



2021 Annual Booklet

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Club Officers

President

Nick Priestnall

Hon. Treasurer

Nick Westhead

Hon. General Secretary

Chris Ward

Hon. Fixtures Secretary

William Buckland

Hon. Membership Secretary

Nick Hodgson

www.crypticscricket.club



@crypticscc



Cryptics Cricket Club

President's Message

It was tremendous to play some cricket eventually in 2020. Those matches which took place were all good and not adversely affected by the pandemic requirements! However, we did have to cancel our 2020 Dinner and hold the AGM virtually. In the autumn, we enthusiastically and optimistically planned for a Spring 2021 pre-season tour to a new venue, Valencia, and for the Annual Dinner. Alas both have had to be cancelled as restrictions make them impossible. We are provisionally planning the Annual Dinner for late September; as soon as we have a date we will of course let you know.

The Fixtures for 2021 are done, for which many thanks to Hon Fixtures Sec, William Buckland. They contain new opponents - fellow wandering sides The Nomads and The Incogs. As always, I urge you to support the Match Managers by applying for matches, not waiting to be asked. Our website works well; you can apply via the links there or complete your availability for the season in one place. However, you do it, please act! Do take advantage of the new kit at our Serious Cricket shop; you can still buy traditional sweaters at Rochford's. (Details later in this booklet.)

We already have a pre-season tour for 2022 in place- 9-12th April to Sporting Alfas CC. This will mark the 20th anniversary of our first visit there when the playing squad were accompanied by a lovely group of supporters including Simon Westhead and Harold Fawcus. So, both for playing or watching, please save the date.

Please do consider joining the Draw Club which supports young Cryptics; see details later in this booklet.

I look forward to an enjoyable 2021 season and to seeing many Cryptics on playing fields around the country.

Nick Priestnall

Annual Dinner 2021

The Cryptics CC AGM and Annual Dinner will take place on Saturday 25th September 2021 at Falkland House, Oxford. Further details will follow later in the summer but please note this date in your diaries.

2021 Fixtures

Details of the fixtures for the season are on the fixture card but members are strongly encouraged to refer to the website which can of course provide up to date details of match managers and other information. Members are also able to apply to play direct to the match manager on the fixtures page. If you know of other cricketers who would enjoy our brand of wandering cricket, please do encourage them to play too.

Subscriptions and Match Fees

The Committee is maintaining the same Annual Subscription and Match Fees for the forthcoming season. The Annual Subscription is £30 which is waived for students until they have completed FE/ entered employment. New members are proposed to the committee and on selection are asked to set up a regular annual direct debit to the club.

Match fees:

All day game: £20 (£10 concession)

Afternoon game: £10 (£5 concession)

This represents excellent value for the cricket available. The Club is only sustainable though if it can encourage new members to join to maintain resilience in our player base and financial security.

Club Clothing

After careful consideration, the Committee has decided to use Serious Cricket as our clothing supplier. One advantage is that players no longer need to wait

for the club to order in kit to then distribute but can go online and order direct from the store. Serious Cricket offer occasional discounts which the club will publicise. Follow the link below to set up your personal account to start ordering playing and training clothing.

<https://seriouscricket.co.uk/teamwear/stores/the-cryptics-cricket-club/>

For players who prefer to order the more traditional sweaters in the club's colours, contact Rochford Sports Knitwear Ltd 01749813240 or on line at www.rochfordsports.co.uk

Club Ties and Caps can be ordered from the Hon. Gen. Secretary.

The Second Century Draw Club

Full details can be found on the back cover.

Summary of 2019 Season

Played 21 Won 5 Drawn 10 Lost 5 Abandoned 1 Cancelled 5

With no overseas tour to open the season, the Cryptics had to wait until the end of April to open their account at Frogmoor against the Royal Household recording a draw in which the hosts languished 111 runs adrift at the close. The club came closer to victory at Ascott Park against the Stragglers of Asia after posting 253-8 but were unable to dislodge the final two wickets despite Joe Ireland's 6-66. There followed a draw in the match billed as Cryptics v Pink Elephants which saw a predominantly Cryptics side with two Pink Elephants take on the Grasshoppers from Arundel Castle. Circumstances contrived to create a disappointing visit to Oxford to play the Authentics and the Cryptics were heavily defeated. A week later, though, Jasper Joyce led the club to their first victory at Barnes, despite losing one wicket to a penalty dismissal for hitting a six in the wrong direction it seems! The Cryptics fielded two teams on the first Sunday of June. Paddy Nolan's side lost by 46 runs at Hurlingham whilst at Standlake Rob Walker hit an unbeaten century against the Oxford Downs only for rain to dash hopes of a conclusion to the match. Poor weather

and availability meant there was no game at Cambridge or Sandhurst. Ed Montague then masterminded another outstanding fixture against Amersham where this year, our deficit was just three runs at the close of a game in which 529 runs were scored over 105 overs. The President's game against the MCC saw a draw salvaged thanks to an heroic unbeaten last wicket stand between Rufus Nolan and Marcus Ward which frustrated the opposition for 14 overs and left the Cryptics 76 runs short at the end. Tom Andrews stole the show at Highclere Castle scoring 162 against the Earl of Carnarvon's XI whose middle order then frustrated the Cryptics bowling attack as they held out to draw the game. Half way through the season, the Cryptics had just one victory recorded and it took Jasper Joyce to achieve the next successes in the T20 tournament against the Eton Ramblers and Butterflies. The first game went down to the last ball and a run out to keep a one run margin in our favour. Meanwhile the Northern Tour was underway and Nick Westhead led the Cryptics to a comfortable win against the Yorkshire Gents. There then followed an epic two day contest against the Durham Pilgrims. Rain played mischief with timings on the first day but the four innings were completed and at the close the Cryptics were bowled out two runs short of their target. The Southern Tour is now reduced to three games and the Cryptics emerged with draws against the Old Amplefordians (batting out) and Old Hurstjohnians (clinging on) and a defeat to the Martlets by six wickets. The HAC ran the Cryptics close at Armoury House but a further draw was recorded. The Cryptics then sadly failed to raise sides in August to play the Free Foresters and Worcestershire Gents. The one fixture of the West Midlands Tour at Stowell Park ended with the Cryptics batting out against the Gloucestershire Gipsies some way adrift of their 256-6. The season closed with two dramatic games. At Hampstead, whilst Ben Stokes and Jack Leach were performing their heroics in Yorkshire, the Cryptics ended up losing by one wicket after Nick Priestnall graciously allowed the Hampstead opener to return following his retirement at the start of the innings. At the start of September the Cryptics were invited back to Standlake to make up for the game lost to the weather earlier in the season. After being bowled out for 173, the Cryptics found themselves defending frantically towards the close before cunning bowling and fortuitous fielding rolled the Downsmen over just six runs shy of the total needed.

On reflection it is disappointing to have had to cancel three matches through being unable to raise a side despite the strenuous efforts of match managers. However, this should not detract from the commitment shown by the following who turned out so often during the season:

Mike Stafford 12, William Buckland 9, Jasper Joyce 7, Joe Ireland 6, Chris Ward 5, Rob Walker, Ed Montague and Paul Armstrong 4.

Results

v Royal Household CC **Drawn**

Cryptics CC 208-8 dec (41.1 overs)
Warren Miller 94, Freddie Simon 54, Ben Tibble 35, Steve Nutt 4-53,
Christopher Moore 3-48

Royal Household 97-5 (43 overs)
Taimoor Zaman 42, Ben Tibble 3-11

v Stragglers of Asia CC **Drawn**

Cryptics CC 253-9 (52 overs)
Tom Gurney 70, Andrew McCulla 56, Michael Goldsworthy 41, B.Gravett 5-52

Stragglers of Asia CC 177-8 (49 overs)
C. Brown 45, Joe Ireland 6-66

v Oxford University CC **Lost by @150 runs**

(no scoresheet available)

v Pink Elephants CC **Drawn**

Cryptics CC 192-4 (41 overs)
Shaun O'Brien 88, Mukesh Halai 61*

Pink Elephants CC 158-6 (38 overs)
Connolly 40, Joe Ireland 4-56

v Barnes CC**Won by 11 runs**

Cryptics CC

242-9 (39.4 overs)

Jasper Joyce 62, Mike Stafford 56, David Riches 48, J.Innes 4-43

Barnes CC

231 all out (34.4 overs)

R. Katekey 123. Mike Stafford 3-28, David Riches 3-34, Paul Massey 3-51

v Oxford Downs CC**Abandoned**

Cryptics

176-3 (30 overs)

Rob Walker 104*

Oxford Downs

8-0 (1 over)

v Hurlingham CC**Lost by 46 runs**

Hurlingham CC

200 all out (49.1 overs)

R.Cripps 83, Shaun O'Brien 3-33

Cryptics CC

154 all out (30 overs)

H.Peterson 5-35

v Cambridge University CC**Cancelled****v Sandhurst Wanderers CC****Cancelled****v Amersham CC****Drawn**

Amersham CC

266 for 8 dec (52 overs)

N Palmer 47, A Rajapaksa 41, T Forte 3-73

Cryptics CC

263 for 8 (53 overs)

M Pugh 77, M Stafford 62, B Westhead 51

v Gentlemen of Cheshire CC**Cancelled**

v MCC**Drawn**

MCC 258-4 (49 overs)
 Benjamin Marsden 108, Alistair Russell 64, Nick Hudson 60
 Cryptics CC 182-9 (55 overs)
 John Carroll 46, J. Cunningham 4-60

v Earl of Carnarvon's XI**Drawn**

Cryptics 294-5 (43.5 overs)
 Tom Andrews 162, Alex Hutchinson 67*

Earl of Carnarvon's XI 242-8 (44 overs)
 H.Smellie 60, P.Lucas 59, Ed St Aubyn 45, William Wilkins 3-14

v Eton Ramblers CC**Won by 1 run**

Cryptics CC 137-5 (20 overs)
 Hamish Nolan 53

Eton Ramblers CC 136-5 (20 overs)

v Butterflies CC**Won by 28 runs**

Cryptics CC 117-8 (20 Overs)
 Jasper Joyce 41, D. Dasgupta 4-19

Butterflies CC 89-8 (20 overs)

v Yorkshire Gents CC**Won by 5 wickets**

Yorkshire Gents CC 185-7 (49.2 overs)
 DRE O'Kelly 97, L.Pearson 3-14

Cryptics CC 188-5 in 37.1 overs)
 AJG Gous 68

v Durham Pilgrims CC**Lost by 2 runs**

Durham Pilgrims CC 149-7 (35 overs) G. Applegarth 51*, E. Smith 4-24
& 166-9 (44 overs) M.Elliott 58, J.Cann 4-10

Cryptics CC
3-29

164-9 (32 overs) B.Boddie 69, OJ Erasmus 42, J.Stuart
& 149 all out (37.2 overs) E.Smith 4-24, J.Stuart 3-75

v Old Amplefordians CC**Drawn**

Old Amplefordians CC 256-5 (45 overs)
Wade 100*, J.Ainscough 50*

Cryptics CC 191-6 (48 overs)
Joe Ireland 50*, Crofton Keyes 40, Clapham 3-41

v Sussex Martlets CC**Lost by 6 wickets**

Cryptics CC 204 all out (57.1 overs)
Steve Dolben 58, Joe Ireland 41

Sussex Martlets CC 205-4 (33.2 overs)
Rebbets 53, O'Neill 52*, Joe Ireland 3-44

v Old Hurstjohnians CC**Drawn**

Old Hurstjohnians CC 236 all out (53.2 overs)
J.Brehaut 78, B.Caidan 57, Joe Ireland 5-82

Cryptics CC 161-9 (55 overs)
James Hamilton 55*. Dell 3-11

v Honourable Artillery Company CC**Drawn**

Cryptics CC 198 all out (42.1 overs)
H.Sensecall 51, Lappathi 4-23, Mitra 3-19

HAC CC 186-7 (36 overs)

Casey 69

v Free Foresters CC

Cancelled

v Worcestershire Gents CC

Cancelled

v Gloucester Gipsies CC

Drawn

Gloucester Gipsies CC 256-6 (61.4 overs)

B. Ellis 97, J. Cooper 57

Cryptics CC

174-7 (60 overs)

D.Williams 5-34

v Hampstead CC

Lost by 1 wicket

Cryptics CC

196-5 (46 Overs)

Tom Chappell 78, F.Walter 4-64

Hampstead CC

197-9 (44.4 overs)

Dev Nair 68, Anshul Gupya 60*, Adnan Mohammed 4-37

v Oxford Downs CC

Won by 6 runs

Cryptics CC

173 all out(41.1 overs)

Jason Doole 52, W.Watts 4-14, P.Slatter 3-38

Oxford Downs

167 all out (28.1 overs)

M.Watts 105, Harvey Pynn 4-26, D.Bhudia 4-52

Season 2019 Outstanding performances

Centuries for the Cryptics CC

T. Andrews 162 v Earl of Carnarvon's XI

R. Walker 104* v Oxford Downs (1)

50 runs or more for the Cryptics CC

W.Miller 94 v Royal Household
S. O'Brien 88 v Pink Elephants
T. Chappell 78 v Hampstead
M.Pugh 77 v Amersham
T. Gurney 70 v Stragglers of Asia
B. Boddie 69 v. Durham Pilgrims
A. Hutchinson 67* v Earl of C'von's XI
M. Stafford 62 v Amersham
J.Joyce 62 v Barnes
M. Halai 61* v Pink Elephants

S. Dolben 58 v Sussex Martlets
A.McCulla 56 v Stragglers of Asia
M. Stafford 56 v Barnes
J. Hamilton 55 v Old Hurstjohnians
F.Simon 54 v Royal Household
H. Nolan 53 v Eton Ramblers
J. Doole 52 v Oxford Downs (2)
J. Sensecall 51 v HAC
B. Westhead 51 v Amersham
J.Ireland 50 v Old Amplefordians

5 wickets or more for the Cryptics CC

J.Ireland 6-66 v Stragglers of Asia
J.Ireland 5-82 v Old Hurstjohnians

Centuries against the Cryptics CC

R. Katekey 123	Barnes	M. Watts 105	Oxford Downs (2)
B. Marsden 108	MCC	Wade 100*	Old Amplefordians

50 runs or more against the Cryptics CC

B. Ellis 97	Gloucester Gypsies	P. Lucas 59	Earl of C'von's XI
R. Cripps 83	Hurlingham	M. Elliot 58	Durham Pilgrims
Casey 69	HAC	J. Cooper 57	Gloucester Gypsies
D. Nair 68	Hampstead	B. Caidan 57	Old Hurstjohnians
A. Russell 64	MCC	C. Thain 54	Eton Ramblers
H.Smellie 60	Earl of Carnarvon's XI	O'Neill 52*	Sussex Martlets
A.Gupya 60*	Hampstead	Rebbets 53	Sussex Martlets
N. Hudson 60	MCC	G.Applegarth 51	Durham Pilgrims
		J.Ainscough 50*	Old Amplefordians

5 wickets or more against the Cryptics

B.Gravett 5-52	Stragglers of Asia
H.Peterson 5-35	Hurlingham
D.Williams 5-34	Gloucester Gipsies

Summary of 2020 Season

(17 matches were cancelled owing to COVID19)

Played 6 Won 3 Drawn 2 Lost 1 Cancelled 1 (weather)

This was a season which at one point looked as if it would pass without a ball being bowled but it is testament to the commitment of our opponents, sundry ground staff and our own members that we salvaged six games and enjoyed some excellent cricket. The season opened at Worth where the spin partnership of Ruari Willis and Joe Ireland enhanced by catches being taken restricted the Old Amplefordians to 246-9. The Cryptics made a promising start but a middle order collapse eventually left Nino Trapani and Paul Armstrong having to bat out the last five overs to draw. What followed is best related in the words of the day's correspondent:

“After several overs of comfortable resistance, with just one ball left in the day, and a comically offensive field in place, Armstrong gently rolled a soft half-tracker into the bread basket of a surprised short-leg. Defeat was seized from the jaws of stalemate. And Armstrong was left rueing his decision not to simply club the ball through the fieldsman, which he would surely have done were he not such a compassionate gent possessive of the maturity and perspective to know that some things (e.g. player welfare) are more important than the result of 'Jazz-hat' cricket matches.”

At East Grinstead the Cryptics fielded no fewer than seven members of the Nolan family who between them took five of the wickets that fell as the Sussex Martlets recovered to post 235-8. Jasper Joyce claimed three stumpings in the innings. The chase by the Cryptics lost momentum despite a sturdy 63 from

Will Nolan at the top of the order. In the end there was a more resolute defence at the end to secure a draw which ensured that the Martlets retained the Sandy Ross Trophy.

The Cryptics had a much more successful trip to Warnford where the long-awaited return of Tom Swerling with 48, a century from Will Bull and 73 from Jasper Joyce saw an impressive 269-5 posted. The Hampshire Hogs never really got in the chase and Mike Stafford and Tim Forte were the chief beneficiaries of a collapse that left them 129 runs short.

Eleven days later there was success at Hampstead where the previous year's one wicket defeat was turned round with a comfortable five wicket win over the hosts. Hampstead were confined to 210 courtesy of Alex Hutchinson and Mike Stafford taking seven of the wickets between them. A shaky start was then steadied by a few solid contributions based around Bartie Pitt-Brown's 86* and the Cryptics were home with time to spare.

An emphatic 8 wicket win at Artillery House against the HAC followed. The Cryptics dismissed the HAC for 131 giving seven bowlers a chance to strike and then raced home in only 27 overs led by Gwyn Jones' 68.

The season ended at Standlake against the Oxford Downs. We were chastened by a hefty opening stand that set up a healthy 235-6. End of season blues seemed to creep in with Joe Ireland being denied a five-for by some deplorable fielding. The Cryptics innings languished over forty overs and ended up on 167-7, only 68 runs shy of the target with only Mike Stafford and Joe Ireland finding any sort of form with the bat. Special mention for Ed Montague who was run out going for a 5....

v Old Amplefordians CC

Lost by 71 runs

Old Amplefordians CC 246-9 (52 overs)

J.Ainscough 84, R. Willis 5-61, J.Ireland 3-57

Cryptics CC

175 all out (48 overs)

H.Ainscough 4-14

v Sussex Martlets CC**Drawn**

Sussex Martlets CC 235-9 (43.4 overs)
J.Ireland 4-63

Cryptics CC 185-8 (48 overs)
W. Nolan 63

v Hampshire Hogs CC**Won by 129 runs**

Cryptics CC 269-4 (58.5 overs)
W.Bull 102*, J.Joyce 73
Hampshire Hogs CC 140 all out (39.1 overs)
T.Forte 3-30, M.Stafford 3-36

v Hampstead CC**Won by 5 wickets**

Hampstead CC 210 all out
M.Zaheer 59, A. Hutchinson 4-?, M.Stafford 3-37

Cryptics CC 211-5
B.Pitt-Brown 86*

v HAC CC**Won by 8 wickets**

HAC CC 131 all out (37.2 overs)
T.Forte 3-24, B.Pitt-Brown 3-31

Cryptics CC 135-2 (27.4 overs)
G.Jones 68

v Oxford Downs CC

Drawn

Oxford Downs CC 235-6 (38.5 overs)
C.Slater 102, J.Ireland 3-47

Cryptics CC 167-7 (40 overs)
M.Stafford 61, J.Ireland 61*

Season 2020 Outstanding performances

Centuries for the Cryptics CC

W.Bull 102* v Hampshire Hogs

50 runs or more for the Cryptics CC

B. Pitt Brown 86* v Hampstead
J.Joyce 73 v Hampshire Hogs
G.Jones 68 v HAC

W.Nolan 63 v Sussex Martlets
J.Ireland 61* v Oxford Downs
M.Stafford 61 v Oxford Downs

5 wickets or more for the Cryptics CC

R.Willis 5-61 v Old Amplefordians

Centuries against the Cryptics CC

C.Slater 102 Oxford Downs

50 runs or more against the Cryptics CC

J.Ainscough 84 Old Amplefordians M.Zaheer 59 Hampstead



The Second Century Draw Club

The Second Century Draw Club has been established to help fund the participation of young cricketers in Club Matches including overseas tours.

Can you help?

Draws take place every month and the winners are announced on the Cryptics website (www.crypticscricket.club)

Prizes are sent direct to winners.

A minimum £400 will be distributed this year in the form of monthly prizes of £25 and £10 with additional bonus prizes of £50 on special occasions.

REMEMBER – YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!

You can join at any time for a minimum of £24 a year

For further information contact:

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