

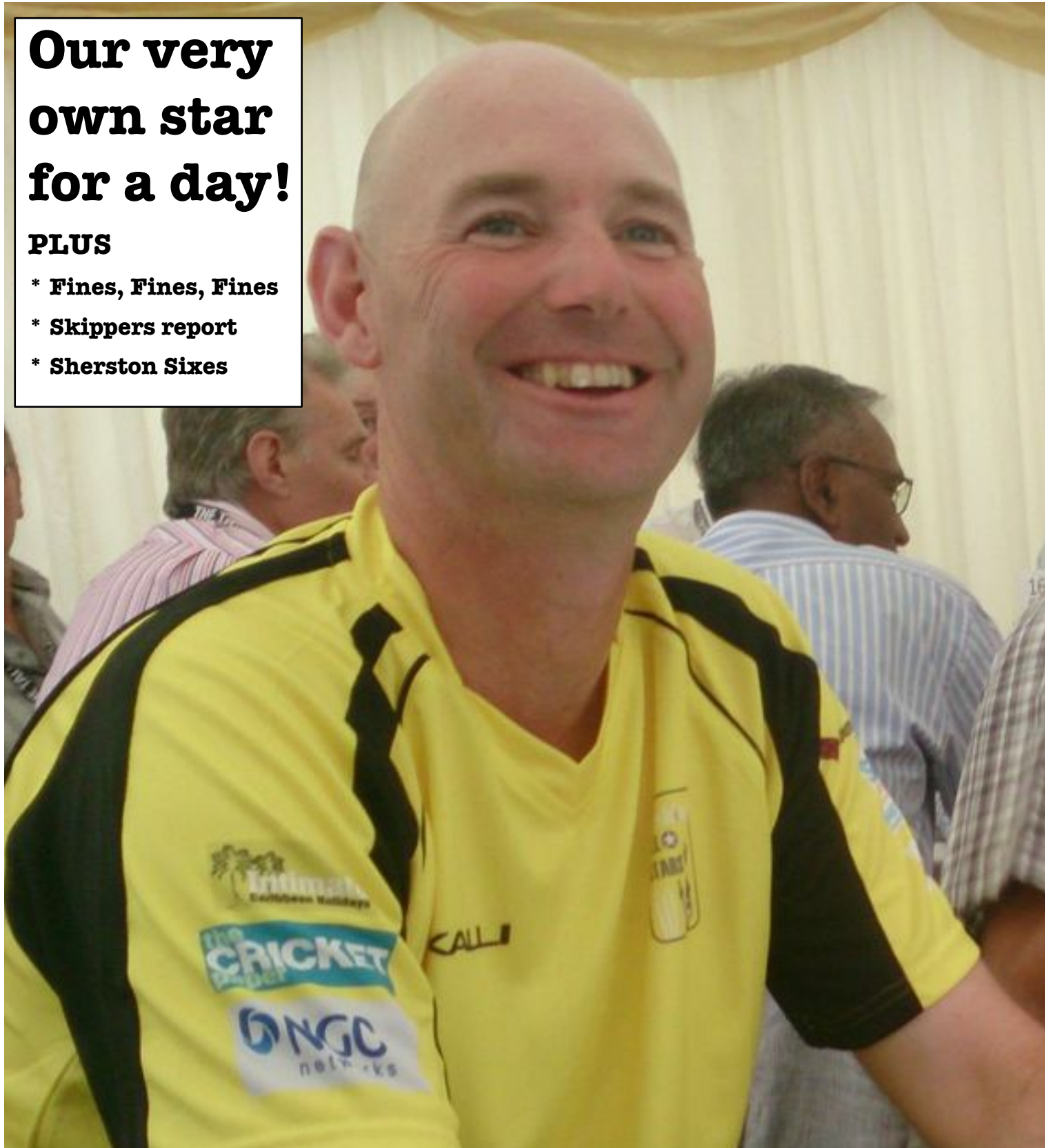
MAGNA MAGIC!

The crickety update for the players, friends and family of Sherston Magna Cricket Club

Our very own star for a day!

PLUS

- * **Fines, Fines, Fines**
- * **Skippers report**
- * **Sherston Sixes**



with thanks to our club shirt sponsors



Oh dearie me!



Fines Fines Fines

Although things have been going very well in the Saturday league side there have also been some transgressions for which the offending players are being fined. The chairman of the fines committee (some say it is a one man dictatorship) felt that some of these incidents are so serious that a fine was insufficient and a bit of public humiliation was necessary so below is a list of the top three crimes.

- James Kutchera – Turning up to a game with no club shirt so having to bat and field in a PINK shirt (*see incriminating picture above*)
- Ewen Kenny – Lending an opponent his bat only for it to be used to hit one of the biggest sixes that Pinkney Park has ever seen
- Dan Pritchett – “polishing” the ball with so much sunscreen that it was impossible for the bowler to hold.

If you would like to see the full list just email us at sherstonmagna@yahoo.co.uk and we would be happy to send it out. For all the players involved watch your inboxes as invoices are being prepared as you read this.

Chairman's Column

Well over half the season has gone and all seems to be going well. The Saturday side are top of the league, the Sunday boys are having good competitive cricket achieving great results and the Junior set up seems to be going from strength to strength.

To continue this progress the practice facilities at the ground need some updating and a new twin bay net has been proposed. To fund this our hard working club treasurer has been knee deep in paperwork applying for a variety of grants. While we are hopeful this will pay for a large proportion of the development the club needs to do some fundraising.

Step forward Nick Burridge, many of you will have seen him down at the ground pointing his long lens onto the play. I understand he has captured some great action shots including many entries into the hall of shame. These together with other images will feature in a photo book recording the activities of the season. In addition he has written a book of verse and essays which has been illustrated by our very own Neil Forster. The book entitled “Smile Out Loud” will be launched at an evening, of the same name and will feature readings from this book which hopefully will make you smile or even laugh. Some of the poems will be performed in character by Kevin Smith and Neil Forster will reminisce about his long and interesting life. The event will take place on the 29th and 30th of November at Sherston village hall and details of how to obtain tickets will be emailed to you shortly. So please put these dates in your diary as all the proceeds from the night and the profits from the sale of the book will go directly into paying for the new nets.

I would just like to thank Nick and everyone else involved for the huge effort they are putting in to support our club.

STOP PRESS

We have just heard that Sport England will not support our bid so it is back to the drawing board. Whilst this is frustrating news we shall continue our quest for funding.

Our pro tipster is unfortunately unavailable, but our enthusiastic amateur JK has come up with Harris Tweed (E/W) who runs in the Ebor Handicap at 14.40 on the 24th August - As usual Sherston Magna Cricket Club asks all players, friends and family over the age of 18 to gamble responsibly.



Treacles Tales....

Captain's report on the performances of the Magna league

July 6 – Ashton Keynes Home (Win by 71 runs)

Another toss won, and Sherston batted first on a decent batting pitch. However batsmen got in and out which left it looking like we were going to end up short of a good score. However, a partnership from myself (63) and Kenny (33) pushed Sherston towards what looked like maximum batting points before a late collapse saw us fall just short on 191. A flying start to the Ashton innings resulted in the most shocking revelation of the season, a certain Ewen Kenny had giving his bat to the opposition to use, I

hope he gets his cheque book out when the fines master comes a calling! He hit some lusty blows (some say further than Ewen could) but was dismissed by Pegg (2-22). Kenny relieved himself somewhat with 3-30 and along with Kutchera (3-12) wrapped up the match for 19 more points!

July 13 – Boules Weekend

It was cracking the flagstones on Boules day so probably a reprieve for us fair skinned cricketers. Thanks to all who helped out on the bar during the clubs stint!

July 20 – Coates Home (won by 208 runs)

For the sixth time in a row, I won the toss and had no hesitation in batting first. A decision welcomed by the opening pair, Goodwin and Jarvis, who on a batting paradise against some buffet bowling started slowly ;pHowever that slowish start was only to lure them into a false sense of security, Sherston scoring 193 runs off the final 20 overs, Goodwin finishing on 109no, Jarvis scoring 72 and Matthews a swashbuckling 88 in 14 overs. Sherston losing their second wicket with one ball to go to finish on 283-2, their highest ever league score. Coates in reply were shell-shocked and some hostile bowling from Kenny (6-36) and Pegg

(4-39) meant that Coates we dismissed for just 75 and a hammering! Yes you read that correctly – NO EXTRAS!

July 27 – Bibury Away (Match abandoned)

The weather forecast was always going to be the only winner, although a few hours of cricket and a couple of bright periods, the game nearly was completed. Sherston batted first and although lost wickets along the way, managed to get to a very competitive 217 thanks to some strong lower order batting from James “Pink Panther” Kutchera (40no) and Phil “Captain” Cavey (37no). With rain in the air, Sherston took to the field, Bibury knowing that a score of 109 or more after 20 overs could win the game. A couple of spells of rain put pay to the chase, which was in the balance, with Bibury 72-3 after 13 overs.

August 3 – Avening and Cherington Home (lost by 2 wickets)

Weather also played a factor in the 1st vs 3rd match up at Pinkney Park, both teams knowing that a Sherston win would pretty much secure promotion for the Magna. A good toss to win, but I lost, Avening and Cherington asking Sherston to bat first. A good start (Goodwin 49) looked like a total of 200 would be achievable but some loose shots left us short on a however competitive 178. Runs came easily batting second as Sherston bowled in the rain, the pitch offering nothing in the wet. Kenny and Gould bowled well for a couple of wickets each but some wayward part time bowling, despite a couple of key run outs, allowed Avening and Cherington to hold on to win.

The run in...

Next Saturday sees another crunch game in the season, against Poulton, with both teams locked together at the top. After defeats to Avening and Cherington, both teams know victory leaves them one step closer to promotion, and the title!

The story so far...

In issue 4 the SS magna had sailed through it's first 8 games, winning 6 and having 2 abandoned and we were marginally top over Poulton. In principle the only thing that has changed is that our unbeaten record has gone, as has Poulton's; both teams losing to Avening and Cherington in the last month, with Sherston holding a narrow 0.5 point lead over Poulton (on average points). Our record now reads played 13, won 9, lost 1, abandoned 3, average points 18.

The sciency bit...

June 29 – Andoversford Home (Win by 9 wickets)

This report could be a rewrite of the South Cerney game, just with some different bowlers. Another toss won and Andoversford were invited to bat first. A good start from them was brought to a halt by some tidy bowling from Pegg (4-21), before Hulance, the man with the most bizarre bowling action I have ever seen (well with the exception of Andre Adams), destroyed the lower order to finish with 5-7 and Andoversford all out for 82. Cartwright (28no) and Lovell (23no) made light work of the chase for the loss of only Goodwin and a 19 point win.

STOP PRESS: The Glove compartment: STOP PRESS

Disappointingly there is no glove compartment this month. Some say he is too busy looking handsome, others are saying his slow batting style has affected his ability to write too!

Hopefully he'll back for issue 6.



Sherston Sixes



Ewen and his 2012 winning team mates

It's getting closer! Sorry WAGS of Sherston, not the end of the season, that is still a little way off yet! But the Sherston Sixes competition!

A great day which is intended to raise money for the club but also provide a great Saturday's entertainment! Cricket is not the only reason to come down. There will be a BBQ run by our sponsors Sherston Sausage Company and a bar to wash down all the burgers and sausages or get to quench your thirst between games! We are also looking to provide some entertainment in the evening as a rounding off of the day!

If you would like to play in the Sherston six-a-side cricket tournament, entry for a team costs just £5 per person, for a squad of up to 8 people.

There are up to 8 team slots available, and each match lasts less than 45 mins!!!

During games there will be roll on roll off subs in order to maximise your chances of winning the cup held by the smug Ewen Kenny and his team of merry men. The Pinkney Park gates open at 10.30am on Saturday 7th September and is intended as a fun event at the end of the season, so why not pop along!

There has been a lot of interest so far and teams will be entered on a first come first serve basis so get your entry in early. To enter a team at the Sherston Sixes, contact sherstonmagna@yahoo.co.uk giving your team name and contact details.

Skipper Smith talks us through the adventures of the Sunday XI



Glorious sunshine, loads of players to choose from and top junior performances...

July got off to a less than promising start when Malmesbury were unable to field a side and withdrew from our fixture.

An all too common problem for village sides, but when it starts to affect larger clubs like Malmesbury it's a telling reminder of the state of the game at grass roots level.

Our one road trip took us to Seagry, which is a beautiful place to play cricket. It's not Pinkney Park obviously, but is as picturesque a place to chase a ball around a field as one could wish for. It was a gloriously sunny day and destined to be a long hot afternoon for whoever lost the toss. Unsurprisingly that was me.

It mattered not. A fine performance with the new ball from Yannick Purser and Milo Morgan, and then two generations of Sutcliffe combining to remove the dangerous (ringer) No. 3 bat, meant we chased a very 'gettable' 165. Chased successfully too, guided home supremely by Ben Dickenson and Glen Scott who hit the winning runs in a graceful 19 n.o.

Glen's bat is called Brian by the way and he surely must be the only bat in any form of the game with his own Twitter account!

We followed our win at Seagry with back to back wins against two nomadic Bristol sides Travellers CC and Venturers CC.

Both teams say that the visit to Sherston is easily their favourite fixture of the year, which, when they've taken a sound beating at the hands of Kenny and Co. is fine praise indeed.

Now, as the skipper of a Sunday XI in a small village, selection issues are not unusual. Frantic phone calls on Saturday evening and even Sunday mornings are, unfortunately, not that rare. But, to be faced with the prospect of dropping people from those available to play? Well it's a new one on me.

While the sun shines and the team is winning, everyone wants to play it seems. Don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining, but it just serves to illustrate that we appear to be bucking the trend in Sunday cricket at the moment. Long may it continue!

What pleases me most about our current good form is the contribution of all the youngsters in the side. The boys aren't just making up the numbers; they are all putting in match winning performances and playing with a maturity and team spirit which belies their tender years. Neil Forster, you have my sincere thanks!

To end on a personal note, I'd like to give massive thanks to Howler for taking care of business while I spent Sundays in May and June training for my Bordeaux cycle ride. Cheers Buddy.

TESCO
Every little helps

Shovel digs the dirt...

There is, and there only ever will be, one...



Mr Hollywood

And oh can this boy move like a movie star, some say more like Charlie Chaplin than John Travolta but we'll let you be the judge of that. Take a look at our very own Richie Cartwright strutting his stuff after a testing day at the crease...

We love you Richie!



STOP PRESS: A polite notice to dogs and their owners

We all love to see our four legged friends running around Pinkney Park. That is until a fielder dives to stop four runs and finds his wife will have more than just grass stains to get out of the whites! So owners please make sure you clean up after your dogs – and that does not mean throwing a bag of doggy deposits under the pavilion.



DFP's big day out!

The weather couldn't have been better for David Fitch-Peyton to realise a lifetime ambition of playing with some of the greatest players to have played the game over the twenty or so years.

Accompanied by Sherston's very own umpire John Burgess and a small but perfectly formed band of Sherston Magna CC supporters David proved he can mix it with the best by taking two wickets in a Lashings World XI vs. Downend charity match.



Above - John Burgess ready for action.
Right - Caroline what did you say! Courtney look shocked!



International superstar Paul Jarvis, otherwise known as our erstwhile junior coach

Javis's Junior Jottings

The school holidays have arrived and with that some wet weather after a fantastic June and July. We have had almost perfect cricket weather with all but one game in the Under 13 league played. All practices have been well attended except the last two which gave way to the wet weather, but in all a very pleasing season from an attendance perspective.

The U13 team finished second in the league with only two losses, both heavily to Kempford. Wins against Cirencester B, Fairford, Lechlade, and Cricklade gave the boys masses of confidence and we have seen some fantastic individual performances too.

James Skeldon, Lorcan Purser, Dan Allison and Ben Kavanagh have all passed 50 runs for the first time in their careers, well done to them! These boys will not be available for the U13 next year and will be missed but there has been some encouraging progress made by the younger players in the squad. With continued effort and hard work we hope to bridge the gap that will be left by the older boys and I am hoping the experiences of playing in these games, has really benefitted the younger players.

There is still room for improvement and the main area that's needs to be focussed on is consistency, this will only come from regular practice, practising with a purpose and concentration. Remember I said a few months ago that the more you practice the easier it becomes, the body gets used to doing particular movements in certain situations, reacting to each circumstance with a purpose.

This comes from experience and practice and I'm sure next year we will see these areas improved.

I just want to say a thank you at this point for all the boys' efforts in practice through all the age groups and for committing to the team, it has been a pleasure being involved and we have all have made big strides forward and set ourselves a platform for the future, well done!

Paul