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*** A REMINDER OF RULE 4 ***

“It is the responsibility of any person playing for the Club in any sport to have in place adequate public liability insurance cover.”

CLUB NOTES

Statistics are the lifeblood of many sports, cricket foremost among them. Twenty years ago, I can recall an animated discussion between myself, a bumptious 14-year-old trying to pretend he was a bit more senior than the third form, and his erstwhile Head of House, Rupert Bagnall – no stranger to these pages.

It was the habit of a few of us in Abbey House to leaf through the newspapers in the house dining room between breakfast and the start of lessons: Rupert and I were often to be found there at that time. Discussion in that Trinity term of 1988 would usually revolve around cricket. (I take no responsibility, incidentally, for Bagnall's A-level results: they were his own fault.)

One day in early May, there was something significant to discuss. Graeme Hick, hard as it may be to recall, was England's saviour-in-waiting, a batsman who would bestride the Test scene like a colossus, swatting the West Indies attacks aside, ensuring we retained the Ashes for generations. Whatever happened to him, I wonder? But I digress.

Hick had scored 405 not out for Worcestershire in a county championship match against Somerset at Taunton. (The next highest score in the game was 53, by a promising youngster called Steven Rhodes. Ian Botham, by then of Worcestershire, failed to reach double figures and took no wickets in either Somerset innings.) It was some effort in a three-day match, the championship format at the time.

Rupert and I enjoyed testing out – still do – each other's statistical knowledge, and I cannot now recall the exact detail, but (mortifyingly) he caught me out on this occasion, to his unbridled delight. The contest over statistics was one that often filled some spare moments; it is perhaps just as well Sherborne didn't admit girls, who have never quite understood the male species' fascination with such data.

I return to this momentary lapse for a reason: the School XI enjoyed a fine 2007, both in regular fixtures and, memorably, in reaching the final of the National Twenty20 competition. The question was posed: was this the best season ever?

It's nebulous, of course: how can you set the modern XIs, who play more matches, against those of the early 20th century (when A W Carr, one of only two OS to play Test cricket, ruled the Upper)? Is it on results, on margins of victory, on individual achievements?

Had the XI won the National Twenty20, the question might have had more force. Because of the nature of schools cricket down the years, winning competitions has rarely been on offer – so any triumph such as that would be a serious consideration.

The class of 2007 did, also, win 11 games – and that is no mean effort even allowing for games mostly being limited-overs, ensuring a positive result.

Charlie Esson would stand comparison with Shirburnian batsmen from any era. Scoring 938 runs is exceptional. Ed Atkins scored a hundred and that doesn't come round very often. Those two at least, I would hope, will be part of the Club's Cricketer Cup side for years to come. But are they "better" than, say, Jimmy Adams, now of Hampshire and part of the XI a decade ago? Or perhaps than Ben Atwell, who accumulated many runs during my era at the School? Or indeed, going farther back, than the late, lamented David Sheppard?

The arguments are fun to have, but often pointless. It is wonderful to see the germs of serious recovery across the School's sport and Pilgrims should celebrate that.

The Club itself has enjoyed a productive, if not outstanding year. The Cricketer Cup team performed excellently in defeating Eton Ramblers in the first round, only to subside poorly to St Edward's Martyrs in the second round. The weather was unkind in midsummer but plenty of Pilgrims played over the season. Charlie Warren must be thanked for his stewardship of the cricket side over recent years, a burden laid down when he departed for Australia in the autumn. He will be missed as much for his *joie de vivre* as for his (considerable) sporting ability.

Nick Cook and George Bramble deserve much praise for their invigorating work with the rugby team, who have turned out five times during the current season – with mixed results, but plenty of passion. Their smart shirts are the envy of many – and if any Pilgrims out there want to get a flavour of the rugby crowd, may I recommend the Facebook group of Sherborne Pilgrims Rugby.

Jimmy McKillop has taken over the hockey side and they enjoyed a sociable time in January at Haileybury and in March at Sherborne. And there will be a new face soon in charge of the fives set-up – Nick MacIver is seeking to stand down in favour of a younger man. Nick has been a terrific mainstay of Sherborne fives since he started at the School and his contribution has always been recognised.

On the social side, two events have recently taken place that have proved popular and entertaining. On March 15, the Long Room (as the extended first-floor area in the Upper Pavilion has now been named) played host to 50 Pilgrims, with short speeches from Hugh Archer, Charles Collingwood and Philip Lough. The Club's thanks go to John Harden and Janey Goddard in the OS Office for their work in helping to organise this. On April 10, there were 30 Pilgrims at The Hall, Hampstead, where Philip is headmaster, for a drinks evening. To both Philip and his school, also much thanks. We hope to see more of such events.

There is, however, a dreadful sadness in this year's booklet that should not go unnoticed. Keen observers will spot that one of the names listed among our Obituaries matches that of one who joined the Club on leaving last summer: Rati Moyo drowned earlier this year in an accident off the coast of New Zealand. The Club would like to extend condolences to his family over this tragedy.

The date of the Club's AGM will be in the JCR in Sherborne on Saturday October 4, at 12.15pm. The XV will be playing Clifton on that day – please do come along if you can. My thanks as always go to Charles Eglinton and Barbara Spencer for their work in helping me to produce this booklet. It should also be noted that Charles is in charge of the Club's archives and if any Pilgrim, of any vintage, has some memorabilia relating to past Pilgrims endeavours, please contact him at charles.eglington@blueyonder.co.uk

One appointment over the past year that requires comment is that of a new Hon Secretary, a post that has been vacant for a few years. Ed Lyons has picked up that baton and we wish him well. He, I am sure, would echo my traditional sentiments: to all those who play or administer – or even just watch – Pilgrims sport over the next year, the thanks of the Club. It thrives because of your time and effort.

Robert Hands
April 2008

NEW MEMBERS

Applications were received from the following leavers in July 2007

T A Andrews (c) S C	C J Holdoway (d) R H
P D Anscombe (f) R S Sq	D J Hopkins (c) S T
E R Atkins (c) C H R	J H C Jenkins (b) C S R
H C B Balfour (g) R H C	J B Kinnersly (b) S C R
M V Barnes (m) R F	S J Lamb (c) C S
H P A Bond (g) R C S	A G Le May (b) T S R
J A Bowker (m) R Sa	E F Leakey (b) F Sq T
W C A Bulleid (b) R	B E Lyons (c) R C H
W N C Capel (b) R T C S	G J F Mackintosh (e) R
A E Carrow (b) F R	R G Masterson (g) C H S
P H Chung (e) F	A G G Milward (c) CC C
C S G Cooke (f) C G Sq H	H J Moores (d) C H
J R Coreth (b) F	R I Moyo (g) R S C
M A I Cosby (c) H C R Sh	R A J Newsome (d) R F
J N Dampney (m) C S	S M M Ross (a) CC A R
A C de Candole (b) F R	H D G Rowe (g) S R

A J Dunlop (m) Sw R
J C Erskine (c) H C
C A R Esson (b) C R H
T C Fleming (g) R H
T W B Foster (m) CC
H W F Gibbs (m) C Sq S
G D V Hayler (c) H C R

T J Saunders (c) S C R
P G A Selfe (c) H C
J E Smibert (a) R C H
W J A Stebbings (d) S R
J R M Stratton (a) R C H
H G White (m) CC Sw R
P W H Windle (c) R C H

A – Athletics
C - Cricket
Cc - Cross Country
F - Fives

G - Golf
H - Hockey
R - Rugby
Sa - Sailing

S - Soccer
Sh - Shooting
Sq - Squash
T - Tennis

Other new members: W S O’G Haly (a 1973-77)

Honorary members: A P Ballard, R W Hill, Mrs M C McKenna, A R Oates

OBITUARY

Sir Alan Campbell (a 1932-37), A W Gallon (Honorary), J B Jackson (g 1967-72),
R I Moyo (g 2002-07), H C Ridgwell (d 1958-62)

MANAGERS

Cricket: Peter Langly-Smith: 07861 380431 (M)
peter.langly-smith@prupim.com

Cross Country: Ed Pitt Ford: 07769 773368 (M) tep05@ic.ac.uk

Fives: Nick MacIver: 07786 260108 (M) nickmaciver@yahoo.co.uk

Hockey: Jimmy McKillop: 07899 075338 (M) jmckillop@savills.com

Rugby: Nick Cook: 07739 147775 (M) nickcook8@yahoo.com

Soccer: Don Cameron: 01935 813678 (H) dcameron@sherborne.org

Squash: Nick Lamb: 07720 772138 (M) nickmlamb@yahoo.co.uk

Tennis: Tim MacIver: 07809 552653 (M) tim.maciver@uk.ibm.com

CRICKET 2007

Played 9; Won 6; Drawn 1; Lost 2; Abandoned 3; Cancelled 1.

Sunday May 6, v Radley Rangers, at Radley

Sherborne Pilgrims 280-7 dec (T R Dowdall 67, G A Bramble 67);

Radley Rangers 248-9 (P F C Langly-Smith 4-11). Drawn

The toss, always vital on this perennially true wicket, was won and the Pilgrims went in. George Bramble laid anchor and his assuredness at the crease gave licence to the stroke-players around him to express themselves. The raw power of Pete Langly-Smith, especially off the back foot, made batting look extremely easy and the side raced to 81 after just an hour's play. The drinks break saw the demise of Langly-Smith (39 off 34 balls).

The explosive talents of Matt Hope mixed with the classical grace of Jimmy McKillop continued the measured onslaught and lunch tasted particularly sumptuous with the side sitting proudly on 153 for two off 31 overs. Nine minutes after the interval, the scoreboard read 163 for five (the wickets lost including that of the anchor Bramble - 66 off 83 balls). Barely had Tom Dowdall and Windle digested their cheese portions than they were facing a rebuilding job. They proceeded to bat with aplomb, running cleverly between the wickets and crashing the loose balls to the boundary. Dowdall was in majestic mood, amassing 67 classical runs through and over the in-field, and using up just 47 balls. Windle's wagon wheel would reveal a more bottom-handed "hockey-influenced" approach, but a no less effective one and he was unfortunate to fall one short of 50 on his Pilgrims debut. 117 for the sixth wicket was a super effort.

Lamb, Fradgley and Dowdall bore the brunt of the bowling demands and they maintained lines, lengths and thus pressure. Lamb and Fradgley in particular showed moments of real menace on the mild-mannered track. The Rangers top order showed some class but the pressure became too much for them as they perished to the aforementioned. With the score on 121 for three, Simson and Pollard bowled some enticing spin and Rangers maintained their interest in the chase. Attacking fields were in place all day and they had every chance to keep going for the total. Searson nipped in with a couple of wickets and the scene was set for Langly-Smith to send anguish into the Radley dressing-room. His inspired over, containing three wickets in four balls, set up a frantic finish. Needing one wicket for victory the last man just held on despite the valiant efforts of all. Thanks must go to Sheila Harding who put up with a cold breeze all day and produced a simply immaculate scorebook.

Sunday May 27, v Marlborough Blues, at Marlborough Abandoned – rain

Sunday June 10, Cricketer Cup first round, v Eton Ramblers, at Sherborne

Sherborne Pilgrims 225-4 (C C M Warren 73 not out, J H K Adams 70);
Eton Ramblers 154 (C E S Clifton 4-17). Won by 71 runs

Eton Ramblers would have arrived on the Upper expecting a fairly comfortable victory, but left having been soundly beaten by a fantastic team performance from the Pilgrims. Andrew Nurton, now teaching at the School, had been selected to skipper the side for the foreseeable future. This was a good move for the Pilgrims, as not only does he regularly captain his club side, but he also has first-hand experience of recent leavers and will be able to mould the side over the next few years. His first job was to win the toss on what was probably the last sunny day in June. This he did, and elected to bat.

James Adams and Olly Kelly opened the innings for the Pilgrims. Adams, while never completely dominating, looked the class act that he is from the start: imperiously cover-driving Collins in the first over. Kelly wasn't so lucky, and was back in the pavilion after getting a very good yorker second ball. This game was being played on one of the newly-laid Upper wickets, and from the start it was obvious that it has some life, with Collins striking Adams in the chest. It is a great sight to see Upper wickets at last doing this, and will only help to improve the quality of cricket played at the School.

The seam bowling was very tight, and scoring was not easy, and Russell, who had replaced Kelly, never really looked in until he nicked a beauty from Bruce's (brother of Hampshire bowler Robert) first ball. Tom Dowdall batting at No 4 continued where Russell had left off in struggling to find the gaps until he ran himself out. After 20 overs, with the score 69 for three, Adams had made 39, with only 14 coming off the 60 balls faced at the other end.

Warren then joined Adams, and the tight bowling continued with Warren in particular finding it hard to score, taking ten balls to get off the mark with a streaky four down to third man. Adams by now was well and truly in, and managing to hit some gaps. He and Warren ran well to start to increase the scoring rate, but after 30 overs, the score was only 104 for three. By now, the impressive Thompson had bowled out, and the Eton captain, Hugo Loudon, introduced spin. With this, runs started to flow a little more freely. Both batsmen worked the field hard and ran very well to turn singles into twos and twos into threes. Just when it looked as if the batsmen were on top, Adams mistimed an aggressive shot to end his patient yet highly important innings of 70. At 132 for four from 35, things could have easily slipped from here if quick wickets were lost, but by now Warren was in and playing almost freely.

Crawford was sensible in observing that no one appeared to be able to score quickly from the outset and took an over or two to find his rhythm. With ten overs left, both batsmen were still in, and decided to press the accelerator. This was achieved with good running and the occasional huge blow – both batsmen dispatching Loudon for a maximum in consecutive overs, prompting him to turn back to his seamers. By now, both batsmen were seeing the ball well and took calculated risks to accelerate further. This pushed the score to a respectable 225 for four, the last partnership worth 93, 75 coming from the last ten overs.

This was probably 30 to 40 runs short, especially as only four wickets had been lost – suggesting that a few more risks could have been taken earlier in the innings. Hindsight would show, however, that the caution was warranted, as it was a wicket that despite its good pace, had occasional bounce that rewarded straight bowling.

The Pilgrims had Lamb and Adams to open the bowling. Both bowlers, comfortably over six feet, extracted life from the wicket as well as lateral movement in the air at a decent pace. Runs were not easy to come by – the ball was fizzing past the bat regularly and the youthful Pilgrims were fielding well. It was not a surprise when the first wicket came – Adams beating the attempted pull of Bruce for pace and bounce, the catch taken by the ebullient Clifton at square leg. Lamb induced an edge from his partner soon after to leave the Ramblers 29 for two in the eleventh over. Loudon, batting at No 3, was comfortably the Ramblers' best player. Many at Eton believe he was a better prospect than his younger brother Alex, once of Warwickshire. He showed his class by making sure each bad ball was hit for four, putting pressure on the bowling side. With him at the crease, 225 didn't look nearly enough, especially after serenely moving to 46 with a consecutive brace of driven fours off Dowdall's off-spin. Perhaps wanting to reach 50 off the next ball, he was lured into attempting to repeat the shot to one not quite there and skied it to the gleeful Warren at cover.

It appeared to be a game of cat and mouse from here in, neither side wanting to make the next mistake. Careful batting saw the equation tilt in favour of the chasing side. With 20 overs to go the Ramblers had scored 121 for three. This compared favourably to the Pilgrims' 104 for three at the same stage, and left them requiring a fraction over five an over for victory. The Pilgrims had shown that with wickets in hand, this was more than do-able and so wickets would be the key. Clifton made the breakthrough after a Nurton maiden had increased the pressure, and rather than consolidate from here as the Pilgrims had done, Eton imploded under the pressure of chasing and four overs later the game was as good as over as they folded to 128 for nine. Clifton was the main protagonist – bowling straight with a hint of in-drift to take four of the wickets, the other two taken by Nurton. It was left to the Eton No 11 to save some face with a few lusty drives. Adams was

then brought back to finish things which he did with his second ball, the first having flown past his head at some considerable pace.

Overall this was a very satisfying performance with significant contributions from many players. It was a performance that should have been built on in subsequent rounds. Unfortunately this momentum is difficult to maintain if players do not make themselves consistently available.

Sunday June 24, Cricketer Cup second round, v St Edward's Martyrs, at Oxford

St Edward's Martyrs 282-7 (K R J Bingham 108, T H C Hancock 94);
Sherborne Pilgrims 118. Lost by 164 runs

On a day in the middle of the summer downpour, somehow a 50 over game was played. Eleven Pilgrims arrived at the sodden ground thinking that it was highly unlikely to start on time – if at all. It was then that the game was probably lost. With James Adams unavailable from county commitments, and Charlie Clifton getting muddy at Glastonbury, our best two bowlers from the first round were unavailable. Rich Edlmann and Ed Kelly were therefore brought in.

Even after winning the toss and reducing the Martyrs to 44 for three (which should have immediately been 44 for four if Hancock, fresh from release by Gloucestershire, had been given out plumb in front first ball), there was an air of reluctance about the Pilgrims in the field. This increased as the drizzle that had been present at the start slowly became heavier. It was a strange decision that as soon as it lightened, the umpires took the players off for an early lunch. By now the ball was the size of a grapefruit and the Martyrs had moved to 150 for three from 28 overs with both batsmen dealing mostly in boundaries from the many loose balls that had been sent down.

Of the bowlers, Lamb was the most impressive, generating good pace and movement; only Nurton at times added to his pressure. Unfortunately four-balls invariably got what they deserved. A couple of dropped chances added to the Pilgrims woes. After the rain break, although it appeared still to be raining, the teams went out again without losing overs and without ever taking the bowlers apart the same two batsmen set up a daunting target. Hancock did not make a century, and was bowled trying to heave Crawford, but his partner Bingham did. Impressively, with a fifth of six consecutively run twos from an Edlmann over. Despite taking wickets in the last few overs, such was the platform that runs came freely and a total of 282 was always going to be daunting.

The drizzle continued, and runs were suddenly difficult to come by. After ten overs, both openers were out, and the score 19 for two. Rebuilding an innings is difficult when the rate needed is a run a ball, and as this continued to rise, so did the pressure and unfortunately the Pilgrims could not cope. Dowdall and Warren fell to Hancock in consecutive overs – the latter after smashing a long-hop straight to point. This made the score 43 for four from where there was no way back. Crawford defied the improbability for a while with some great shots – let’s hope he continues to play meaningful cricket and fulfils his talent to be very successful in this competition in the future. He was sixth man out for 36 with the total a meagre 87. Charlie Dowdall as well looked impressive down the order, perhaps too far down given the upper order’s failure to score.

Through the drizzle, the innings limped on to finally end on 118 in the 32nd over. A bad performance on a filthy day - life is easy in retrospect. Although this was, in essence, a thrashing, it could have been closer. If the Pilgrims had taken chances presented and kept pressure on the batsmen at the start of the day then the total could have been much less. This is easier said than done, with rain dripping down your neck! The top order again failed without Adams, how useful would it be for this side over the next few years if his younger brother made himself available?

Saturday June 30, v The School, at Sherborne Abandoned – rain

Monday July 9, v Sherborne Town, at Sherborne

Sherborne Pilgrims 255-4 (E R S Kelly 68, C E Dowdall 67 not out);

Sherborne Town 165 (E T Elliot-Square 61, D S Guppy 56). Won by 90 runs

When men give up a day of annual leave to play a game that needs a dry day, the English “summer” can be exceptionally frustrating. This game, and much of the cricket week, was therefore dependent on the all-weather surface on the Upper. The game was able to start at midday and it was decided to play 45 overs a side.

The toss was won by Charlie Dowdall and Mat Hawkins and Ed Kelly opened the batting and were soon in their stride: Kelly severely punishing anything short or wide, and Hawkins somehow guiding most deliveries between gully and point. These two played beautifully to put on 120 at just a shade under a run a ball.

Hawkins was the first to go for a solid 39 and Kelly followed soon after for a great 68. Dave Pugh came and went for 17, and was out just as he looked like cutting loose. Meanwhile, Dowdall played beautifully, scoring off all but a few of the 50 balls he faced to push the Pilgrims score to a bold 255 for four.

When chasing a big score, wickets in hand is often the key. Unfortunately the Town were not afforded this luxury after a superb opening spell from Freddie Mead of 6-1-15-3. With Pugh taking the fourth with his wily off-spin, the Town were reeling at 53 for four. There then followed a good partnership between Guppy and Elliot-Square. With 118 needed from the last 15 and these two at the crease it was still possible, but the pressure got too much.

Tuesday July 10, v Butterflies, at Sherborne

Sherborne Pilgrims 199-9 (W P Fegen 59);
Butterflies 104 (A D Nurton 4-13). Won by 95 runs

Because of some heavy overnight rain, it was decided that the artificial wicket would be used in a 35-overs game, starting at 2.00pm. It was no surprise that the Butterflies captain chose to field first in order to gauge what a good score might be. This decision soon paid dividends as Warren was caught behind in the first over, Nurton followed, and when Cracknell was dismissed in the same over for a duck the Pilgrims were reeling at 37 for three. This quickly became 40 for four.

This brought together Pugh and captain Fegen and they began the rebuilding job with some good running between the wickets. As both became accustomed to the pitch they started to play some more shots and an excellent partnership of 119 came up in just 20 overs. Kelly contributed a quickfire 16 down the order and the Pilgrims finished on a very competitive score from their allotted overs.

The Butterflies started their innings nicely and got to 35 relatively quickly. However, just when it was required from the Pilgrims point of view, some confusion in the batsmen's running led to a dismissal and the tide began to turn. Nurton was brought into the attack in the eleventh over and the movement that he was able to produce proved too much for the Butterflies' batsmen as he took four of the next five wickets to fall, finishing with figures of four for 13 from five overs. Another run out helped to reduce the opposition to 66 for six and there was really no way back.

Wednesday July 11, v Bryanston Butterflies, at Bryanston

Bryanston Butterflies 109 (F J Mead 4-24, C E S Clifton 4-41);
Sherborne Pilgrims 111-2. Won by 8 wickets

Blue skies and bright sunshine welcomed the Pilgrims to Bryanston. The hosts won the toss and chose to bat on what looked like a good wicket. However, questions were asked early on, and it quickly became apparent that the ball was doing plenty. Freddy Mead and Charlie Clifton both bowled superbly, probing just outside the off stump on a good length. With Mead and Clifton on such devastating

form, Bryanston struggled to gain any real momentum and if it was not for a gritty half-century partnership for the ninth wicket, we might have been batting before drinks were taken at 20 overs.

Peter Langly-Smith and George Bramble batted well from the start punishing anything wide or short of a length, and running some quick singles. The half century was brought up in the tenth over and everything seemed under control, until Bramble was caught for 29. Langly-Smith continued to bat with maturity and was well supported by Guppy and Kelly on his way to 45 not out. As the afternoon dried out and the score was comfortably reached in 20 overs, the Pilgrims were quietly relieved they had not won the toss.

Thursday July 12, v Milton Abbey Hornets, at Sherborne

Sherborne Pilgrims 175 (C A R Esson 51);

Milton Abbey Hornets 124. Won by 51 runs

After winning the toss, the Pilgrims elected to bat and started with a furore of early runs as Esson and Willis went after the Hornets bowlers, establishing a beefy platform of 71 without loss. Willis was brilliantly caught and bowled for 34 followed by Esson losing his wicket after his half-century. Charlie Warren, in his last summer for the Club, found some form and crafted a sensible 39. George Bramble departed on three after misjudging his third ball and was stumped halfway down the wicket. Langly-Smith was unbeaten on 12 and dragged the Pilgrims to a defensible total of 175 all out.

The Pilgrims started the attack strongly with a leg-before decision going the Club's way on the fifth ball from Edlmann. Langly-Smith's exploration of the rejuvenated strip was rewarded with a fearsome bouncer that was subsequently no-balled. The Hornets found themselves five wickets down for 71 runs but managed to dig deep and were 104 without further loss at tea with the game finely balanced. Having been invigorated by the teatime offerings, Simson came on from the Pavilion End and bowled some exciting seam-up. After an expensive third over of 22, he broke the deadlock with a successful leg-before appeal on his last ball. The Hornets soon collapsed with Clifton grabbing three wickets and Bramble bagging two from an entertaining couple of overs.

Friday July 13, v Canford Cygnets, at Canford

Sherborne Pilgrims 283-7 (P F C Langly-Smith 77, A D Nurton 74);

Canford Cygnets 154. Won by 129 runs

Yet again the rain held off and a prompt start was possible, with the Club having won the toss and elected to bat. Willis and Crawford started cautiously and it was not long before Willis nicked one behind to bring Langly-Smith to the crease. Both he and Crawford struggled to rotate the strike as Crawford claimed he was “having trouble calling” after his escapades on the karaoke machine the night before. The lethargy wore off and both began to get the scoreboard ticking as Canford produced some fairly indifferent bowling. Crawford was eventually caught in the deep off Baxter for a well-crafted 45. Nurton arrived at the crease on a mission to “up the scoring rate”, encouraging Langly-Smith to embark on this mission with him. Both took advantage of some increasingly tired bowling and significantly increased the scoring. They went on to share a century stand before Langly-Smith was caught for 77 in the 28th over. Nurton continued to play some classy off drives, taking the score up to a very competitive 283 from 40 overs.

The Pilgrims opened with Edlmann and Bagnall who were determined to bowl tighter lines and more disciplined lengths than their Canford counterparts. It was no surprise to see Edlmann claim a wicket in his first over as the Cygnets tried to force the daunting run chase. The Pilgrims were already on top and could sense that a fifth consecutive win was near. Canford never recovered and continuous good bowling from Nurton, Clifton, Mead, Crawford and Crouch ensured that they could never form partnerships capable of chasing down the impressive Pilgrims total.

Sunday July 15, v Old Tonbridgians, at Tonbridge Cancelled

Sunday July 29, v Fantasian CC, at Iwerne Minster Abandoned – rain

Sunday August 5, v Hampshire Hogs, at Warnford

Hampshire Hogs 250-6 (O J D Kelly 97 not out);
Sherborne Pilgrims 232 (E R Atkins 50). Lost by 18 runs

It seems that the gods smile on Pilgrims’ visits to Warnford, since this year was the fourth in succession that the picturesque Hampshire ground has been bathed in glorious sunshine. The Pilgrims side had every reason to feel confident of a long-awaited victory against the Hogs, turning out a keen and particularly strong batting line-up with many recent leavers to patrol the boundary ropes.

Despite being invited to take the field first as the mercury rose to unprecedented levels, the Pilgrims bowled with more than enough enthusiasm to mask the “part-time” nature of much of their bowling attack. Young guns Lyons, Jenkins, Willis and Lamb grafted away in the heat but without the rewards their efforts deserved. Ultimately it was the experience of Simson and Fradgley that told, each taking two of the six wickets to fall and returning commendable figures in the process.

However, nobody was able to put a stop to the Hogs' skipper - and Old Shirburnian - Olly Kelly, who batted faultlessly to 97 before selflessly declaring.

Buoyed by the unusually sporting declaration and relishing the prospect of unleashing their formidable batting talent, the Pilgrims went about the run chase with real gusto from the off. Rose and Atkins set out the Pilgrims stall early on. Both weathered the Hogs attack with ease and looked to be progressing comfortably together until Rose fell to a good ball. Atkins, though, went on to make a powerful half-century, thus allowing Hope and Bramble to flourish mid-innings. Their combination of lusty hitting and beautiful stroke play meant that momentum was with the Pilgrims, giving the sizeable band of Sherborne supporters on the sidelines belief that finally victory was in sight.

However, perhaps inevitably, a few quick wickets fell, bringing the long tail into play. Confidence remained high in the dressing-room, especially when Lamb began to mount a classy revival and was joined by Langly-Smith at the crease. It was not to be. Celestial movements and some wily Hogs captaincy conspired against the Pilgrims as left-arm, over-the-wicket bowlers were deployed, releasing their balls against the burning backdrop of the setting summer sun.

Reports by George Bramble, Pete Langly-Smith, Ed Lyons, Andy Nurton, Andy Searson, Jos Simson and Charlie Warren.

CRICKET FIXTURES 2008

Sun	May 4	Radley Rangers (a)	Wed	Jul 9	Bryanston Butterflies
Sun	Jun 1	Marlborough Blues (a)	Thurs	Jul 10	Milton Abbey Hornets (a)
Sun	Jun 15	Bradfield Waifs *	Fri	Jul 11	Canford Cygnets
Sat	Jun 28	The School	Sun	Jul 13	Old Tonbridgians (a)
Sun	Jul 6	Twenty20 tournament (a)	Sun	Jul 20	Haileybury Hermits (a)
Mon	Jul 7	Sherborne CC	Sun	Aug 3	Hampshire Hogs (a)
Tues	Jul 8	The Butterflies			

* First round Cricketer Cup at home: second round June 29 (a); quarter-finals July 13: semi-finals July 27; final August 17.

RUGBY 2007-08

Played 5: Won 2, Lost 3

It has been a good season and the turnout, by and large, incredible with players from a wide range of years: 1984 through to 2006. In keeping with the concept of old boys' rugby, all the games have been played in a good spirit with minimal hand-bag swinging and ending with both sides enjoying a pint together afterwards.

On April 21 2007, along with an Old Canfordian, we decided to organise an old boys' sevens tournament to allow us to relive the glory days of Rosslyn Park - but with inclusion of a gentleman's agreement of no pushing in the scrums. There was a very good turnout, with nine teams present including: Sherborne, Canford, Cheltenham, Worth, BPP Law College, Oxford Brookes Real Estate Undergraduates, Oxford Brookes Real Estate Postgraduates, West Country Exiles (a combination of Marlborough, Radley and Wellington) and the Borlase Argonauts (a mixture of RGS High Wycombe and Whitgift Old Boys).

The day went very well with the old talent re-emerging under a blazing sun. We came second in our group and were eventually knocked out in the semi-finals. Borlase Argonauts won the final against a tired West Country Exiles side. A repeat is being planned for May 17 this year and is already oversubscribed.

The first game of the season on November 4 was against an old Newcastle University side called "Southern Fairies", essentially a team of boys from Marlborough, Radley, Wellington and Bryanston, so it was always going to be a tough game. We managed to turn out a good side and even had the rare luxury of substitutes. The game was a lot closer than the scoreline of 0-26 suggests but sadly the Southern Fairies found their old form and managed to find holes in our defence. Room for improvement!

Against Cheltenham on November 25 we finally got an opportunity to show off our new, meticulously, designed kit, which, despite a few complaints about their snug fitting from the less streamlined members of the Club, went down very well. Sadly, perhaps due to feeling a bit too cocky in our new outfit, we lost the game 25-26 to a try in the dying minutes.

Having given enough time for the excesses of Christmas and New Year to wear off, we organised our first game of 2008 on February 3 against BPP Law College. With a smaller turnout than the past games, playing the majority of the game with 14 men meant that things were never going to be easy for us. However, although BPP's pack dominated in the first half, the Pilgrims' superior fitness and skill levels shone through to secure a great victory 32-10.

Given the long history between Sherborne and Downside, this is always a big fixture and sadly in the past two years it has not gone our way. On March 9 the team adapted well to the extreme conditions with a tight defence during the sleet and opening the game up during the sun! Despite Downside's tendencies to kick for goal instead of for touch, they did play with great determination. A hard-fought match resulted, culminating in the opposition going one point ahead in the last five minutes. However, in true Sherborne style, some good interlinking and support play in the backs resulted in the Pilgrims scoring a try in the closing moments to win 19-13. A very satisfying victory, given the large Downside support on the touchline!

Having saved the Canford game until last on March 30, we were a little too confident that we could rely on beating them – not unreasonable given the past results! This was perhaps demonstrated by the handstands being practised as the Old Canfordians ran through their backs moves and only having 11 players at kick-off. However, after some desperate phone calls and leaning on a few supporters we managed to put together 15 men. The team played very well and despite the last-minute preparation did not appear outclassed with Canford tending to score from many of our unfortunate errors brought on by lack of fitness rather than superior skill levels. A brave fight was put up to the end but sadly history was made and Canford won 17-5.

Nick Cook

HOCKEY 2008

Despite being my first year in charge, I was confident that we were going to have a fun and enjoyable season and hoped that the run of results would generally go in our favour. Even though we currently only have two regular tournaments, we are slowly forming a core of good players, who regularly commit to matches and to whom I am incredibly grateful for their support and enthusiasm.

With the opportunity for development and growth, our main objectives now have to be to increase the number of fixtures and opportunities for Pilgrims to play hockey and to ensure that many recent leavers are welcomed into the Pilgrims and encouraged to play as often as they are able.

There is a growing sense of under-achievement among those who play regularly and I hope that this will lead to us winning many of the games in the future that we have lost narrowly in the past. The injection of recent leavers will only serve to boost the squad and with more fixtures on the horizon, I have every belief that Pilgrims hockey will go from strength to strength in the future.

Sunday January 6, at Haileybury

v Mill Hill School 1st XI	Won 2-0
v Old Haileyburians	Lost 1-4
v Haileybury 'A' XI	Won 2-1

The first game was against Mill Hill School where the Pilgrims produced one of the best displays I can remember and totally outplayed and outmuscled a decent but fairly inexperienced side. Ultimately it was the Pilgrims experience which enabled us to beat a very fit schoolboy first team. Sadly we lost to the Old Haileyburians. The teams were matched fairly evenly, however, the presence of an England Under-21 player made the difference for the Old Haileyburians, who took two superb penalty corners through him.

The Haileybury 1st XI were only just back from a tour to Amsterdam and we therefore played an 'A' XI this year. It was a tired Pilgrims side against a young Haileybury side but turned out to be a great way to finish the day, with a good, hard (if slightly scrappy) game which the Pilgrims won 2-1. My thanks go to Andy Searson for inviting the Pilgrims to play, for his generous hospitality and for yet another great day at Haileybury.

Sunday March 16, at Sherborne

v Sherborne 1st XI	Lost 1-2
v Sherborne 'A' XI	Lost 4-5

Despite hearing that Rob Hill had a useful 1st XI this year, I was convinced coming down to Sherborne that we had a squad capable of keeping the School honest and hopefully of avenging our defeat from the previous year. The majority of our players were at least active and a handful were still playing semi-regular hockey. Sadly, the results speak for themselves and although both games were of a good nature and hard-fought, the School came out on top once again.

Our first game was against the 1st XI and the Pilgrims went 1-0 up in the first half thanks to a goal from Will Kipling after some cracking hockey from both sides. As always under Rob Hill, the School are a well-drilled side with one or two useful playmakers and a good finisher up front. They were always going to be the fitter side and a first-half lead for the Pilgrims was important. Both sides played well early in the second half, although the School had the majority of possession and territory. Eventually the breakthrough came and Jamie Excell punished some tired Pilgrims legs after a composed counter attack. A second goal from Excell put the School in front and despite some sustained counter-attacks by the Pilgrims, the School held on to win 2-1.

After a much welcomed and invigorating lunch, we took to the field once more against a School 'A' team composed of promising Colts and Lower Sixth form boys. Our swagger restored by some wonderful Ploughman's fare, we again felt that we could and should win, especially as some of the boys were playing in their third game of the day. It was a thrilling, end-to-end game of hockey. The boys used their fitness to good effect and many of their goals were scored on the counter-attack when we were simply out-numbered at the back. The game finished 5-4 to the School despite some goals from Will Fegen (2), Jos Simson and Will Kipling.

As he did last year, Stephen Rees-Williams gathered together a large squad of "senior" players and I include Stephen's view of the day below.

Stunning - the Pilgrims Seniors come together once a year and play their socks off. This year was no exception. Some of us still play regularly and some of us dust off our ageing sticks for "just one more game".

17 senior players were selected (turned up) for the three games against the two School sides and the younger Pilgrims. The less fit amongst us shared positions whilst those with stronger legs played throughout. We managed to beat the Colts 2-0 and lost to the School experimental 1st XI team 2-6. Two very creditable performances by us old guys, although some of the shine disappeared when it was pointed out that a few of the School players were just 14 (but they were very good!!).

The third game against the younger Pilgrims is always a challenge, however, this year the tactic of plying them with drink throughout the prior evening's "Pilgrim celebration weekend" presented us with a match winning opportunity - they were too knackered to play. Good luck next year.

My thanks go to all the friends and family who came down to support – it does make the day all the more enjoyable and is hugely appreciated by all of us who play. Special thanks go to Rob Hill for organising the day and all those who kindly umpired the various games.

Appearances: 5 - Alec Bartlett, Will Fegen, William Kipling, Peter Langly-Smith, James McKillop, Jos Simson, Tom Wyke-Sneyd; 3 - Alexander Beattie, George Bramble, Jason Hutt, Rory MacFarlane; 2 - Charlie Gammell, Rupert Harland, Will Hayler, Henry Hunt, Tim MacIver, Andy Searson.

James McKillop

FIVES 2008

I am delighted to say that on three occasions Pilgrims have ventured to Dorset to play against the boys and staff. In late January Simon Stokes and Struan Coad, with a little help from Paul Carling and Nick Scorer, represented the Rugby Fives Association and saw off the inexperienced School side with ease.

In early March Richard Green, this time without James Rogers for the first time in thirty-plus years, came down for a friendly on a Saturday afternoon. Mike Cleaver and Paul Carling took on the youth of Richard Green and Richard Bool, only for the Pilgrims/Abbeylands team to win in three very keenly contested games. James Rogers will be back in 2009.

The final appearance of Pilgrims playing against the School was on Saturday 15 March, while England were regaining a little self-esteem at Twickenham. Nick MacIver, Toby Dean and Simon Stokes with Paul Carling took on a weakened School side and had a comfortable win 140-49. It is good to see so many Pilgrims returning regularly to continue playing such a great game!

One final note – Nick MacIver is looking to hand over the running of Pilgrims Fives to a younger manager. Nick and I will work on this together. He has run the side for the past 13 years.

Mike Cleaver

SQUASH 2007-08

Pilgrims Squash has been played on three fronts this year – the Londonderry Cup, the Pilgrims weekend and in the Dorset League.

We have played only one match to date in the Londonderry Cup and this was against the Old Etonians at The Oxford and Cambridge Club in Pall Mall. The match was a tight encounter with wins from Ed Leakey, Nick Lamb and losses from Tom Morgan and, fresh from his world-beating row across the Atlantic, P J Luard. At this point we felt confident with Paddy Macintosh going on to play the deciding rubber. We knew, with his family's squash pedigree, he would not let us down yet as the game went on and on and the court got hotter and hotter. Despite all his efforts his legs refused to go straight and the victory was taken from our grasp. However, the result could have been very different without the late injury to one of our strongest players, Al Robertson. We are now in the Plate Competition and have drawn a bye into the semi-finals. Hopefully we can make it to the final at the RAC Club.

On the Pilgrims weekend in March we played a small friendly tournament on the Sunday. The participants included some boys and masters from the School and the ever-faithful group of local Pilgrims. I hoped to get more Pilgrims to play but unfortunately a variety of excuses got in the way.

Sherborne Squash Club has played about 35 ties in the Dorset League this year with the help of many of the same ever-faithful Pilgrims, locals and boys and masters from the School. A great deal of sweat and toil was put in by all, especially Ed Elliot-Square who managed get his money's worth by winning a remarkable number of matches in the final game except against a young blonde girl from Bournemouth. The first team are looking likely to finish third in the first Division, only being beaten by West Hants and Bournemouth Sports. We have also entered a second team into the leagues for the first time this year and they have performed admirably to finish sixth after being put straight into the third Division.

All in all it has been a busy and entertaining year of squash. More of the same is planned for next year and we are always happy to see new faces no matter whatever the age or ailments.

Nick Lamb

TENNIS 2007

While Friday and Sunday shone relatively brightly, Commem brought with it a relentless rain, a thick grey blanket overhead and an unwelcoming cross-wind. Our game plan changed, tactics were tweaked and the tennis 12 decided to brave out what was clearly not a passing drizzle.

A previously, unsuccessful Harper pair of David Thomas and Nick Lamb decided to heal old wounds and head up the Pilgrims as first pair. Charlies Hoare and Vaughan-Lee took second pair as their pathetic attempts to play badly in the warm-up (in order to drop to third pair) failed miserably – the captain knew clear talent when he saw it so the previously, successful Abbeylands pair of Nick and Tim MacIver realised they were lucky even to be playing as third pair.

Sodden prawn sandwiches and damp sponge cakes were just the source of energy the players needed and as the weather had forced play on to the Hyle hard courts the crowds cleverly huddled under the horse chestnut trees to avoid the lightning. So it was down to the final round where a refusal to lie down was clear from both sides of the court. The first and second pairs were just about holding their own, while the third pair seemed to be doing their damndest to scupper the slender chances of victory. Maybe it was the Benitez approach of a squad rotation system in picking the form tennis players for this match or maybe it was the sheer luck of

about five vital net cords that went our way but yet another Pilgrims side seemed to trip and fall over the winning line first in the tightest of matches.

Tim MacIver

CROSS COUNTRY 2007-08

Wimbledon Common had received a fresh covering of rain that thoroughly soaked the course before our arrival in December. However, the start was rapid and the pace did not ease. Edward Knudsen led in the Sherborne team, covering the five miles in a time of 27min 42sec and in sixth place overall. Edward Raymond, in his first appearance for the team, was 21st overall with a time of 31min 02sec. Next in was Nick Moseley, with a time of 34min 03sec. The fourth man in for the Sherborne team was Sir Chris Chataway with a time of 40min 01sec. Your correspondent sprained his ankle on the course and did not finish. These results placed Sherborne sixth in the King Henry VIII School Old Boys Trophy for the open category and third in the Chataway Cup for veterans over 50.

The Sherborne Trophy was held in early March at Sherborne Castle. A successful afternoon saw five members in the first 20 finishers.

Ed Pitt Ford

OLD SHIRBURNIAN GOLFING SOCIETY 2007-08

The winners at the three meetings were:

Summer 2007: Turner and Foot Putter (scratch) – Michael Farley; Page Cup (handicap) – Gavin Webb-Wilson; Stableford competition – Martin Macpherson; Harry Croly Cup (under 27 Stableford) – Jonathan Godfrey.

Autumn 2007: Captain's Prize – Andrew Todd; Vice-Captain's Prize – Nick Chamberlin; Greig Cup – Orme Webster-Smith; Autumn Cup – Andrew Rose; Manning Trophy – Jonathan Wheatley; Watney & Bishop Dish (veterans) – Orme Webster-Smith.

Spring 2008: Harris Vase (scratch) – ; Hempson Cup (handicap) – ; Shaw 12 and over (scratch) – ; Shaw 12 and over (handicap) – ; Storrs Salver (veterans) - ; Parry Cup (inter-house - ; Shaw and Stables (foursomes) – ; Howell Williams Salver (combined rounds) –

At the AGM at Royal Ashdown on Sunday April 20, Alan Gale was elected Captain, with Robin Amooore and Tony Steele-Perkins as Vice-Captains.

Matches v clubs and other societies: played 29

Won: 11 v Lancing, Sherborne GC, Loretto, Cheltenham, Downside,
West Sussex GC, Westminster, Repton, Blundell's, Highgate,
KCS

Halved: 1 v Cambridge University Stymies

Lost: 17 v Tonbridge, School and Staff (2), Littlehampton Seniors,
Saunton GC, Woodbridge GC, Aldeburgh GC, Thorpeness GC,
Rye GC, Woking GC, Aldenham, Malvern, Radley, Epsom,
Royal Cinque Ports GC, Wrotham Heath GC, Marlborough

Grafton Morrish 2007

After another nail-biting experience at the qualifier in May, we did just enough to qualify for the finals in early October. With a first round bye, our opening match was against St George's Weybridge. It was evident early on that to get the two points was going to be tough, as regrettably a nagging back was hindering Clive Martin. Unfortunately this saw the unusual sight of our resilient top pair, Rhys Francis and Martin, rather cough and splutter to a 3 and 2 loss.

The second pair of Philip Brown and James Chappell were having an equally torrid time, and were 5 down after 11. Luckily, a slice of Chappell magic from the left rough to a foot on the 12th saw the start of a dramatic comeback. Another birdie at the 13th and a good par win at the blind 14th made it 2 down and four to go. The pressure started to get to the opposition and the next two holes were won so it was all square on the 18th tee. A shaky skied drive from Brown and a sumptuous five wood from Chappell saw the match squared and, with the third pair of Stuart Gillett and Toby Couzens having already won at the 17th, it was off to the 19th. We were unlucky not to win here after an excellent approach by Brown to five feet; but we won at the 20th with a solid par 5.

The next round was against Tonbridge. Martin's back had not improved and so he and Francis struggled round, eventually losing 4 and 3. Brown and Chappell played steady golf with no real clangers, apart from the odd difficulty on the greens, and won 3 and 2. Gillett and Couzens were playing beautifully against a very tenacious pair – the latter benefiting from the medicinal powers of bacon sandwiches and kummel for “breakfast” - and, after losing the 15th to an eagle three, were one up. The next two holes were halved, the latter with a miraculous four from Tonbridge. Their drive at the 18th was down the middle, but was totally outclassed by Gillett's three wood which was not only straight but very long. Couzens hit a good second

and we had a cast-iron four. Tonbridge shaved the hole for a three, so it was off to the quarter-finals. This was a terrific result with a great round of four under par.

A lot of thought went into the order for the match against KCS Wimbledon. Martin's back was still a factor so our order was changed. Brown and Chappell, playing top, showed signs of pushing ahead, but an abysmal display on the greens negated any positive ball striking and they just could not get square, or even ahead. A couple of three putts at crucial points led to a 2 and 1 defeat. Francis and Martin playing bottom, "were not at the party", and went down by 3 and 2. Gillett and Couzens continued to strike the ball beautifully and had to concede a half when they were two up with three to play, having just eagled the 15th for the second time in the day.

Mellin Salver 2007

This year 15 members took part in the three sections of the tournament. On Thursday July 14, two rounds were played in the Burles Salver (over-65s) in its new two pairs matchplay format. In the morning we played Haileybury: Simon Brown and Peter Southcombe lost 7 and 6; Pat Farmer and Simon Shirley won 4 and 3; so the sudden death rules came into play. Farmer and Shirley lost at the first extra hole and we were consigned to the Plate. This was followed by the news that Felsted could not field a full team for the afternoon and we were in the semi-final of the Plate the next day.

Meanwhile the Millard Salver (over-75s) qualifying round was taking place with four matchplay places at stake. Rab McEwan and Colin Sharman missed out by coming fifth. Jim Copen and Peter Flory did not fare so well.

Friday saw the start of the Mellin Salver against Haileybury. Mike Falconer and Gavin Webb-Wilson had a tight game playing top, but eventually lost by one hole. John Youngman and Mark Cannon Brookes were up early on and should have been even further ahead with better putting. They then staged a good recovery to finish all square, but were saved a visit to the 19th tee as the third pair of Martin Ireland and David Dinkeldein had lost by 2 and 1.

The morning was brightened by some better news from the Burles Plate semi-final against Hurstpierpoint: Brown and Southcombe lost by 6 and 5; Richard Hughes and Shirley won by 7 and 6; so the sudden death rules came into play again. One might have expected the winning pair to enter the play-off – but Brown and Southcombe felt they could only improve. A classic matchplay situation came at the third extra hole (the 16th) where the opposition were in trouble after two, took a penalty drop, put the fourth on the green and holed an improbable 25-foot putt down and across the slope for a five. We were on for two, but our first putt

advanced the ball only marginally towards the hole. To his eternal credit Southcombe holed the next one for a four and the match.

The Mellin team were now faced with the Plate match against Bedford and this was a struggle. At the turn: Falconer and Webb-Wilson were two down; Youngman and Cannon Brookes all square: and Ireland and Dinkeldein two down. It needed more than the refreshments at the Hut (12th) to rally all three pairs. The top pair lost by 3 and 2; Youngman and Cannon Brookes rallied to win by 3 and 2; and the bottom pair, needing two putts on the 18th to take their game down the 19th, sadly took three.

Our only representation on the Saturday was in the final of the Burles Plate against Loretto. Our two pairs - Farmer and Southcombe, Hughes and Shirley - had their chances early on but were outplayed over the later stages, losing by 3 and 2, and 4 and 3, respectively.

Family Day 2007

Twenty members of the Society, in various family combinations, made up 18 pairs who competed for the Peter Currie Cup on a glorious October morning at Woking. The Rugby World Cup final was played the previous evening, but this did not affect the standard of golf. George and Oliver Murray were the winners, closely followed by John and Robin Irving, with Robin helping the family cause with a hole in one at the 10th. Mike and Elisabeth Falconer won the first nine, with Gavin and Gilly Webb-Wilson the second nine.

Brent Knoll 2008

This year the Brent Knoll was dominated by the weather. We were missing a number of key players for the weekend but the team arrived on Friday keen to prove their worth. The wind, however, took over and with gusts of more than 50mph the scoring on the practice round was difficult to say the least.

Drawn against our arch rivals, Epsom, on Saturday morning, we had a challenge to meet. Unfortunately after keeping pace to the turn, they raised their game coming back into the wind and we went down 1-2. Unperturbed we set out in the afternoon gale against Lloyds Bank, hopeful of success in the plate. The rain threatened but never really came down although the wind continued to make some shots, chips and putts almost unplayable. Chappell and Elliot-Square played very well and should be congratulated on their win, having being well down at one stage. Unfortunately the older hands in the team could not back them up.

The results v Epsom and Lloyds Bank were:
Nigel Whalley and Nick Aubin: lost 4 and 3; lost 4 and 3;
James Chappell and Ed Elliot-Square: lost 5 and 4; won 1 up;
Hugo Ambrose and Simon Buchanan: won 2 and 1; lost 4 and 3.

Halford Hewitt 2008

Three weeks prior to this year's Halford Hewitt the team consisted of 12 names, but with only one firm pairing – Stuart Gillett and Nick Hyde. Rhys Francis and Clive Martin appeared to be following Nick Aubin and Nigel Whalley in querying the suitability of their playing together, and obviously the other pairings could not be finalised until this was sorted out. The Society contains the full spectrum of athletic ability, but joy was hardly overflowing when Hyde emailed to say he had cracked two ribs and sprained his wrist skiing, whilst Peter Martin had curiously managed to put his back out whilst lying on a sun lounger in Miami. Luckily, modern medicine is excellent, meaning the final pairings were established as: Clive Martin and Francis; Aubin and Whalley; Gillett and Hyde; Hugo Ambrose and Toby Couzens; Peter Martin and James Chappell. Gordon Curtis and Ed Elliot-Square made up the 12.

We made the journey to Sandwich in the knowledge that the extraordinary weather of previous weeks had passed. Two weeks before six had played in the Brent Knoll in 65mph winds, and the previous Sunday a final practice round for four players at the Berkshire was called off due to an inch of snow falling on the course in little over an hour. Instead of this, we were blessed with superb conditions for the practice round – sunny with almost no wind, with a similar forecast for the first two days of the tournament.

This year we had drawn Harrow. Whilst they are the top-ranked school in the Anderson Scale since the Hewitt started in 1924, they have dropped to ninth in the “last ten years” version. Sherborne are 37th overall but, to the surprise of some, we are now ranked 10th in the shorter version. Incentive is rarely needed in the Hewitt, but study of the draw indicated that the winner of this statistically even contest would have a good chance of progressing through a few more rounds.

Francis and Clive Martin led us out, only to lose the 1st to a birdie three. They responded with a 25-foot putt for a birdie at the 2nd, and continued to play steady golf to the turn. Less steady play on the 10th saw them demoralise the opposition and was the turning point: Martin drives majestically 95 yards (but straight); Francis pitches into the right-hand greenside bunker; Martin holes his bunker shot, only for the ball to magically reappear above ground; while the opposition faced

with this sorcery leave their ball in the greenside bunker. We went on to a comfortable 4 and 3 win.

Aubin and Whalley started somewhat unsteadily, while their opposition (including a debutant off plus 3) holed good putts to be three up after 6. However, our pair responded with some good chipping and putting to square the match at the 12th.

The third pair of Gillett and Hyde started with three successive bogeys, due largely to bad luck. They then found their groove with par/birdie golf, winning four consecutive holes and leaving the 10th three up. An uncharacteristic meltdown took them back to square, only for Harrow to carve two balls out of bounds on the 14th. Suitably reinvigorated, and back to one up, par golf saw them through to a 2 and 1 win, and extend their unbeaten run to eight matches.

Ambrose and Couzens failed to master the treacherous bunkers, their ball finding at least five during the round, and in some cases taking more than one to get out. Steady play by Harrow meant we lost by 5 and 4.

With two points in the bag, the third had to come from the second or fifth pair. Sadly, Harrow were two up in both after 14 holes and, in spite of some nervy play from the Harrow second pair, this proved to be too much of a cushion. Eventually they won both, the match 3-2, and went on to the semi-finals.

Defeat is a bitter pill and this was no exception. We knew the cure, and a convivial dinner allowed us to welcome Peter Currie, who had been a keen supporter during the match, and thank Fergus Watson for providing accommodation for some of the team during the week. It is hard to be a great supporter of the Plate competition, but good play saw us beat City of London, King's Canterbury and Cheltenham, before losing to Berkhamsted in the semi-final on Sunday morning.

The results v Harrow were:

Rhys Francis and Clive Martin: won 4 and 3;
Nick Aubin and Nigel Whalley: lost 2 and 1;
Stuart Gillett and Nick Hyde: won 2 and 1;
Hugo Ambrose and Toby Couzens: lost 5 and 4;
Peter Martin and James Chappell: lost 3 and 2.

Reports by Hugo Ambrose, Philip Brown, Peter Flory and Nigel Whalley

SCHOOL CRICKET 2007

Cricket: Played 16; won 11; lost 4; abandoned 1.
Twenty20: Played 9; won 8; lost 1.

The level of expectation from players, coaches and the School was high. The team included nine players from last year's XI, of whom four were playing for the third year in the side, and so we had potentially the best-balanced bowling and batting line-up the School has produced for many years. There was the opportunity to put Sherborne on the map by entering the National Schools' Twenty20 Cup. The season started with an excellent winter of preparation before the highly successful tour of South Africa at Christmas 2006 during which Ed Atkins, Simon Lamb and Humphrey Gibbs all received their XI colours. The success of the tour to South Africa gave the players belief in their ability and the confidence to be successful, so it was no surprise that Sherborne blew King's Bruton away in the first game of the season, the School reaching a low target in the twelfth over of the innings. Sherborne Town, who beat the School last year, suffered in similar fashion, and Cheltenham were also dealt with comfortably.

Bryanston offered a reality check, restricting the School to 172 and chasing down the target with three overs to spare. A lesson in how over-confidence will often catch you out. A professional performance against King's Taunton followed, to show that that lesson had been learnt.

A diversion of the regional group games for the National Twenty20 Cup followed. These were played at Canford and Sherborne had a good start with a win over Truro School, two fifties from Ben Lyons and Charlie Cooke setting up victory. The crunch game was Canford and Atkins's destructive innings of 67 (including four sixes) paved the way for victory in the fifteenth over. Filton College were seen off to complete the set and earned a regional play-off against Millfield; although Sherborne didn't know it then, the faster run rate had earned them home advantage in the next round. The next match was a Twenty20 block Thursday fixture with Taunton and this proved to be good practice for the regional play-off. Taunton were seen off to inspire greater confidence ahead of the clash with Millfield.

As fate would have it, Millfield away was the next School fixture and it was important for the side to prove how good they were against a talented Millfield side that Sherborne had tied with the year before. Sadly, Millfield completely dominated every aspect of the game and scored 289 from 50 overs with only Paddy Selfe (3 for 33) having any real success with the ball. The Millfield five-prong pace attack knocked over Sherborne for 99, with nobody being able to dominate the pace and more importantly the bounce of the Millfield wicket.

Canford, on the Thursday before half-term, was a good opportunity to get back into the winning habit. A six-wicket victory was secured through a solid team performance and allowed both players and coaches to go into half-term with played 10, won 8 and lost 2 on the ledger.

The Dorset Under-19 Development XI provided the top four batsmen with good practice as Charlie Esson (68), Atkins (61), Jack Jenkins (84) and Cooke (41) allowed Sherborne to score 286 from 50 overs. Dorset were squeezed by accurate bowling and excellent fielding. Taunton School have always proved to be a tough game with a last-wicket loss and a tied game in the past two 50-over meetings; this time they batted first and were bowled out in the 50th over for 257, of which 50 runs had come from extras, including 35 wides! The School faded to a disappointing 207 all out despite a century stand for the third wicket. Blundell's, on a wet wicket, allowed the chance to return to winning ways, the accuracy of the bowlers being a feature of the match.

So back to the Twenty20, and the regional play-off against Millfield. The sight of both teams in coloured clothing, the white ball and blacked-out sightscreens made the Upper an awesome arena. John Old and his team had worked miracles to stage the game because of the bad weather and nobody will forget that evening. Sherborne won the toss and batted. The Millfield bowlers dismissed Esson and Atkins with only 23 on the board. Jenkins (26), Cooke (16) and Simon Lamb (16) all added valuable runs and were all positive in their stroke-play but it was Lyons who gave Sherborne a chance with his excellent innings of 47. Sherborne made 134 from 20 overs. "Not enough" was the murmur around the ground. "Runs on the board and keep the pressure on" was the call in the changing-room as Sherborne took the field to defend their total. Fifteen wides in the first over wasn't what the coaches had ordered but Sherborne battled on, slowly applied the pressure and took wickets at crucial times. This left Millfield under real pressure. Lamb (three for 12) was the pick of the bowlers as Sherborne restricted Millfield to 113 from 20 overs and qualified for the National quarter-finals.

Sherborne have not beaten Winchester in the past three matches and failed to do so again this year in what, for me, was the most disappointing performance of the season. Sherborne were bowled out by an ordinary Winchester bowling attack for 138 in a rain-restricted 40 over game. Winchester batted well and passed the Sherborne total with four overs to spare. More bad weather disrupted the game with MCC, where Jonti Dampney produced his season's best figures of six for 36. A seriously rain-affected chase looked like condemning the match to a draw but Esson carried his bat and ensured that the School won with a ball to spare, finishing on 67. The weather completely put paid to the Pilgrims match at Commem and also the game with the touring Australian school, St Peter's.

Although forcing a move to Pitch No 6 and Astroturf because of the weather, the game with Bergvliet, whom we had played in Cape Town on our visit the previous Christmas, could go ahead. This Twenty20 match was to prove valuable practice for the quarter-final against Oakham the following day, the School winning with one over to spare. So Oakham came to Sherborne for the National Twenty20 quarter-final and they too were greeted with heavy showers and a wet square. The umpires deemed the Upper unfit to play and with the option of a bowl-out or a game on Pitch No 6, both teams opted for the latter. In showery conditions, Sherborne were put into bat and soon lost quick wickets to some fantastic Oakham fielding. Sherborne were 45 for five from seven overs. Lyons (28) and Jamie Smibert (36 not out) slowly batted Sherborne to a score of 131 from 20 overs. Owing to frequent rain stops, the revised target for Oakham was 105 from 16 overs. Sherborne applied pressure and took chances at regular intervals, with all the bowlers performing well. Paddy Selfe's spell of four for 12 was match-winning. Oakham collapsed to 69 for nine from 16 overs.

Marlborough were the hosts of this year's Festival but it was the same story for the School, winning the Mike Nurton trophy for the third year in a row. The highlight was Esson's unbeaten 103 against Marlborough that set up a crushing victory when the home side collapsed to 89 all out. Haileybury were also dismissed cheaply, ensuring another win, so the crucial game was the final one, against Cheltenham. Victory by 64 runs on the back of some excellent bowling was the key.

All that remained for this team was a National Twenty20 finals day. The organisers of the tournament had to delay the finals until September 2; this had huge implications for Sherborne as all the XI had left School and embarked on jobs and gap years. Thankfully the players rescheduled flights and bargained with work experience bosses, which allowed Sherborne to be at full strength for the semi-final against Repton, played at the superb setting of John Paul Getty's private estate just outside Oxford. Repton won the toss and batted first. Lyons again struggled to control the new ball and the opposition were 24 for no wicket from only two overs. Three wickets from Dampney and two from Jenkins held Repton to 148 from 20 overs. Atkins proceeded to dominate the Repton attack with 38 from 26 balls, Jenkins (28) kept the pressure on the opposition and all the time "Captain Reliable" Esson was at the other end. He finished the game 64 not out and Sherborne were in the final with three overs to spare.

The final was against Dulwich, who had smashed Hampton by ten wickets in their semi-final. Sherborne were put in; Atkins (24) and Esson (48) put on 50 for the first wicket in the ninth over, having weathered some pace-bowling from Dulwich's star Chris Jordan (who now has a three-year contract with Surrey). Cooke (20), Lyons (18) and Jenkins (15) all contributed to the Sherborne total of 146 in 20 overs. The gut feeling of "about 20-odd runs short" was proved to be

correct as Dulwich paced their run chase to perfection and passed the Sherborne total in the nineteenth over.

Was this the best season ever? Perhaps not, because Sherborne were not unbeaten and it could be argued that they lost to the better teams; and yet this team and this season will be remembered as one of the great Sherborne sides. It was surely one of the most well-travelled XIs, given that four went to Sri Lanka in 2005 and then all of them had gone to South Africa at the end of 2006 - this gave them confidence and resilience. Charlie Esson was outstanding as captain. He opened the batting and scored 938 runs. Ed Atkins could destroy any bowling attack, with immense power and clean hitting. Jack Jenkins played some of his best innings in the most difficult batting conditions – testament to his talent and skill as a player who can either “dig in” or play shots all round the wicket. Charlie Cooke scored crucial runs in both Twenty20 and 50 over cricket, but will be remembered as an outstanding wicketkeeper who claimed 26 victims. Ben Lyons struggled to control the new ball and was constantly fighting a shoulder injury. He was top of the Twenty20 batting averages and proved to be an excellent “finisher” to the innings. Jamie Smibert regained his place and proved to be a match-winner in both forms of cricket. Humphrey Gibbs was accurate and reliable in both line and length; he could apply pressure to any batting side, and this often bought wickets for the bowler at the other end. Simon Lamb struggled with his bowling mid-season but regained his control to perform at his very best in important games. Jonti Dampney was the leading wicket-taker with 39 wickets in the season. He was voted as the most improved player. Paddy Selfe bowled with great consistency and will remember the Oakham game with great pride. Humphrey Rose fought his way into the side late in the season and was an excellent fielder and contributed well when needed with the bat.

One observer said that “what will be left in the memory is the competitive but generous spirit in which they played their cricket, their willingness to risk defeat in the pursuit of victory, their defiance in adversity, their evident commitment to each other and their modesty in their success”. Not a bad legacy whatever the arguments about whether they were the best XI ever.

My thanks as always go to John Old and his team who have been fantastic, and have performed minor miracles to keep the cricket on here at Sherborne during a rain-affected season, and to Lucy Earls-Davis and her team in the catering department who, again, provided the best lunches and teas on the circuit. Finally my thanks as always to Alan Willows for all his hard work in planning, practice and preparation of not only the XI but for all the cricket at Sherborne.

Rob Hill

*50 overs match, *+ 40 overs, + 35 overs

Apr 21	*King's Bruton 87 (H W F Gibbs 4-8) Sherborne 91-1	Won by 9 wickets
Apr 22	*Sherborne 315-9 (E R Atkins 106, J H C Jenkins 63, CAR Esson 57) Sherborne CC 126	Won by 189 runs
Apr 28	Cheltenham 226-8 dec Sherborne 228-3 (Atkins 82, Esson 78)	Won by 7 wickets
May 3	+Sherborne 172-9 Bryanston 175-2 (I J Pearce 62 not out)	Lost by 8 wickets
May 5	*King's Taunton 161 (J C Butler 55) Sherborne 165-1 (Esson 73 not out)	Won by 9 wickets
May 12	*Sherborne 129-3 Marlborough	Rain
May 19	*Millfield 289-8 (J M L Fear 117) Sherborne 99	Lost by 190 runs
May 24	+Canford 171-9 Sherborne 174-4 (Atkins 79)	Won by 6 wickets
June 3	*Sherborne 269-4 (Jenkins 84, Esson 67, Atkins 61) Dorset Development XI 178-8	Won by 89 runs
June 9	*Taunton 257 (J C Todd 74) Sherborne 207 (Esson 72, C S G Cooke 61)	Lost by 50 runs
June 16	*Sherborne 227-9 (Jenkins 93) Blundell's 79	Won by 148 runs
June 23	*+Sherborne 138 Winchester 139-5	Lost by 5 wickets
June 27	MCC 155 (G P A Herring 68; JN Dampney 6-31) Sherborne 156-4 (Esson 67 not out)	Won by 6 wickets

July 9	*Sherborne 250-3 (Esson 103 not out, Jenkins 50) Marlborough 89 (Lyons 4-18)	Won by 161 runs
July 10	*Sherborne 209-9 (Jenkins 84; R Noach 4-31) Haileybury 95	Won by 114 runs
July 11	*Sherborne 189-7 Cheltenham 125	Won by 64 runs

National Twenty20 competition

May 7	Sherborne 230-4 (Lyons 62, Cooke 62) Truro 130	Won by 100 runs
	Canford 125-5 (four run outs) Sherborne 128-5 (Atkins 67; L Samuels 4-21)	Won by 5 wickets
	Sherborne 179-4 (Esson 90) Filton 137-7	Won by 42 runs
June 18	Sherborne 134-9 Millfield 113-7	Won by 21 runs
July 3	Sherborne 131-9 Oakham 69-9 (P G A Selfe 4-12)	Won by 36 runs on rain adjusted total
Sept 3	Repton 148-6 (R A Whiteley 56) Sherborne 149-2 (Esson 64 not out)	Won by 8 wickets
	Sherborne 146-6 Dulwich 147-3 (C R J Jordan 55 not out)	Lost by 7 wickets

Other Twenty20 matches

May 10	Sherborne 181-6 (Cooke 51) Taunton 157-9 (Cooper 96; Dampney 4-28)	Won by 24 runs
July 1	Bergvliet, Cape Town 134-4 Sherborne 135-4	Won by 6 wickets

SCHOOL CRICKET FIXTURES 2008

Sat	Apr	12	Dulwich (a)	Sat	May	17	Millfield
Sun	Apr	13	Dulwich (a)	Sat	June	7	Taunton
Sat	Apr	19	King's Bruton (a)	Sat	June	14	Blundell's (a)
Sun	Apr	20	Sherborne CC	Mon	June	23	Free Foresters
Thu	Apr	24	Canford (a)	Wed	June	25	MCC
Sat	Apr	26	Cheltenham	Thu	June	26	Blue Leopard S A
Thu	May	1	Bryanston	Sat	June	28	Pilgrims
Sat	May	3	King's Taunton (a)	Sat	July	5	Bishops S A
Tue	May	6	Bryanston (a) **	Mon-Wed July 7-9			Festival at
Sat	May	10	Marlborough	Haileybury with Cheltenham,			
Thu	May	15	Taunton (a) **	Haileybury and Marlborough			

** Twenty20

SCHOOL RUGBY 2007

Played 12: Won 5; Lost 7.

Bishop Wordsworth's	Lost	8-21	King Edward's Bath	Won	7-0
Radley	Lost	14-24	Bryanston	Lost	7-31
Canford	Won	24-17	Cheltenham	Won	17-15
Wellington	Lost	15-51	King's Bruton	Won	15-3
Clifton	Lost	8-24	Blundell's	Won	13-6
Marlborough	Lost	0-21	Millfield	Lost	19-31

The pre-season training camp at Cambridge University in late August provided an opportunity for the new master-in-charge to cast an eye over his charges. It quickly became apparent that while there was considerable talent in the team, none of the boys had done any strength, conditioning or fitness work over the Trinity term or beyond and this would probably prove costly in terms of performances and results at the beginning of the season. Unfortunately this was to prove prophetic in the first weeks of the season, as considerably more physical and powerful sides overran the valiant yet under-powered Sherborne XV. Losses to Bishop Wordsworth's and Radley were relatively close, yet Sherborne rarely threatened on the attacking front. Heavy losses in terms of long-term injuries also ensued which was to make the period until half-term one of damage limitation in certain fixtures, notably Wellington and Marlborough, who were simply too strong for Sherborne to contain. Notable victories versus Canford and King Edward's Bath were rays of optimism in an otherwise gloomy first half of the term.

While the results showed the gulf between Sherborne and their rivals, the commitment and attitude of the players to training was always first-class. Boys would regularly train four times a week in the belief that the tide would turn once players came back from injury to strengthen the ranks. This was certainly the case post half-term as the performance levels improved greatly. The pack, ably led and captained by Jamie Payne, have been a match for any foe. The scrummaging has been technically very good with James Stockings and Ian Williams prominent and the lineout play, while on occasions prone to inaccuracy, has been for the most part a good source of primary possession. Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre and Nick Holding-Parsons are developing into two fine lineout operators who could become top-class schoolboy players in their Upper Sixth year. The back row have worked tirelessly all season with Hugh Willis strong in the tackle and Payne destructive in the contact area. Player of the season has undoubtedly been Jamie Excell, whose contribution in the loose has been nothing short of remarkable. He really has been the stand-out back-rower in schoolboy rugby on the tough Sherborne circuit.

Behind the scrum a lack of creativity and power runners has often negated some of the Trojan work of the forwards. Beanie Isles had to move from scrum half to fly half to remedy this with an immediate improvement in back play, notably against Bryanston, where he was a constant threat in attack. George Berthon was playing some excellent rugby in the centre until a broken jaw derailed his season. His dynamic running and power in the tackle was sorely missed, yet immediately on his return the balance of the team improved, and good wins were achieved away against Cheltenham, King's Bruton and Blundell's. The team finished the season on a high and performed with great credit at home to one of the strongest Millfield sides for many seasons. Indeed, the second half of this match encapsulated all that has been impressive this season with the forwards edging a bruising affair, but we missed that spark of creativity and the correct decision being taken at the crucial time. Otherwise the game could have been on a knife-edge at the end.

I would like to thank the boys for their honest endeavours throughout the season and applaud their unstinting attitude to training and giving their all in matches. Lastly, I would like to express my thanks to Mike Davis in assisting me in my first season at Sherborne. His advice, wisdom and above all vast knowledge for and love of the game have been invaluable. Congratulations to: Ed Scott-Bowden who is part of the South-West Under-16 Divisional Squad; to Alex Cochrayne-Dyet, who has been selected to represent Dorset & Wilts at Under-16 Group; and Ian Williams, who has propped for the Dorset & Wilts Under-18 Group.

Gavin Moffat

SCHOOL RUGBY FIXTURES 2008

Saturday	August	30	Mill Hill
Saturday	September	6	Bishop Wordsworth's (a)
Saturday	September	13	Radley
Thursday	September	18	Canford
Saturday	September	27	Wellington (a)
Saturday	October	4	Clifton
Tuesday	October	7	Tauranga, NZ
Saturday	October	11	King's Taunton
Saturday	October	18	Marlborough (a)
Saturday	November	8	Bryanston (a)
Saturday	November	15	Blundell's
Tuesday	November	18	King's Bruton
Saturday	November	29	Millfield (a)

SCHOOL HOCKEY 2008

Played 14: Won 7; Drawn 3; Lost 4.

Monkton Combe	Lost	2-3	King's Taunton	Won	5-1
King's Bruton	Won	3-1	Bryanston	Draw	2-2
Taunton	Draw	0-0	Millfield	Lost	2-7
Canford	Draw	2-2	King Edward's Bath	Won	4-0
<u>County Cup semi-final</u>			Clayesmore	Won	9-1
Bryanston	Lost	1-3	Marlborough	Lost	4-7
3rd place play-off			Pilgrims 1st	Won	2-1
Canford	Won	5-1	Pilgrims 2nd	Won	6-2

This has been a hugely successful season, with the 1st XI playing an excellent attacking style of hockey and scoring some fantastic team goals. The side could have finished with a very impressive record had they converted their chances in the three drawn games. Taunton, Canford and Bryanston would all concede that a draw did them more justice than Sherborne. There were disappointing losses to Monkton Combe, Marlborough and Bryanston where we were always in with a chance of winning. Sherborne were never outclassed against any of these sides, the exception to that rule was Millfield, who were outstanding.

For the 1st XI Jamie Excell scored 23 goals from a combination of short corners and open play and has improved with each game. Kit Reagan has been outstanding

in the midfield and will, I am sure, go on to play a very good standard of club hockey. Beanie Isles has led the team well and has been ably supported in midfield by Jeremy MacIver, and in defence by George Berthon, who finished his fourth year in the XI. Jack Renner has been consistently influential throughout the season. Will Selfe, who played his second full season and has two more years to play, improved and developed into a very dangerous forward who finished as second top goalscorer. Alex Croft, Jack Hamshaw-Thomas, Charlie Garnett and Ed Bacon all come back next year and will play important roles in the continued success of Sherborne hockey.

The outstanding season came from the Junior Colts B who were unbeaten until the last match against Marlborough. With the exception of the Mini Colts A, all the A teams won more games than they lost, which augurs well for the future.

I would like to thank all the staff for their efforts and support throughout this season. I hope that the old Astro will be resurfaced during the summer, so that we can have this facility in use for next season and ensure that all teams get enough time to practise and continue to improve the standard of hockey.

Rob Hill

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
					F	A
1st XI	14	7	3	4	47	31
2nd XI	13	7	3	3	33	31
3rd XI	9	2	2	5	15	40
4th XI	6	3	1	2	12	17
Colts A	10	5	2	3	31	21
Colts B	7	3	1	3	13	24
Junior Colts A	12	6	2	4	34	24
Junior Colts B	11	10	0	1	51	22
Junior Colts C	2	1	0	1	6	15
Mini Colts A	12	2	1	9	24	51
Mini Colts B	11	7	1	3	30	16
Mini Colts C	7	1	1	5	11	16
Mini Colts D	1	0	0	1	1	5
Total	115	54	17	44	308	313

SHERBORNE PILGRIMS CLUB
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR YEAR ENDED MARCH 31 2008

General Fund	2008		2007	
	£	£	£	£
<i>Income:</i>				
Subscriptions	2,733		2,213	
Bank interest	1,498		1,179	
	4,231		3,392	
 <i>Expenditure:</i>				
Audit	100		100	
Postage and secretarial	723		1,287	
Cricket	904		3,343	
Cross Country	107		40	
Hockey	20		20	
Rugby	1,102		100	
Squash	40		25	
	(2,996)		(4,915)	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		1,235		(1,523)
General Fund at April 1		(18,781)		(17,258)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		1,235		(1,523)
General Fund at March 31		(17,546)		(18,781)

President's Fund	2008		2007	
	£	£	£	£
President's Fund at April 1		49,116		47,041
Donations for the year		2,109		2,075
President's Fund at March 31		51,225		49,116

BALANCE SHEET AT MARCH 31 2008

	2008		2007	
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank		33,679		30,335
Represented by:				
General Fund		(17,546)		(18,781)
President's Fund		51,225		49,116
		33,679		30,335

I have examined the books and papers of the Sherborne Pilgrims Club presented to me and report that the attached Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended March 31 2008 and Balance Sheet at that date are in accordance with this information.

J D V Wheatley, 29 Milson Road, London W14 0LJ

April 7 2008

**THE SHERBORNE PILGRIMS COMMITTEE
2008**

PRESIDENT

P J Lough

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

D C Watney

VICE-PRESIDENTS

H C K Archer and A D Leakey

TRUSTEES

C R J Eglinton, J A Watney and J P Hargrove

COMMITTEE

Retiring 2008

G A Bramble
N K Cook
P R D Gould
J C Harden
W P Hargrove
A M Hatch

Retiring 2009

M J Cleaver
G P Gent
R Hands
R E Hattam
P F C Langly-Smith
A D Nurton

Retiring 2010

R A Bagnall
N M Lamb
J I McKillop
A I H Prentice
S M Rees-Williams
A N P Searson
N J Ware

HON SECRETARY

E P J F Lyons
01934 853520 (H)
ed@lyonsrounsfell.co.uk

HON TREASURER

R H Green

CLUB WEBSITE

www.sherbornepilgrims.co.uk

EDITOR

R Hands
07876 653874 (M)
robert.hands@thetimes.co.uk

CLUB ARCHIVIST

C R J Eglinton
020 8946 3863 (H)
charles.eglinton@blueyonder.co.uk

Club colours can be obtained from Alan Willows at: Sherborne School Trading Ltd., The School Shop, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3AP. Tel. 01935 810506

FOUNDER G M Carey

PRESIDENTS

1923-27 Nowell C Smith
 1927-32 W H Game
 1932-52 C F Stanger-Leathes
 1952-55 A H Trelawny-Ross
 1955-58 J A Tallent, CBE, TD
 1958-61 D C D Ryder
 1961-64 M E K Westlake
 1964-67 R Eglington
 1967-70 T R Parry
 1970-73 J D Watney
 1973-76 D F R Evans, TD
 1976-79 A A E Morgan
 1979-80 R H Whiteway
 1981-84 D I T Wilson, MBE
 1984-88 M R G Earls-Davis
 1988-91 C R J Eglington
 1991-94 J A Watney
 1994-97 P R D Gould
 1997-00 J P Hargrove
 2000-03 G P Gent
 2003-06 D C Watney
 2006- P J Lough

TRUSTEES

1923-27 Nowell C Smith
 1923-27 G M Carey
 1928-48 A H Trelawny-Ross
 1928-42 P E H Parry-Jones
 1946-58 B Pickering-Pick, CBE
 1948-58 Brig A H Moberly, DSO
 1958-67 C R Hopwood
 1958-99 J A Tallent, CBE, TD
 1958-86 M S Glennie
 1967- C R J Eglington
 1986- J A Watney
 1999- J P Hargrove

HON TREASURERS

1966-86 J C Alan Smith
 1986- R H Green

VICE-PRESIDENTS

1923-27 G M Carey
 1927-48 L C Powys
 1935-48 N Partridge
 1948-52 A H Trelawny-Ross
 1948-55 J A Tallent, CBE, TD
 1954-58 D C D Ryder
 1955-64 W E Tucker, CVO, TD, FRCS
 1958-61 M E K Westlake
 1961-64 R Eglington
 1964-67 T R Parry
 1964-70 R F W Leonard, MBE
 1967-70 J D Watney
 1970-73 D F R Evans, TD
 1970-73 M S Glennie
 1970-76 A A E Morgan
 1973-79 R H Whiteway
 1976-84 M R G Earls-Davis
 1979-81 D I T Wilson, MBE
 1981-87 J C Foot
 1984-88 C R J Eglington
 1987-91 J A Watney
 1988-94 P R D Gould
 1991-97 J P Hargrove
 1994-00 G P Gent
 1997-06 P J Lough
 2000-03 D C Watney
 2003- H C K Archer
 2006- A D Leakey

HON SECRETARIES

(and up to 1966, Hon Treasurer)

1923-35 N Partridge
 1935-50 D C D Ryder
 1950-54 J S W Lush
 1954-72 M R G Earls-Davis
 1972-88 C R J Eglington
 1988-00 G P Gent
 2007- E P J F Lyons

RULES

(as approved in December 1997 and subsequently amended)

1. The Club shall be called “The Sherborne Pilgrims”.
2. All OS who are members of the OS Society shall be entitled to apply for membership. Members of staff who are members of the OS Society may be invited to become an honorary member.
3. With the exception of honorary members, who shall pay no subscription, all new members shall pay a life subscription, which shall be determined by the Committee.
4. The objectives of the Club are to promote and encourage all forms of OS sport, and to keep members in touch with one another and with the School. It is the responsibility of any person playing for the Club in any sport to have in place adequate public liability insurance cover.
5. The Officers of the Club shall be the President, who shall hold office for three years, two Vice-Presidents, the immediate Past President, three Trustees, the Honorary Treasurer and an Honorary Secretary, if appointed.
6. The Committee shall be the Officers of the Club, two representatives from the School staff, up to 18 ordinary members, and such others as may be co-opted. A co-opted member shall be subject to annual re-appointment.
7. Ordinary members of the Committee shall retire after three years’ service, but are eligible for re-election.
8. The Club bank shall be the Sherborne branch of the NatWest Bank.
9. All investments shall be held in the name of a regulated nominee company, or in the names of the Trustees.
10. The financial year-end shall be March 31st and an AGM must be held by the end of the calendar year. An income and expenditure account, together with a balance sheet, shall be produced for approval at the AGM.
11. A Committee meeting shall be properly convened on two weeks’ notice and be quorate with five or more members present.
12. In exceptional circumstances the Committee shall have the right to refuse an application for membership.