

The 12th Man

Andover Cricket Club

Len Brunton got a shock when the secretary of Carlisle CC, where he is groundsman, turned up at his house to ask his wife how she would like to have his death commemorated.

A player had read Brunton's nickname 'Brunt' in the obituary section of the local paper and had assumed the worse. The club had held a minute's silence the next day in memory of their friend. The Carlisle 1st XI and 2nd XI along with their opponents Irthing and

Workington had all joined in with the commemoration. Flags were flown at half mast at the ground and the whole club had been sent into a state of shock.

When the mistake had been uncovered 'Brunt' saw the funny side of it all. Dick Scott, Carlisle's longest serving member, said, "It was double result for Carlisle, we won the matches and it turns out Len wasn't dead after all."

An interesting priority displayed there I think.

Saturday
July 24th 2004

League weekend No 13

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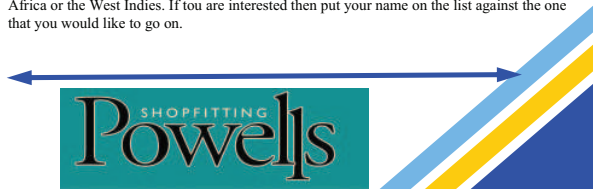
Tourists
Everyone going on the tour on Monday should meet at London Rd at 9.30am.

Cricket Week

Cricket week is almost upon us. Week beginning 16th August. Please sign up for those games you wish to play and be prepared to help out with serving behind the bar ground duties etc.

Overseas Tour

John Walsh is keen for us to go on an overseas tour next year. He has suggested either South Africa or the West Indies. If you are interested then put your name on the list against the one that you would like to go on.



View From Under the Tree

A MISCHIEVOUS club member has written to Jack Perry Plastics in Preston requesting a number of buckets for our first-team players following 12 dropped catches in two matches.

No rule exists in the Premier League to prevent the use of buckets, though chairman Alan Bunday stresses that they should not be white or green, which would clash with clothing, sight-screens and surrounding foliage.

Mr. Bunday also emphasizes that players should not wear the buckets on their heads in matches or during breaks in play, especially at lunch-time or tea.

Replying to the request, Mr. Perry said: "Thank you for your order of six plastic buckets for your cricketers. We're dispatching three in red and three in yellow.

"As requested, our largest bucket is being included for Mr. Woodhouse, along with a left-handed one for Mr. Dean, and one with a small bell for Mr. Atkins.

"Is Mr. Dean any relation to that great England centre-forward Dixie, who scored 60 goals in one season for Everton? He was my father's hero.

"Delighted to hear that Bobby is back. By coincidence all our buckets are made in Bombay!

"Yours sincerely, Jack Perry.

"PS: Since receiving your request, I understand Messrs. Radford, Dean and Summers all took tremendous catches at the Rose Bowl last weekend. Well done, and congratulations to them all!"

(This was originally submitted to 12th Man by Brian Radford in June — apologies for the lateness in printing it)

GOLDEN DUCK

The Wisden Cricketer is combining with The Primary Club, the cricketers' charity which supports blind cricketers, to instigate The Golden Duck award. To enter a club simply has to nominate one of its players who has suffered a golden duck. The most noteworthy entrant each month will get an award with an overall winner announced at the end of the season. His or her club will then be invited to a coaching session at the nearest county ground with county players during February and March. The competition is open to all club players. Nominations should be sent to: The Wisden Cricketer, 136 Bramley Rd, London, W10 6SR.

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JB's CAPTAIN'S LOG

Sorry that the 12th Man has been out of print for the last three weeks. I'm afraid I have to make the bleat that I have been too busy to do anything about it. Please remember that the 12th Man has been entirely written and produced by me every week, with only the odd written contribution from anyone else, for the last (including this season) four years. I would love to have any contribution from anyone else I don't regard this as my property. The 12th Man should be the mouthpiece for us all. You don't have to be Neville Cardus to write for the 12th Man, a few scribbled notes would do.

However, now we are back and running and let's hope for a full house today. The weather is, at last, moving in our favour perhaps the results will as well.

Selection this week has been very fraught with captains having to make several very difficult decisions regarding players. It is never easy accepting being dropped, nor is it very easy having to tell the player concerned—believe me I have been on both ends of the message in my life. When it does happen then you there are two ways of reacting either you go away and sulk and don't play, which seems to me to be cutting your nose to spite your face or you buckle down to doing your best for the new team and hope to get back. Full marks to Tim Brown last week for going into the 4ths and blasting his way to a very quick 29 not out then holding two very good catches to turn the game. Andy Holman must be one of the most unlucky players around at the moment. He has hit four fifties for the 4ths and yet has played only one game in the 3rds — sadly he didn't enjoy the best of days that day — the point is no one has a divine right to any position in a club and the answer is if you don't like it then at the end of the season come to the AGM and do something about it. We must remember that we all play for Andover Cricket Club not just for one particular XI within the club.

The 1st XI are about to start their season for the 3rd time with Ian Langdown taking over the reins. Ian has all the best wishes of the whole club with him as he takes over the poisoned chalice for the last of the all day games and, we hope, for the rest of the season.

The selection committee have also come to the decision that students who have now finished their course and are in full time employment now have to pay a full match fee. This is with effect from this Saturday.

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Andover Cricket Club TEAMS

1st XI vs South Wilts (H): I. Langdown*, R. Miller, M. Miller, J. Hayward, R. Taylor, M. Hooper, R. Atkins, C. Vandermerwre, D. Woodhouse, S. Williams, S. Summers Sc: L. Morgan.

2nd XI vs OTs & Romsey II (A): I. Gardner, M. Copleston, Al Hooper, Travers, P. Funnell, R. Oostendorp, S. Mundy, N. Dancer, A. Hooper, J. Walsh. Ump: D. Howard, Sc: C. James

3rd XI (H): vs Cadnam (H): A. McMahon*, O. Williams, A. Sale, T. Brown, R. James, C. Jackson+, C. Hadfield, M. Guilfoyle, Ump: S. Williams. Sc: T. Adams.

4th XI vs Broughton (A): J. Baxter*, R. Channon+, M. Roberts, T. Lucker, T. Cole, A. Holman, S. Robertson, F. Andrews, T. Brown, D. O'Reilly, C. Breeze. Ump: B. Funnell. Sc: R. Moger

5th XI vs OTs and Romsey IV (A): P Knight, D Hewitt, J Hadfield, J. Hewitt, R. Andrews, L. Andrews, K. Brown, T. Clarke, A. Bryan, J. Gallon, T. Smith. Ump: J. Bradley. Sc: P. Hadfield

Yep, that's it for the thirteenth Saturday. Thirteen down five to go Let's hope for a good return today. All comments would be gratefully received either in writing, verbally or e-mail to info@andovercricketclub.co.uk

If you've been missed off or offended you probably deserved it.

12th Man has been edited by: John Baxter. Deadline for any comments articles is the Wednesday prior to publication. For up to date news of Andover Cricket Club visit

www.andovercricketclub.co.uk

Cheers

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