—
W. BUTTSWORTH	5	—	58	11.60	32		38	6	95	14	6.78	4
P. GOMM	4	1	9	3.00	7		24	2	58	15	3.86	1
D. BREWER	1	—	5	5.00	5		9	2	22	5	4.40	1

## 1949

On Saturday 30 April the club held an inter club match and the following members took part. These players were to form the backbone of the teams for the season ahead.

E. Mayger, T. Clitherow, Roger Beart, R. Fox, G. Marshall, J. Newth, A. Gayler, P. Fleming, Rev J. Priestner, M. Rance, I. Gomm, R. Jackman, T. Bird, Reg. King, Ron. King, A. Gurney, J. Barth, D. Hearn, I. Gough, F. Wallis and G. Dickinson.



# 1949 Fixtures

SATURDAYS & BANK HOLIDAYS

SUNDAYS

DATE	OPPONENTS	GRD.	RES.	DATE	OPPONENTS	GRD.
May 7	Chalfont St. Giles	Home		May 1	Coleshill	Home
14	Hyde Heath	Away		15	R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton	Home
21	Marchants	Home		29	Winchmore Hill	Home
28	Chalfont Colony	Away				
June 4	Old Challoners	Home		June 12	Ashley Green	
6	Hawridge and Cholesbury	Home				
11	Ballinger	Away		July 3	Ashley Green	
18	Hyde Heath	Home		24	R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton	Away
25	Chenies and Latimer	Home				
July 2	Hedgerley	Away		Aug. 14	Winchmore Hill	Away
9	The-Lee	Away				
16	The-Lee	Home		Sept. 4	Coleshill	Away
23	Old Challoners	Home				
30	Ballinger	Home				
Aug. 1	Hawridge and Cholesbury	Away				
6	Chalfont St. Giles 2nd XI	Home				
13	Hedgerley	Home				
20	Marchants	Away				
27	Chalfont Colony	Home				
Sept. 3	Chalfont St. Giles	Away				
10	Chalfont St. Giles 2nd XI	Away				

21 May Chesham Bois C.C. v Marchants (Ley Hill) C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

104 119 (A. Gayler 6 for 16)  
Marchants won by 15 runs

4 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Old Challoners C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

58 87  
Old Challoners won by 29 runs

2 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Ashley Green C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

124 93  
Chesham Bois won by 31 runs.

**Chesham Bois 124, Ashley Green 93.**  
—Ashley Green batted first, and after starting confidently lost two wickets at 14, both falling to G. Dickinson. E. Johnson (36) stopped the rot, and partnered by E. Salethorne (10) and J. Telford (15) took the score along to 71. It was then that A. Gurney put himself on to bowl, and after taking the wicket of Johnson with his first ball went on to take 5 wickets for 12 runs. Chesham Bois started badly, and lost the opening pair for only 2 runs. J. Hearn came in to fill the breach, and scored a very attractive 32 before being caught behind the wicket. Some nice batting by D. Gurney (9) and A. Gurney (10), followed by a whirlwind 39 from M. Rance (including eight 4s), passed the Ashley Green total with four wickets in hand.

## Bucks Examiner Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 1949

23 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Old Challoners C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

68 122 for 8 dec  
Old Challoners won by 54 runs.

30 July Ballinger Sports C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Ballinger  
168 for 7 88 for 9 (Only 10 men)

Ballinger Sports won by 80 runs

6 Aug. Chalfont St. Giles C.C. 2<sup>nd</sup> XI v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Chalfont St. Giles

79 250 for 7

Chesham Bois won the match and batted on

This was the highest recorded score by a Chesham Bois team so far

Chalfont St. Giles II 79, Chesham Bois 250 for 7.—Chalfont St. Giles batted first and were dismissed for a moderate score, chiefly due to some good bowling by J. Gough (3 for 8) and G. Dickinson (2 for 16). F. Strong scored an invaluable 30 and was backed up by J. Allen (15) and L. Hearne (10). Chesham Bois started confidently and the Rev. Priestner set about the bowling until, when within sight of the Chalfont total, he mishit and was caught and bowled. G. Dickinson and A. Gayler came together and after winning the game they, and the later batsmen, smote the ball lustily all round the common. The main scorers were A. Gayler, 68 (retired, this included nine fours and two sixes), Rev. J. Priestner 56, G. Dickinson 52 (retired), and A. Gurney (23). F. Strong was the most successful bowler taking 3 for 56 and both he and the fielders should be congratulated on sticking so manfully to their task.

### Bucks Examiner Friday 12 August 1949

3 Sept. Chalfont St. Giles C.C. 1<sup>st</sup> XI v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Chalfont St. Giles

64

64

#### Match Tied

Chalfont St. Giles v. Chesham Bois : A Tie.—Chalfont batted first, and after the opening batsmen had put 20 on the board without loss, a double bowling change, A. Gurney (3 for 16) and R. King (2 for 9), got amongst the wickets and only R. Hatchett (14) and E. Wellings (15) offered any real resistance. The later batsmen could offer no resistance to the bowling of R. Fox (3 for 4), and the side were dismissed for 64. Chesham Bois started badly, and found themselves with 8 wickets down for 45 runs. J. Gough and R. Fox took the score to 62 before the latter was dismissed and the last pair found themselves together with 3 runs wanted to win. After making it a tie they tried for an impossible run and a smart piece of fielding finished the game with honours shared.

### Bucks Examiner Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 1949

4 Sept. Coleshill C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. played at Coleshill

48

58

#### Chesham Bois won by 10 runs

Coleshill v. Chesham Bois.—Coleshill batted first, but against the bowling of A. Gayler (5 for 15) soon found themselves in trouble. J. Tilson (19) and R. Tilson (12) were the only batsmen to reach double figures and the side were dismissed for the low figure of 48. Chesham Bois started quite confidently, but after some bad running between the wickets had lost them their first wicket the bowling got on top and they found themselves with their last two men in and still 2 runs wanted to win. They were determined to get their revenge for an earlier defeat in the season, and after passing the Coleshill score went on to finish at 58. J. Gough batted very well at a crucial time in the game to get 15 not out and J. Gomm scored 14.

### Bucks Examiner Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 1949

These were the only match reports found for this season in the 'Bucks Examiner'.  
No score book or averages are available.