

SHERBORNE

PILGRIMS

2010

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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

Affording due recognition of the unsung heroes is one of journalists' favourite tricks. It means we can momentarily write about someone or something else, aside from the bright lights and the big names that often predominate sports reporting, which is therefore different, diverting and sometimes far more interesting. It also often tends to be fully justified.

I was only just born when Mike Cleaver penned his first School fives report. Some 16 years later, he was teaching me Livy in the Lower Sixth and now he has stepped down from the fives courts at the School after what, if you use me as a literal example, could be said to be a lifetime's work. He might well have said that teaching me Latin was akin to a lifetime's work. But I digress.

He will be a little embarrassed to read this, because he remains a modest man, but Mike has been a fundamental of Sherborne's sport over the past four decades. There have been higher achievers, in terms of their own playing careers, and there have been more successful coaches, but few with the same dedication, enthusiasm and *joie de vivre* as Mike Cleaver. I might also add that he had the academic ability to command a classroom properly, too.

When I was putting together the chapter headings for my book on the history of rugby at the School, I settled on the heading "The other men" to cover the major coaches of the XV down the years aside from what seemed to me the two stand-out individuals of G M Carey and Micky Walford. (Were I writing the book today, I feel sure that Mike Davis would now feature in a chapter of his own too.) This was deemed by some, and on reflection rightly, as damning with faint praise a phalanx of dedicated schoolmasters and rugby coaches. Not that I could readily summon up a pithy heading that would encapsulate the different styles and approaches of all those featured if asked today.

Mike Cleaver, although he never coached the XV, would have fitted neatly into that chapter. Not because he should be labelled as "another man", but because he had the same attributes as so many of those who were covered in that chapter. Integrity, honesty, a love of sport and of Sherborne.

One of my favourite Livy epithets is this: *stultorum eventus magister est*. If you're missing your Kennedy's Latin Primer, this translates as "experience is the teacher of fools". Admittedly in a different context to his *Annales*, Livy is both wrong and right. Wrong, because Mike's experience has been a boon to so many Shirburnians, both at games, whether pitch, course or court, and of course those who came under his care in The Green when housemaster. Right, because as I'm sure even he would admit, one or two of his pupils may have qualified for the description of fool. *Mea culpa, magister Cleaver*.

For the work you have done for Pilgrims-to-be and for the Pilgrims for so long, Mike, the Club's recognition and thanks. Sherborne's sport and its health depend on the likes of MJC.

The Pilgrims have many unsung heroes, especially those who administer the various sports for the club. Participation remains strong, no mean feat in these uncertain times, and if success hasn't been as easy to come by as in some previous years, the enthusiasm and fun enjoyed by the Club's sportsmen has been constant. Gratitude as always from the Club to those individuals, not just the sport managers, but match managers too, who help to oil the wheels of Pilgrims activity throughout the year.

The outstanding sporting Pilgrim of 2009 – and with a century in the first County Championship match of 2010, let's hope for a similar weight of runs from his bat this year – was Jimmy Adams, who found his feet completely in Hampshire colours last summer in both shorter and longer forms of cricket. It may mean his absence from Cricketer Cup sides for now, but no one will be sorry that the reason he is absent from a Pilgrims sweater is because he is fulfilling much of that rich promise shown on the Upper just over a decade ago. When he's finished opening the batting and, who knows, maybe one day captaining Hampshire, he will be more than welcome again to bat at the top of the order for the Club.

While I suspect few Pilgrims will have seen it, the School this year have put together a glossy publication entitled *The Sporting Shirburnian*, which carries reports of all the sports (and teams) over 2009. It gives an indication of the range of sports that the School now offers, among them these days cycling and skiing, the latter of which seemed to me quite hard to do down Lenthay way, but maybe the climate around Plumpud has changed since I left. Joking aside, the difference being wrought in the School's sporting horizons is clear and one can only encourage Paul Miles in his work to raise standards and enthusiasm while never forgetting that Sherborne is a place for learning above all.

The date of the Club's AGM is Saturday October 9th, in the JCR in Sherborne at 12.15pm. The XV will be playing Clifton that day – please do come along if you can. My thanks as ever go to Charles Eglington and Barbara Spencer for their work in helping me to produce this booklet.

Robert Hands
April 2010

NEW MEMBERS

Applications were received from the following leavers in July 2009:

E J R Bacon (g) H Sq G	N H M Holding-Parsons (g) R
H R G Barnard (c) S R	S H Jaques (b) R S
M J Corke (d) Sq T R S G	O D T Manners (g) S C
A H G Croft (f) H R	W J G Marks (c) C H R S
O W G Crosthwaite-Eyre (d) R Sw	B M O Massey (b) R Sa
O J Gardner (d) T R S	C L N Mayes (e) CC A R Sa
C C Garnett (c) H C	W A Peatfield (c) C S R
J R O Guerin (g) H R C	J M G Porter (a) T H R C
C D Hall (d) R S Sq G	W M Smibert (a) H C R
P H M St V L Hammick (e) R H T	J P Snudden (b) R H C Sa
W O Hamnett (c) T S	J J Trotman (b) R G Sa
J A Hamshaw-Thomas (a) C H R	I M Williams (f) R
J A d'E Head (c) S T C R	H O d'A Willis (b) R C

A – Athletics	H - Hockey	Sq - Squash
C - Cricket	R - Rugby	Sw - Swimming
CC - Cross Country	Sa - Sailing	T - Tennis
G - Golf	S - Soccer	

OBITUARY

J N Arkell (d 41), M A Cooke (h 43), J M Gelsthorpe (c 50), M T Ireland (d 56), M W T Nott (c 54), G F Symondson (b 46), J R Venning (d 59), J R Whitley (a 44)

MANAGERS

Cricket:	Peter Langly-Smith: 07920 723654 (M) peter.langly-smith@prupim.com
Cross Country:	Ed Pitt Ford: 07769 773368 (M) ed@tutorlink.org.uk
Fives:	David Kirk: 07772 087817 (M) dk7799@hotmail.co.uk
Hockey:	Jimmy McKillop: 07807 999182 (M) jmckillop@savills.com

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

Soccer: Christian MacLaren: 07747 868678 (M)
maclarenchristian@yahoo.com

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

CRICKET 2009

Played 9; Won 4; Drawn 2; Lost 3; Cancelled 2.

Sunday May 3, v Radley Rangers, at Radley

Radley Rangers 254-5 dec (L D McLaren 101 not out);
Sherborne Pilgrims 128-8. Drawn

Going into any game with only four genuine bowlers presents any side with a serious challenge, but playing on a wicket that offered little assistance to the bowlers only compounded the Pilgrims' problems further. Edlmann and Pettigrew bowled exactly as they were asked, with discipline and aggression early on, and were soon rewarded for their efforts. Despite this early breakthrough, the track and ball proceeded to offer very little assistance and wickets became increasingly hard to come by.

Radley were always going to be well placed to post a competitive total after lunch. Their batsmen took risks but the Pilgrims missed a whole host of chances in the field. McLaren went on to record a century and formed the backbone of the Rangers innings, which finished when they declared after 56 overs at 254 for five.

Time was expected to be the primary obstacle to victory for the Pilgrims but the batsmen never produced what was required; despite some streaky shots from the top order, the score was 48 for two at tea, already behind the run rate. Adamant that we should still push for victory, positive cricket was encouraged and Searson was tasked to lead the charge. The Rangers bowled well and the Pilgrims offered little in the way of resistance. Searson, as he so often does, was positive but conservative, refusing to let the Rangers find the remaining wickets they needed to complete what they would have considered a deserved victory, and ensured the Pilgrims came off the park with honours even.

Sunday May 31, v Haileybury Hermits, at Haileybury

Sherborne Pilgrims 196 (M M A Hope 57);

Haileybury Hermits 188. Won by 8 runs

Half an hour before the start of play, the entire Pilgrims side was present and ready for action. In sharp contrast, not a single Hermit had shown his face. Further eyebrows were raised when the Pilgrims were asked to bat first. With the outfield shimmering in the heat and not a cloud in the sky, it was a bizarre decision, but there were no complaints!

The opening stand offered the perfect platform: Langly-Smith averages a mere 102 on this ground and timed the ball gloriously off the back foot. Indeed, it was a real surprise when he top-edged a slog-sweep on 34. James Davis showed what the Pilgrims have been missing for all these years, amassing an equal share of the half-century opening stand.

Prendergast, Searson and Crouch followed the trodden path back to the pavilion in short order and Matt Hope was running out of recognised partners. Dan Payne-Cook, another who can boast a very healthy average on this ground, was cut off in his prime but all the while Hope was still going great guns.

Baxendale and Edlmann roared in with genuine fire when the Hermits began their reply and they were soon 19 for two. Then the remaining Haileybury opener began taking on the bowling with great aggression. With 86 out of their total of 123 (in just 16 overs), he held the key to the game. Five more overs of Stewart in such rampant form would surely end the game, but Crouch and Hope epitomised the never-say-die attitude of the Pilgrims, staunching the flow. In the end Stewart took the bait and went over the top, but he hadn't taken into consideration the athleticism of Ben Lyons at mid-off, who plucked the ball from nowhere.

Payne-Cook wrapped up the tail with a stunning six-over spell of three for 21 – many a ball beating the shoulder of the bat and whistling through to Morgan and an expectant slip cordon.

Sunday June 7, v Marlborough Blues, at Marlborough. Cancelled - rain

Sunday June 14, Cricketer Cup first round, v Oundle Rovers, at Sherborne

Sherborne Pilgrims 147;

Oundle Rovers 148-6. Lost by four wickets

Home advantage was dissipated early in the overs bowled at the start of each innings. Oundle bowled a good line and length on a low, slow wicket. Atkins went cheaply reaching for a ball wide of off stump to be caught behind. Langly-Smith

soon followed playing across a length ball to be leg-before. When Kelly was dismissed, it was obvious that batting was hard work and runs, like loose balls, were as difficult to come by as present-day mortgages.

Jenkins with Esson and then with Cooke applied themselves and slowly moved the score on. Esson was another leg-before victim, which demonstrated clearly the dangers in both playing across the line and playing back to length or just short of length balls. Sadly when both Jenkins and Cooke were bowled, it was a desperate struggle to bat out the overs as Oundle increased their stranglehold on the game with accurate bowling and athletic fielding. Clifton hit a few lusty blows and Nurton ran well between the wickets. The last wicket fell with still nine balls left.

The Pilgrims were a good 20 to 30 runs short of providing a realistic challenge to the Oundle batsmen. It needed accurate bowling and early wickets to give the Pilgrims a sniff of winning. As so often is the case a liberal supply of wides and rank bad balls was like giving Andy Murray a four-game lead and then trying to beat him over two sets! There were seven extras in the first 20 runs from the first three overs bowled by Henry Lamb and Charlie Clifton. Kelly came on and made a much-needed breakthrough before Nurton replaced Lamb and put the brake on the flow of runs, picking up a wicket in the process.

The task of pressurising the opposition was a difficult one in the first instance, with such a low total to defend, but it was made even harder by the regular delivery of four balls which made life easy for the batsmen. Simon Lamb's off-spin was tried and looked dangerous for an over before he too bowled three full tosses in his second over and duly conceded 12 runs. Clifton returned for a much tighter second spell while Nurton replaced Lamb for a last throw of the dice and three scalps were taken, including the Oundle captain to a good low catch by Searson, but it was all too little, too late to prevent the visiting team cantering home by four wickets with plenty of overs in hand.

There was an obvious lack of experience. I hope it is because they are still a young side and that they do not become disillusioned after this defeat. Oundle have traditionally done well in the competition and I know their team play regular league cricket. There is natural talent in the Pilgrims side and performances will improve over the next few years but only if they continue to play regular cricket. I think it was Jim Laker who said "The older I get, the better cricketer I seem to become." My own experience would endorse this statement.

Saturday July 4, v Sherborne School, at Sherborne
Sherborne School 266-8 (T Grainzevelles 107, F E Taylor 60);
Sherborne Pilgrims 186. Lost by 80 runs

As appears so often the case due to the timing of this fixture, there were a few hangovers flying around the hallowed turf of The Upper come 11.30 on the morning of Commem. The Pilgrims received an early boost with the news that “the South African” (and No 3 for the School) would not be playing due to a slight overindulgence the previous evening. So we put the School in to bat.

After 18 overs, the School were 42 for two, and for the first time in four years seemed vulnerable against an ever-excitable Pilgrims outfit. Archie Isles must be commended on a Herculean effort with the ball. Opening up down the hill, Isles charged in relentlessly for ten overs, while at the same time sweating out a year at university coupled with a fierce night in the Swan Inn. However, the School managed to gain a strong grip of the game and, thanks to some excellent batting, accumulated 266 after 50 overs.

Anyone who knows the Upper will tell you 266 is a tough total to chase. Unfortunately, the Pilgrims did not start strongly, and early wickets together with a low run rate meant that they faced an uphill struggle. Because of some accurate bowling and loose batting, they crawled to 100 for eight. The tail did wag (Willis 42, Clifton 35 not out), and an iota of dignity was restored when the Pilgrims were finally bowled out for 186.

Sunday July 12, Twenty20 tournament, at Bryanston

The Pilgrims managed to win the Stour Cup for the first time, and in impressive style. The key to the success in beating Canford, and then Bryanston in the final, was posting a total that proved to be too much for the opposition. Charlie Cooke opened in both games and batted through without losing his wicket, scoring 189 runs over the two games. Having the stability at one end allowed the other batsmen to express themselves with some mixed successes, with notable knocks from McKillop and Willis. This short format of the game can so often prove punishing for the bowlers, but for once they had a strong total behind them and the opposition batsmen were always under pressure to chase down the runs. With disciplined bowling from Nurton and Dampney, both games were comfortable victories.

Monday July 13, v Sherborne C C, at Sherborne

Sherborne Pilgrims 185 (C C M Warren 56);
Sherborne C C 120. Won by 65 runs

Still savouring the Twenty20 tournament victory at Bryanston, and buoyed by England’s Rorke’s Drift defence at Cardiff on the previous day, the team was full of confidence on arrival at the Upper to face Sherborne C C. The game had a

particular significance with the highly anticipated return of Charlie Warren all the way from Australia.

Warren stepped straight into the boots he had left to Pete Langly-Smith two years earlier, won the toss and decided to bat. The decision looked debatable with early wickets falling. Esson was caught at the start of the second over, and despite Hawkins' trademark late-cut looking in fine form he followed shortly after with the score six for two.

Warren and Andy Nurton started to consolidate the innings before Nurton was "given out" leg-before after a watchful 11. Warren continued to look strong but with the middle order falling around him. After the brief innings of Lyons, Warren himself departed caught after a super knock of 56 off just 52 balls. Willis followed and with the score 87 for six, the Pilgrims were in need of some serious tail-wagging. This was provided with Haycock (16), Mead (18) and Southwell (15). The real impetus and the game's shift in momentum came from the in-form Cooke, who scored 30 before being left when Simon Lamb was bowled in the penultimate over.

This total seemed to look even bigger when Nick Southwell bowled a double wicket maiden in the second over of the Town's innings. Wickets continued to fall and with the score 17 for four, the game seemed to have been won. Some resistance from the middle order pushed the score up to more than 100 but in truth the Pilgrims total never looked in danger and Lyons and Lamb wrapped up the tail in the 28th over.

Tuesday July 14, v The Butterflies, at Sherborne

The Butterflies 236-5 (D Dyer 113);

Sherborne Pilgrims 238-3 (C A R Esson 85 not out, J I McKillop 74). Won by 7 wickets

The Pilgrims side was full of youth with a splash of experience from the likes of Langly-Smith and Nurton, with the average age being well below 30. This was in stark contrast to the wealth of experience in the Butterflies team.

The Butterflies got off to a good and steady start losing only two wickets before they had amassed 168, with Clifton and Southwell struggling to control their line and length. Despite not losing too many wickets early the scoring rate was manageable and the Butterflies never seemed to be running away with things and in the 40th over they were 183 for three, set up for a good last ten overs.

An inspired bowling change from captain Langly-Smith saw the introduction of Charlie Esson and his non-turning, slow right arm over. This, allied with the lack

of bounce in the surface, saw the end of the Butterflies' dangerous opener who had just completed his hundredth hundred, a quite staggering achievement. Esson continued to keep the scoring rate in check along with Nurton's dead-eyed dick bowling restricting their score to 236 for five.

This was an achievable target on a true but low Sherborne wicket with sensible batting, pushing some of the older members of the opposition in the field. Esson and Langly-Smith opened up and the captain played some exquisite drives before being caught for 25 off 31 balls. This brought McKillop to the crease who compiled a key partnership of 128 with Esson. McKillop was the aggressor, flaying the bowling to all parts while Essen nudged and nurdled the ball around. McKillop then fell for a run-a-ball 74 with 70 runs still needed, albeit with plenty of time.

Cooke strode to the crease with purpose having amassed more than 200 runs already in the week without being dismissed. When he finally fell after a quickfire 40 to what can only be described as an agricultural shot, the game was all but won.

Wednesday July 15, v Bryanston Butterflies, at Bryanston

Bryanston Butterflies 269-8;

Sherborne Pilgrims 173-9 (J I McKillop 56). Drawn

The captain's armband is often shared throughout the week, and on this occasion McKillop was entrusted as the decision-maker. Having travelled to Bryanston for this timed game, he won the toss but elected to bowl, a decision which disgruntled many of the team and ultimately dictated the course of the match thereafter.

However, much of this negative sentiment was soon swayed with an early wicket from Nurton, somehow held onto by Mackay-James, and Nurton continued to be the pick of the bowlers, ending up with figures of three for 72. The ball offered little assistance all day and the Bryanston batsmen took full advantage.

Having been put in, and therefore under no pressure to declare, they controlled the pace at which the game was played and indeed the manner in which it was to be approached. They accumulated a total which, given the length of time they batted for, ensured they could not lose the game.

In reply, the Pilgrims started positively, and were buoyed by a half-century from McKillop. He was ably supported by Mackay-James and others, but no one was able to push on and make a big score, providing the launch pad for the run chase and in the end time ran out and wickets continued to tumble. In danger of defeat, Nurton was briefed to save the game, which he admirably did with the help of the other tail-enders, scoring a lusty two from 15 overs and rescuing a draw.

Thursday July 16, v The Flashmen, at Sherborne

The Flashmen 150;

Sherborne Pilgrims 152 for 2 (A D Nurton 59 not out). Won by 8 wickets

As the Pilgrims prepared to play their fifth and penultimate day of cricket, many of the players were starting to dream of an unbeaten week. It was not surprising, though, to see a bit of fatigue setting in. As a result, some fresh faces were warmly welcomed as the Pilgrims aimed to continue that winning streak.

One of those fresh faces was Will Hayler, and after the Flashmen had elected to bat, he was handed the new ball. Hayler got the breakthrough of Calthorpe, clean bowled for nought before Archie Mackay-James, kindly playing for the opposition, and then even more kindly was caught off the bowling of Clifton for four.

More wickets tumbled, and the opening spell from Hayler and Clifton proved vital as they finished with a brace each. With the ball handed to Willis, the Pilgrims caused yet more problems. He brought more variety to the attack and was rewarded by a wicket with a slower-ball bouncer that clipped the top of middle. Skipper Bartholomew made his presence felt at the crease for the Flashmen and his resilience and determination ensured his side made some sort of total.

Esson was caught early, bringing Nurton to the crease. Playing as a specialist batsman for the day, he was keen to prove his worth and went on to form steady partnerships with Guppy and then Charlie Gammell. It was Nurton's blistering 59 not out that saw the home side to victory in fine style and kept alive their hopes of an unbeaten week. With Friday washed out, the Pilgrims had in fact achieved that feat, and Thursday night's celebrations were thus a fitting conclusion.

Friday July 17, v Canford Cygnets, at Canford. Cancelled - rain

Sunday August 2, v Hampshire Hogs, at Warnford

Hampshire Hogs 313-6 (G A Adair 156);

Sherborne Pilgrims 161. Lost by 152 runs

Despite torrential downpours the previous day, the players' arrival was greeted by sunshine and a relatively dry pitch. The wicket was extremely green and appeared to be a seamer's paradise (although later their batsmen suggested otherwise). Consequently the Pilgrims made the decision to go out and have a bowl.

The Hogs accumulated 62 before the first wicket fell. Howland-Jackson galloped in once more up the hill and delivered a looping full toss, which was sent high to

an eagerly anticipating Dan Combes who took a tricky catch with apparent ease. However, it was the opener at the other end who would prove to be the real prize. A truly outstanding innings of 156 from Adair made it very difficult for the Pilgrims to gain any sort of grip on the game. The Hogs declared on 313 for six. All the bowlers chipped in, with Clifton taking three wickets.

Although the pitch was probably improving as the day went on, this was a daunting target. The start was positive, with Archie Mackay-James and Paul Saunders enjoying a partnership of 47 before Mackay-James got the thinnest of edges to the keeper. After 22 overs, the Pilgrims were 103 for two thanks to some sensible and positive batting from Saunders (31), Mackay-James (30) and Harry Clifton (29).

Unfortunately, but not surprisingly given the total we were chasing, the Pilgrims failed to build on this solid foundation, and despite glimmers of hope in the middle order, they were eventually bowled out for 161 with 15 overs remaining. Needless to say, this was a very disappointing result.

Reports by Charlie Clifton, Charlie Esson, Peter Langly-Smith, Archie Mackay-James, Mike Nurton, Andy Searson and Alex Willis

CRICKET FIXTURES 2010

Sun May 2	Radley Rangers (a)	Mon July 12	Sherborne CC (1.00pm)
Sun May 23	Marlborough Blues (a)	Tues July 13	The Butterflies
Sun June 6	Haileybury Hermits (a)	Wed July 14	Bryanston Butterflies
Sun June 13	Radley Rangers *	Thur July 15	Clayesmore Cormorants (a)
Sat July 3	The School	Fri July 16	Canford Cygnets
Sun July 11	Twenty20 tournament (a)	Sun Aug 1	Hampshire Hogs (a)

* First round Cricketer Cup at home: second round July 2 (a); quarter-finals July 18; semi-finals August 1; final August 15.

RUGBY 2009-10

The season had a late start and with work commitments kicking in, we were only able to play one game, which was disappointing but thankfully it was a very convincing victory. Sadly we have had to move from our usual ground on Spencer Park to Garratt Green in Wandsworth, which means it is a little farther to travel for our usual band of supporters and a longer wait for a post-game pint!

May 2009, Sevens tournament

We organised another sevens tournament in May last year in conjunction with London Cornish – for whom a number of OS play – with the number of entrants

growing again to 22 (9 in 2007, 18 in 2008). All the teams from previous years returned with some new additions, there was a mix of old boy sides, club teams, and groups of friends and the standard was high – there was even a guest appearance from Josh Lewsey! Despite not having the weather for it, the event was a huge success and we hope to repeat it in 2010.

The Pilgrims did well, winning their group but sadly losing in the semi-final. The winning side was a club team from Richmond but it was a close-fought final against the Muts Nuts (Bryanston).

Sunday February 21 v Bryanston/Cheltenham

Won 40-15

This has always been a tough fixture but, with one of our best turnouts yet on a cold sleeting day in February, we managed a fine victory against a strong side of veterans. Despite the opposition having a weight advantage, the Club managed to outstep and outpace them – no doubt helped by having a significantly lower average age! Despite the Pilgrims putting on a heavy score by half-time and a victory looking sealed, the arrival of the opposition captain for the second half, combined with a downhill advantage, gave potential for the tide to turn. The Pilgrims defended hard and managed to mount several counterattacks that kept the lead. As always, good spirits held out between the sides with no tantrums or hair-pulling!

Nick Cook

HOCKEY 2009-10

September 13, 2009, Old Boys Tournament, University of Westminster Sports Grounds, Chiswick, West London

Teams: Bradfield, Canford, Charterhouse, Cheltenham, Sherborne, Wellington

There had been rumblings about an imminent old boys' tournament in London since Sherborne, Cheltenham and Canford organised a three-way tournament in October 2008. And so it came to pass that some of the finest English public schools (and Canford) came together for the right to call themselves the strongest, fittest and most skilful of the hockey-playing schools in southern England. The venue was the University of Westminster's sports facility, boasting one sand and one water-based Astro turf.

With six teams competing, the tournament promised to be competitive. Wellington had Bill Waugh, a former England captain, in their ranks, Charterhouse an English

Universities player. A number of teams boasted National League hockey players. Split into two pools, Sherborne were competing against Bradfield and Charterhouse on the sand-based Astroturf for a place in the final. Both Bradfield and Charterhouse did not have full teams and all three had arrived without a goalkeeper. We resorted to playing 11 outfield players (Bradfield and Charterhouse utilising spares from other teams) in each pool game.

The first match was against Bradfield. Both teams took some time getting used to the new rules that were introduced to the game in May 2009, with a number of early free hits given for failure to apply them. The Pilgrims were soon into the rhythm of the faster pace and were able to capitalise on some loose play by Bradfield. Sherborne went ahead early with a goal from Fegen and followed up with another from Horton, despite squandering a number of opportunities. The Pilgrims proved too strong for Bradfield despite some late surges and won 2-0.

Charterhouse had a good reputation on the schools circuit and did not disappoint with some skilful individuals. However, the Pilgrims were in form and pressurised them from across the pitch. Some solid defence and quick “self-passing” (taking advantage of those new rules) from free hits caught them off-guard and it was quickly 2-0 thanks to a brace from Fegen. A final breakaway goal initiated from the midfield allowed Holdoway to seal the game, leaving it 3-0 to the Pilgrims and on top of the pool.

The final was played on the water-based Astroturf on which Wellington had played and won both their pool games convincingly. This was an altogether sterner test. The Pilgrims made a number of early errors getting used to the pace of the pitch and the “bounce” that playing on water-based pitches brings. Wellington were used to this and had a lot of early pressure. Some scrambled defence led to Wellington regaining possession in the D and a reverse-stick strike saw them go 1-0 up.

The presence of regular hockey players again helped the Club and a reshuffle of the formation resulted in some strong play from the Pilgrims in the second half, maintaining plenty of possession and coming close to scoring on a number of occasions. Wellington held firm, though, and nearly doubled their lead when some desperate Pilgrims defence saw a strike deflected off the crossbar. Both sides were feeling the pace by the finish, but Wellington took the honours, winning 1-0.

What a beautiful day March 7th turned out to be when we played the School. The standard last-minute desperate calls to players of varying ability and uncertain schooling appear to be a thing of the past. We had a full side, and on paper a strong one.

The first game was the Pilgrims A v the School 1st XI. The School have had a great season and once again it was apparent that Rob Hill had drilled the boys well. They were, as expected, much fitter than us and their individual skills were plain to see. What surprised me most was the “conditioning” of the boys. Gone are the days when we would hope to push the boys around and stamp our “physical presence” on the game. Half the boys were bigger than some of our players! This again must be put down to the work that Rob Hill and Paul Miles have put in – it is clearly reaping rewards.

The game was fast and there were a number of turnovers. Steel and Bartlett played well in midfield and we were able to push players up the pitch. Kipling and Hayler linked well and caused their defence some trouble. Eventually Smibert latched onto a great ball into the D and snuck one into the corner. Simson also managed to poach one.

Rob Hill clearly gave the School a rousing team talk as they came out in the second half at full pelt. It was clear that some of the Pilgrims were beginning to tire and at one point I’m sure we had more players on the bench than on the pitch. Still, the standard of hockey was very high with notable mentions from the Pilgrims for Steel and Selfe. It was probably the best game I have played in against the School. Despite a further goal for the Pilgrims from Hayler, the School ran out the eventual winners at 4-3.

A further game against an Upper Sixth XI followed on from a refreshing lunch. Sadly it was clear that a combination of sleep deprivation and lack of match practice had finally kicked in. Despite some wonderful efforts from everyone, the School were much fitter and were able to capitalise on some tired legs from the Pilgrims. In spite of goals from Hayler and Smibert, the School were once again deserving winners at 5-2.

Players: Jimmy McKillop, Pete Langly-Smith, Patrick Selfe, Tom Bishop, Jamie Smibert, Will Hayler, Peter Crouch, Henry Hunt, Alexander Beattie, Gavin Thow, Harry Steel, Jos Simson, Will Fegen and James Kipling.

Jimmy McKillop

The “Vintage” Pilgrims only play together at one event each year: as a consequence, it’s more about survival than victory. Let me take you back to that period just before Christmas when office parties are in full swing and OS may overindulge. I warm up potential participants with an e-mail containing an invitation to play hockey and a suggested fitness regime; while many of us still play a little hockey, there are some that don’t and a light-hearted reminder that a game is on the horizon is really a call to action. This e-mail is always ignored.

I have a pool of around 30 players that have either expressed an interest in playing or have played for us. So these 30 form the basis of a potential side. There are two criteria only: over 35 and they must have played competitive hockey at Sherborne (if you are reading this and feel you fit these wide criteria, please give me a call as our ageing side is looking for younger blood).

In January I ramp up the recruitment. It is hard. A selection of replies: *wedding plans (I know, a miracle at my age) have caught up with me and with the best will in the world, I'm not going to make it; I am moving to Los Angeles between now and then, so think it may be too far to travel, even for such a prestigious occasion; thank you for the thought but I am unable to play; although I have not played hockey for 20+ years, do not own a stick and know that the rules have changed but not how, I would have liked to have had a go.* Some even say they *can* play.

Despite the above, we did manage to muster 15 brave players to commit. The first match began against a combined School 1st and 2nd team. I remember very little of the first half except as we entered the last few minutes there seemed to be a collective awakening of a long forgotten skill set – grass hockey! True, a poor relation to Astroturf hockey but a relation indeed, and one that proved very useful for the rest of the day.

We were 1-3 down at half-time, but had picked up no injuries. The previous year we lost Leach in the first five minutes due to poor warming-up and a certain stiffness of calf due to sitting on a tractor for 30 years, so to lose nobody after 30 minutes of hard hockey was positive. After five minutes of the second half, Bak arrived to boost our numbers after his flight had been delayed from Geneva. He helped to inject some much-needed pace into our front line but it was not enough. The final score was 2-4 (or to be positive, we drew the second half 1-1).

Our next game was scheduled for an hour hence so we had a much-needed break. Ian Elliott, former housemaster of Abbeylands, made an appearance to talk us through the merits of using the hockey “diamond” system well used in the Seventies.

The match was against what looked like an under-12s side – thank goodness, we thought. The whistle went 60 minutes later (I don't remember half-time) but I do remember the umpires being particularly generous to us throughout. We had miraculously won 4-2. Champagne moment of the second game: all four goals scored by Ward, the second being a cracking reverse sweep.

By far our best results to date and I would like to thank all the players.

Stephen Rees-Williams

SQUASH 2009-10

Pilgrims squash started 2010 with a Londonderry Cup match at Lord's against Whitgift. The usual faces of Al Robertson, Tom Morgan, Jeremy Bishop, James Leakey and your scribe produced a hard-fought victory giving us the unenviable task of a quarter-final meeting against Millfield, which appears to be an almost annual clash. We were represented by two ex-captains but Pilgrims virgins – Will Pope and Robert Tyrwhitt-Drake. Will has been perfecting his art at Southampton University in recent years but Rob has been a stranger to the squash court for much of the time since leaving School, which was clearly evidenced by a racket which I recognised from the 92-93 season. However, Rob did show flashes of the dominant court coverage of previous seasons but unfortunately, as a team, we fell short against Millfield on this occasion partly due to the scare we gave them last year.

The Pilgrims also played their annual match against the School. This team had a more experienced air about them compared to the Londonderry Cup side. This extra bit of experience clearly helped David Leakey, Jonathan Powe, Richard Bramble, Sam Hayward and Mike Elliott to overcome the School.

Next year we will again be competing in the Londonderry Cup and challenging the School to a match in Sherborne. I am also planning a small Pilgrims tournament in London on a Saturday in early January followed by an evening meal. If you are interested in taking part in any of these events please contact me.

Nick Lamb

TENNIS 2010

The tennis season got under way in mid-April with the Pilgrims represented by Charlie Grant-Peterkin and Nick Lamb in the first round of the D'Abernon Cup played at St George's College, Weybridge. The format involved us playing short sets against eight other schools with the top two qualifying for the quarter-finals of the competition.

The morning started with confidence-boosting wins over two old rivals in Eton and Wellington. This gave us the opportunity to open our shoulders and start to compete with the best pair, the undefeated St Paul's. Charlie performed brilliantly in this match, and I joined the party soon after, allowing us to reach set point but eventually being defeated by the combination of a second serve ace on our set point, a ridiculous framed behind-the-back shot and a severe sense of humour shortage from one opponent. This all meant that we required a comfortable win

against St George's to qualify, but this did not happen and we had to settle for third place from the nine teams. It was an entertaining day and was good for a first attempt in the D'Abernon Cup in many years.

We have three fixtures this summer: Sunday May 23 v Bow House; Saturday July 3 v the School; and Sunday July 4 v Sherborne Tennis Club.

Nick Lamb

CROSS COUNTRY 2009-10

It has to be said, this was not our finest hour. We had a team ravaged by illness and non-availability, comprising of three young 'uns and two over-fifties. The weather was mild and damp and the mud was average.

Charles Sykes, from Sedbergh, won the five mile race in 27.27 and Hugh Knudsen put in a spirited performance, finishing 21st in 31.31, up two places on last year. Next in was Charlie Whitcombe, 27th in 32.08. We then had a long gap to a not particularly fit Max Hobbs who finished 56th in 37.30 and Ian Cull, appearing for the first time having made the journey from Southern France, who finished 60th in 38.40. Angus Cater finished 75th out of 85 finishers in 43.45.

Winchester won the open race, followed by Ampleforth and Dulwich. Sherborne were 9th, which was disappointing after coming second the previous year.

For the Sherborne Trophy, and again with a slightly depleted team, we ran the gruelling course from Sherborne Castle around its estate. The route, especially Jerusalem Hill, never fails to remind you that a diet of croissants and lattes isn't the way to a healthy body. After the race and the essential medals, we had a wonderful dinner laid on for us in the OSR, where we were joined by current School runners and staff. Overall it was an excellent day and fully recommended to any OS who want a bit of exercise and a free dinner.

A new addition to our calendar was the Tutorlink Hyde Park relays, and this showed a strong performance. We came 50th out of over 100 teams, not bad seeing as our hybrid team included girlfriends as well as the customary OS competitors. A free dinner and a party at the Imperial College Union followed the race; so a great event for the younger crowd and those still young at heart!

Angus Cater and Ed Pitt Ford

OLD SHIRBURNIAN GOLFING SOCIETY 2009-10

The winners at the two meetings were:

Summer 2009: Turner and Foot Putter (scratch) – Mike Farley; Page Cup (handicap) – Howard Gill; Stableford competition – Rob Fisher;

Autumn 2009: Captain's Prize – Jerry Hill; Vice-Captain's Prize – Gavin Webb-Wilson; Greig Cup – Bill Davis; Autumn Cup – John Youngman; Manning Trophy – Robin Irving; Watney and Bishop Dish (veterans) – Gavin Webb-Wilson

The usual date of the meeting in April has been changed to late June.

Matches v clubs and other societies: played 25:

Won: 11 v Lancing, School and Staff, Cheltenham, West Sussex,
School and Staff, Westminster, Radley, Epsom,
Royal Cinque Ports, Marlborough, Blundell's

Halved: 3 v Tonbridge, Littlehampton, Malvern

Lost: 11 v Saunton, Sherborne, Woodbridge, Aldeburgh, Thorpeness,
Woking, Rye, Aldenham, Downside, Winchester, Highgate

Grafton Morrish 2009

There was a strong display at Royal Ashdown in May, where we qualified first equal with 87 points, but were not seeded for the finals as second to Cranleigh on a count back.

We arrived at the finals full of hope having been given a bye in the first round. With the news that Eastbourne finished first above Tonbridge in qualifying we were expecting a tougher match than we got. Rhys Francis and Toby Couzens got off to an unusually poor start and found themselves two down after 10 but from then on it was business as usual, finally winning at the 17th.

Clive Martin and Ed Elliot-Square were square on the 18th tee following three putts on the 16th and a wild drive at the next. An excellent drive from Martin, followed by a perfect approach, secured a four and the match. Meanwhile, Philip Brown and James Chappell amassed a clear and unassailable lead.

Against The Leys we got off to a good start with Brown and Chappell winning comfortably. Martin and Elliot-Square were four up after 6, but struggled around

the turn and lost at the 18th. Francis and Couzens, who had lost their touch on the greens, were one down on the 18th tee. A somewhat wild second left us with little chance of winning the hole. Overall, this was a sad end, which felt like a missed chance to go to the next round.

Mellin Salver 2009

Tom Parry, the founder of the O S Golfing Society, was also the founder in 1960 of the G L Mellin so this was the 50th playing of the tournament.

Unfortunately, Sherborne's golf can be summarised all too briefly. Thursday was a very hot day, and neither of the over-75s pairs (Fergus Watson with Colin Sharman, and Jim Copen with Peter Flory) qualified for the matchplay stages of the Millard Salver. The over-65s (Dick Draper with Robin Arbuthnot, and Richard Hughes with Simon Shirley) lost both matches against Cheltenham in the Burles Salver, and this was repeated in the plate against Bradfield.

The next day we played a good Cheltenham side in the Mellin Salver. Martin Ireland and David Dinkeldein, John Youngman and Mike Falconer, and Simon Brown with Pat Farmer were our three pairs. The top two pairs lost by 3 and 2, and 7 and 6 respectively, while Brown and Farmer were square after 16 and called it a half. This was Youngman's 50th match in the Mellin, the first of which he lost in 1991, but at least we went on to win the Salver that year.

After lunch we played Bradfield in the plate. The picture was fairly promising at the turn, as we were up in the top two matches. Youngman and Falconer continued to play well and won on the 17th green, but Brown and Farmer struggled and eventually lost by 4 and 3. So everything rested on the top pair. Unfortunately they contrived to leave the 10th green four up and arrive on the 18th tee one down – a loss of five holes out of the seven played! They then threw away the opportunity to win the 18th by taking the wrong club from the edge of the green.

At least we could enjoy the 50th anniversary dinner held at the Club in the evening. Some 180 people from the 16 Mellin schools attended and it was a very successful evening, with a splendid speech from Hamish Ritchie of Loretto, the current Captain of the R&A. Thank you, Tom Parry, for starting this wonderful tournament in 1960.

Family Day 2009

New names will appear on the Peter Currie Cup as Mike and Will Pope won the stableford competition with 37 points. Rob and Will Rydon, who were second by a point last year, also had 37 points but with a lower second nine.

Brent Knoll 2010

For various reasons the team was somewhat depleted this year, but we welcomed back Mike Farley who had last played in 1994. The practice round on Friday did not fill us with great anticipation as to our progress throughout the weekend, but the course was in great condition with the greens almost back to their best.

On Saturday morning, nobody really got going against the Leatherjackets and we were fairly comfortable losers. Francis and Kelly probably came closest to being in contention, but four putts on the 13th, when they had two for the hole, was a serious setback.

Saturday afternoon saw a bit more excitement against Clifton in the Plate. Aubin and Elliot-Square were one down on the 15th tee and had not yet been up in the match. However, a couple of gutsy putts and a decent approach on 16 got them square. Fortunately a missed putt on 17 was not crucial and Clifton handed us the 18th to win 1 up.

Francis and Kelly had lost a comfortable lead and were all square on the 17th tee. A couple of character-building four-footers up 17 and 18 by Francis, and a nailed drive at 19 looked to have earned Sherborne a win. However, there was concern as a putt from Francis seemed to slide by and hands were shaken. It was only when both pairs approached the clubhouse that we realised we had actually won.

Unfortunately, there was not much to write about the semi-final against Blundell's. The top pair were out chipped and putted; the second pair were blitzed by some sub-par golf; while the bottom pair made a game fightback to get back to all square with five holes to go, but then lost the next three holes.

The results against Leatherjackets and Clifton were: Rhys Francis and Ed Kelly: lost 4 and 3; won 19th; Nick Aubin and Ed Elliot-Square: lost 4 and 3; won 1 up; Mike Farley and Jeremy Sinker: lost 5 and 4; lost 5 and 4; and against Blundell's: Stuart Gillett and Ed Elliot-Square: lost 3 and 2; Nick Aubin and Nigel Whalley: lost 6 and 5; Mike Farley and Ed Kelly lost 3 and 2.

Halford Hewitt 2010

Availability and selection are the two key points leading up to the Halford Hewitt and this year was no different. Hugo Ambrose had stood down as Captain of the side and the captaincy was passed on to Stuart Gillett. Initially our numbers looked promising and after a successful trial match against Epsom (won 4-1) and a first round draw against Stonyhurst, confidence was high.

A fabulous weather forecast, coupled with Royal St George's in excellent condition, meant spirits were excellent after the two practice rounds. The team was announced and, with the help of the first Hewitt Twitter page, communicated to the masses!

In truth, Stonyhurst didn't really test the team. A debut was given to Ed Kelly who partnered Toby Couzens in the third pair. They came up against the strongest Stonyhurst pair and, despite some good golf, lost their match 2 and 1. The other matches were won comfortably, and overall victory was recorded before 11am on the first morning of the Hewitt. I wonder whether this may be some sort of record.

We knew that the second-round match against Marlborough on Friday morning would be a tougher affair. There were no changes in personnel, but a slight change in order. The ever present top pair of Francis and Martin moved to fourth to help strengthen the lower order, while Couzens and Kelly took their place as first pair. Gillett and Hyde stayed at second pair, followed by Aubin and Elliot-Square, fresh from his first Hewitt point.

A tense match ensued with Marlborough taking an early lead in matches two and five with the others remaining relatively tight. Both the second and fifth pairs struggled around the greens and on too many occasions ended up handing easy holes to the opposition. Both pairs birdied the long 14th, but failed to mount the necessary comeback and were defeated 4 and 3. Aubin and Elliot-Square once again produced some good golf and were never troubled in their 6 and 5 victory. Two points out of two for the Dorset pair was a good effort and should help with the confidence for next year.

The top pair fought back to be only one down on the 15th tee after superb putts for a win and a half by Kelly on the preceding two holes. However, a classic foursomes moment followed as Couzens' drive just crept into the fairway bunker and the opposition missed the fairway by some 20 yards just to avoid any trouble. Sherborne struggled from here and lost the match with a disappointing three putts on the 16th green. The fourth pair were then left out on the course in control of their match going one up at the 15th. A half was duly agreed as the contest was over. Marlborough went on to the semi-finals leaving us to think, once again, what might have been.

The days after the Hewitt are always full of reflection as to what the team and the individuals concerned could have done better. Suffice to say everyone gave 100% and the feeling of disappointment and dejection within the team and its supporters shows just how much this very special tournament means to so many people. There is no easy answer as to how you get better at scratch foursomes. It is a great format that challenges both physical and mental ability more than any other within golf.

We just have to keep trying and every year work that little bit harder. There are signs of some new talent on the horizon and this will ensure competition for places is stronger than ever over the coming years.

No Hewitt report could be complete without a special mention to the supporters who turn out year after year to cheer on the team and to Charles Eglington for his continued support and for helping Stuart Gillett during his first year in charge. At least the weather was good, let us hope next year our golf can match it!

The results v Stonyhurst and Marlborough were: Rhys Francis and Clive Martin: won 7 and 5; halved; Stuart Gillett and Nick Hyde: won 5 and 4; lost 4 and 3; Toby Couzens and Ed Kelly: lost 2 and 1; lost 3 and 2; Nick Aubin and Ed Elliot-Square: won 5 and 3; won 6 and 5; James Chappell and Peter Martin: won 5 and 4; lost 4 and 3.

Reports by Nick Aubin, Philip Brown, Peter Flory and Stuart Gillett

SCHOOL CRICKET 2009

The season was very successful. Given that most of the squad played the previous year in a team that won only eight matches, the improvement both individually and collectively has been significant. This XI scored five centuries by four different players, while two boys took at least five wickets in an innings. If those were a measure of success, this team would be the best Sherborne has had for a long time.

Thirteen matches were won not just because of impressive individual century-makers and “five-for” wicket-taking performances, but because other individuals stepped up to add a match-winning contribution when needed. Every player contributed to a win at some stage during the season and sometimes more than one.

Will Peatfield won the captaincy from a very strong field and proved to be a good leader. The responsibility undoubtedly helped him to focus on his cricket, although he was well supported by his senior players. The highlight was his excellent 106 not out against Millfield; Sherborne were 54 for four in the twelfth over but Will batted with maturity and calmness, making shots all round the wicket, for the remaining 38 overs to help to post an eventual match-winning total of 249. He had worked very hard on his batting over the winter months and this paid huge dividends for him throughout the season. With the ball he was always a threat as a strike bowler and was unlucky not to take more wickets.

Jack Hamshaw-Thomas, as vice-captain, was voted as the players’ Player of the Season. He had a very important role and the captain always called on Jack to stem the flow of runs with his off spin. With an economy rate of less than four runs an

over, he was very efficient and helped to bowl out the Town with four for 23. The real improvement came from Jack's batting; he scored an excellent half-century against Marlborough and batted well in partnerships down the order, including 38 against Blundell's where he helped to push Sherborne to a match-winning total.

Theo Cooke started the season as an opening batsman, who bowled a bit, but his bowling was the revelation of the season; he was the leading wicket-taker with 33, including a brilliant five for 36 against Millfield. Theo joins Ben Lyons on the honours board in the pavilion by taking five wickets in an innings and scoring a century for the XI. His 129 not out against Cheltenham, where he carried his bat, secured the best "run chase" win for the XI for years, with the School hunting down 264 with two balls to spare.

Theo Grainzevelles joined the School from Canford and immediately fitted in. An attacking left-handed opener, he finished second in the aggregate runs list, among those runs being an excellent 107 against the Pilgrims. Theo was voted as Young Player of the Season and with two more years in the XI, I am sure he will have his name on the honours board again. Jimmy Crowson joined the School on an exchange programme from Diocesan College in Cape Town and made a big impact, scoring more than 700 runs and two brilliant centuries: a rapid 111 not out against Plymouth College in the National Twenty20 qualifiers in which his century came in the sixteenth over. He destroyed the Trinity G S, Sydney bowling attack after a slow start, going on to post 125. He had the ability to hit the ball to the boundary with great power and style. Jimmy bowled tight off spin and was an excellent fielder in any position.

There were notable contributions also from Will Marks, who finished the season with a bang by taking six for 27 against the Free Foresters, as did wicketkeeper Tom Gowan, whose 35 not out as the No 11 against Marlborough allowed for a partnership of 69 for the last wicket. Will Selfe will be a better player in 2010 but will always remember this season for his spectacular catch against King's Taunton that won him the "champagne moment" of the campaign. Ferg Taylor forced his way into the team after half-term and his aggressive 60 not out off 39 balls helped to see off the Pilgrims.

Finally, I would like to thank John Old and his team for their excellent work on the pitches and outfielders, and to Lucy Earls-Davis for the excellent lunches and teas. I would like to thank Alan Willows for all his hard work during the winter and throughout the season - his influence has been a major factor in this successful season of Sherborne cricket.

Cricket: Played 13: Won 9; Lost 4; Abandoned 4.

Twenty20: Played 6; Won 3; Lost 3.

*50 overs match, ** 40 overs, *+ 35 overs, + 30 overs

Apr 19	*Sherborne 171; Sherborne C C 111 (J A Hamshaw-Thomas 4-23)	Won by 60 runs
Apr 25	*Cheltenham 264-5 (C P J Wootton 122); Sherborne 265-5 (T S C Cooke 129 not out, T Grainzevelles 55, W A Peatfield 55)	Won by 5 wickets
Apr 30	*+ Sherborne; Bryanston	Abandoned - rain
May 2	* Sherborne 168 (J A J Crowson 78); King's Taunton 169-4	Lost by 6 wickets
May 9	* Marlborough 282-3 (H A C Pike 97, U Qureshi 64); Sherborne 173	Lost by 109 runs
May 14	*+ Sherborne; King's Bruton	Abandoned - rain
May 16	*Sherborne 249-9 (Peatfield 106 not out); Millfield 200 (Cooke 5-36)	Won by 49 runs
June 6	* Taunton 263-7 (W J G Marks 4-51); Sherborne 14-1	Abandoned - rain
June 13	*Sherborne 195; Blundell's 170	Won by 25 runs
June 20	* Canford 182-7 (B C W Upton 70, Cooke 4-34); Sherborne 125 (R C Triniman 4-37)	Lost by 57 runs
June 30	Sherborne 194-9 dec (Crowson 91, J R E Irving 4-77); Free Foresters 106 (Marks 6-27)	Won by 88 runs
July 1	* Sherborne 236-7 (Crowson 125); Trinity G S, Sydney 50	Won by 186 runs
July 2	MCC 268-3 dec (E R Kilbee 138); Sherborne 269-7 (Cooke 67, Grainzevelles 50)	Won by 3 wickets
July 4	*Sherborne 265-5 (Grainzevelles 107, F E Taylor 60); Sherborne Pilgrims 186	Won by 79 runs

July 6	Haileybury 134-4 dec Sherborne 13-1	Abandoned – rain
July 7	* Sherborne 201-9 (Grainzevelles 72, L J Watkins 4-35); Cheltenham 171-8	Won by 30 runs
July 8	* Sherborne 172 (W M Smibert 58); Marlborough 177-7 (Pike 59)	Lost by 3 wickets

National Twenty20 competition

Apr 26	Sherborne 155-4 (Crowson 89); Bryanston 94-5;	Won by 61 runs
	Sherborne 192-1 (Crowson 113); Plymouth 112-3	Won by 80 runs
	King's Taunton 168-4; Sherborne 117-5	Lost by 51 runs
June 16	Sherborne 157-7; Plymouth 124-4	Won by 33 runs
	Sherborne 124; Bradfield 126-3	Lost by 7 wickets

Other Twenty20 match

May 21	Canford 134-9; Sherborne 103	Lost by 31 runs
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Australia Cricket Tour 2009

On a cold and wet Friday evening in December, sixteen 1st and 2nd XI cricketers, accompanied by Rob Hill and Alan Willows, flew out of London on a two-week tour of Australia. First up was Sydney and Trinity Grammar School. The management team, who had been affectionately nicknamed “Hillows”, decided that to reduce the impact of jet-lag, the team must stay up all day on arrival.

The squad had a net practice in 30C heat and then took the train to the Harbour, enjoying the sights of the Harbour Bridge and the Opera House before having an early night. The first match was against our hosts, Trinity, who were also keen for revenge, having lost by 186 runs to us in July at Sherborne.

Trinity won the toss and elected to bat in stifling heat. Some rusty bowling saw Trinity off to a good start as they compiled 86 for the first wicket. Captain of the tour Will Selfe and Jonny Buck chipped in with wickets but Trinity posted 203 from 40 overs. Having lost Theo Grainzevelles early in the innings, Harry

Wildsmith (45) and Henry Cheal (50) batted well to take the score to 99-2 from 23 overs. George Atkins and Selfe kept the run chase in touch but unfortunately Sherborne lost wickets at regular intervals and finished 178 all out.

The next match against Trinity saw Sherborne bat first and having lost the top order cheaply, Peatfield and Atkins batted well to post 145 all out. Trinity knocked off the runs to win by six wickets, with Jack Lyons the pick of the bowlers.

The third game was against Cranbrook, who won the toss and batted on what looked like a pitch that would help the bowlers after some overnight rain and morning cloud cover. Buck and Selfe struggled to control the ball and afforded Cranbrook a good start. Sherborne dropped a couple of catches and missed a run out of a batsman who went on to get 116 not out. The sun came out, the pitch flattened and Sherborne were chasing leather, although the fielders showed great commitment and spirit.

Cranbrook finished on 311 for five from 50 overs. In reply, Sherborne were very positive and Wildsmith and Grainzevelles got off to a good start, putting on 69 for the first wicket off 13 overs, while Cheal and Peatfield then kept up with the run rate. The introduction of spin saw Cranbrook tighten their grip. Alex Pusinelli, Lyons and Hugo Gent rallied the innings at the end, but we fell 102 runs short.

The final match in Sydney, and the fourth match in five days, was against Newington. Newington won the toss and their batsmen really struggled against some excellent bowling from Buck, who finished with match figures of 10-4-14-2. Selfe took three wickets and Newington struggled to 161. Wildsmith played well against quick bowling; Cheal batted sensibly through the middle overs and was well supported. Sherborne won the match in the 42nd over.

The tour party flew up the New South Wales coast to Coolangatta, where Sherborne were hosted by Tweeds Head CC in Murwillumbah. It was decided to play two Twenty20 matches in a day. Tweeds won the toss and batted. Buck was the pick of the bowlers again as Tweeds finished with 121 for seven from 20 overs. Sherborne had heard the rumour that the Tweeds Head opening bowler was an Australian Schools International, just coming back from injury. Wildsmith was out to the first ball of the Sherborne innings, which didn't get the run chase off to the best of starts. Charlie Leach was the pick of the Sherborne batsmen as they struggled against some very good bowling and the innings ended in the 19th over.

Sherborne batted first in the second match. Leach top scored with 22, Wildsmith, Cheal and Atkins all chipped in to post 104 from 20 overs. Buck was again outstanding (three for 13 from four overs) and the fielding was excellent. Selfe bowled the last over with Tweeds needing seven to win; having conceded three

from his first five balls, the Tweeds batsman was run out off the last ball and Sherborne won their second match of the tour by three runs.

The two matches versus Southport School were a little mismatched. The Southport School team was a mixture of 1st/2nd and under-15 cricketers on a holiday course at the School. The first match was an afternoon Twenty20; Sherborne batted first and scored 123 all out in the 19th over. Wildsmith continued his good run of form and top scored with 34. Southport struggled against the accurate bowling of Selfe (4-2-3-2) but the star of the Sherborne bowling attack was Simon Walsh. Walsh's leg spin had been used sparingly on the trip thus far but his figures of 4-1-11-4 were outstanding. Southport collapsed to 54 all out and Sherborne had completed their third win of the tour with one match remaining.

The second match against Southport saw their side bolstered by a couple of old boys. Sherborne won the toss and batted in this 40-over game. Wildsmith (45) and Grainzevelles (44) put on 70 for the first wicket. Leach and Peatfield batted well together and this pushed the Sherborne total to a respectable 209 for six from 40 overs. Buck (6-3-10-1) and Selfe (6-1-11-1) soon squeezed the Southport innings with accurate bowling and wickets started to tumble, courtesy of Lyons and James Francis, who completed his hat-trick from the first ball of his third over to finish with 3-11 thanks to an excellent catch behind the stumps by Robbie Busher. Sherborne quickly mopped up the Southport tail and won by 162 runs as Southport collapsed again to 47 all out.

Four wins and four losses is a good return on tour, but the real benefit will be seen this summer when those players will come back and hopefully begin where they left off in Australia. Buck was the leading wicket-taker and outstanding bowler of the tour; Wildsmith was the top run scorer. Selfe as captain was outstanding as a leader both on and off the pitch, well supported by Grainzevelles. The banter and team morale were excellent, the discipline was exemplary and the cricket improved as the trip went on.

Rob Hill

Dec 7	** Trinity G S, Sydney 203-8; Sherborne 182 (H H O Cheal 50)	Lost by 21 runs
Dec 8	* Sherborne 145; Trinity G S, Sydney 146-4	Lost by 6 wickets
Dec 9	* Cranbrook 311-5 (D Lazarus 116 not out, M Clarke 66); Sherborne 209	Lost by 102 runs
Dec 10	* Newington 161; Sherborne 162-6	Won by 4 wickets

Dec 15 ** Sherborne 209-6, Southport 47 Won by 162 runs

Twenty20

Dec 13 Tweeds Head C C 121-7; Sherborne 102 Lost by 19 runs

Sherborne 104-8; Tweeds Head C C 101 Won by 3 runs

Dec 14 Sherborne 123; Southport 54 (S G A Walsh 4-11) Won by 69 runs

SCHOOL CRICKET FIXTURES 2010

Sun	Apr	18	Sherborne C C	Mon	June	14	St Peter's Australia
Sat	Apr	24	King's Bruton (a)	Sat	June	19	Canford (a)
Thu	Apr	29	Bryanston	Sat	June	26	Taunton
Sat	May	1	King's Taunton (a)	Mon	June	28	Clifton (a)
Sat	May	8	Cheltenham	Tue	June	29	Free Foresters
Sat	May	15	Millfield	Wed	June	30	M C C
Sat	May	22	Marlborough	Thu	July	1	Hilton College, S A
Thu	May	27	Canford*	Sat	July	3	Sherborne Pilgrims
Sat	June	12	Blundell's (a)				* Twenty 20

SCHOOL RUGBY 2009

Played 13: Won8; Lost 4; Drawn 1

Abingdon	Won	31 - 15	Cheltenham	Won	19 - 13
Pilgrims Under-19s	Won	25 - 5	Marlborough	Won	31 - 3
Bishop Wordsworth's	Won	17 - 9	Bryanston	Lost	7 - 13
Radley	Lost	35 - 36	Canford	Won	14 - 12
Wellington	Lost	7 - 32	Blundell's	Drawn	12 - 12
Tauranga, NZ	Lost	22 - 24	King's Taunton	Won	20 - 13
Clifton	Won	17 - 0			

Rugby has gone from strength to strength in the past two years and the 2009 season saw further improvements at all levels. The players have enthusiastically embraced the strength and conditioning programmes implemented for each age group, skilled and qualified coaches have been recruited and this is being reflected in the dominance over schools once considered to be on a par with Sherborne. Indeed, almost 80 per cent of matches played against schools of the calibre of Cheltenham, Marlborough, Clifton, Bishop Wordsworth's, Canford, Bryanston and King's Taunton have resulted in victories.

The XV repeated the dominance of the 2008 vintage and restored Sherborne's reputation on the schools circuit as a team to be feared. Excellent victories were recorded against Abingdon and the Pilgrims Under-19s in the pre-season programme, which acted as a springboard for further success against Bishop Wordsworth's, Clifton, Cheltenham, Marlborough, Canford and King's Taunton, with a 12-12 draw in a quagmire at Blundell's the one blot on an otherwise rosy landscape. Special mention must go to one of the most dramatic schoolboy matches ever witnessed at Radley as Sherborne, arriving very late for the fixture, soon found themselves 0-12 down after five minutes and still warming up under the posts as the conversion sailed over. The team then proceeded to rack up 35 unanswered points to lead 35-12 with 12 minutes remaining. Alas, with a Sherborne player sent to the sin-bin for a minor offence, Radley threw caution to the wind and somehow managed to win the match 36-35 with the last kick of the game. This was a remarkable match to which words cannot do justice.

Ed Scott-Bowden captained the side from the front, proving a powerful and destructive player with ball in hand. Finlay Maclaren, Fergus Taylor, Alex Cochrane-Dyett and Oliver Farrer were all returning forwards from the 2008 season and this experience allowed them to dominate opposing packs. Tom Carr, in the second row, and Ameer Rashed, at tight-head prop, were the unsung heroes, playing with great heart and consistency during the entire campaign. It was fitting that they both received their colours at the end of the season.

Behind the scrum, the No 9 duties were shared between Piers Jackson, who proved a highly skilled technician, and Will Selfe, who came on very strongly after half-term with some excellent running and strong defensive qualities. Oli Mottram once again proved the linchpin in the team. He made numerous breaks during the season, had a real eye for the tryline and his reliable kicking for goal made a huge difference in the tight matches. In the centre, Harry Wildsmith and Jack Nott-Bower were a real handful for opposition defences with their size, while the cutting edge was provided by two quick and powerful flying wings in George Day-Robinson and Hugh Carrow. Lastly, it was great to see Max Allen breaking into the XV at full back. Always reliable under the high ball, he had a deadly side-step in attack.

Down the School there has been quality. The 2nd XV, comprising a high number of Lower Sixth formers, won the vast majority of its matches and will have been an excellent breeding ground for XV players next season under the astute tutelage of Mike Davis. It is also good to see the 5th XV being able to field such a strong team, with many boys contributing to the cause. The Under-15s lost a thrilling match 7-10 against a much vaunted Wellington team in the last 16 of the national Daily Mail competition on the back of a fine season with numerous wins. Fly-half

David Buck and centre Freddie Wright both made the Bath junior academy squad and contributed hugely to this promising team.

Gavin Moffat

SCHOOL RUGBY FIXTURES 2010

Sat	Sept	11	Wellington (a)	Sat	Nov	6	Marlborough (a)
Sat	Sept	18	Radley	Sat	Nov	13	Bryanston (a)
Sat	Oct	2	B. Wordsworth's (a)	Thu	Nov	18	Canford
Sat	Oct	9	Clifton	Sat	Nov	27	Blundell's
Sat	Oct	16	Cheltenham (a)	Wed	Dec	4	King's Taunton

SCHOOL HOCKEY 2010

Played 17; Won 10; Drawn 2; Lost 5

King's Bruton	Won	4	-	1	Sherborne Pilgrims	Won	4	-	3
Taunton	Drawn	2	-	2	Clayesmore	Won	12	-	1
Canford	Lost	2	-	5	Marlborough	Won	6	-	2
Clayesmore *	Won	12	-	2	King Edward's Bath	Won	2	-	0
Canford *	Lost	1	-	5	Prior Park	Drawn	3	-	3
King's Taunton	Won	6	-	1	Bath Festival				
Bryanston	Won	6	-	3	Worksop	Won	6	-	2
Millfield	Won	5	-	2	Methodist, Belfast	Lost	2	-	5
Clifton	Lost	2	-	3	St. David, Jo'burg	Lost	1	-	5

*County Cup

This season has proved to be very successful with the School's teams winning 65 of the matches played. The 2nd and 3rd XIs lost one match each and finished with a healthy goal difference. The future looks very good at the lower levels with the Mini Colts A regaining the Dorset Cup.

The 1st XI played an exciting and attacking game, scoring 76 goals in 17 matches. Will Selfe, the Captain and in his fourth year in the side, was the outstanding player. He led by example, and his attitude to training and match play was faultless. He demanded high standards and the team produced them, with excellent wins over Bryanston, King's Taunton, Millfield and Marlborough being the highlights of the season. A brilliant performance at the Bath Festival against Worksop (who finished third in the Nationals last year) showed the team's class.

Ed Matts scored 16 goals during the season and was a constant threat to every side we played. He was missed for the last two matches at the Festival but thoroughly deserved his England Under 16 cap. George Ellwood and John Montgomery will be hugely influential next year after another excellent season from both. Ed Bonnell and Will Mogoseanu had central roles on the pitch and made the difference between winning and losing the tight matches. Josh Lee was voted as the most improved player.

I am excited about the future of hockey at the School and am already looking forward to next year.

Rob Hill

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
					F	A
1st XI	17	10	2	5	76	46
2nd XI	11	9	1	1	45	6
3rd XI	8	7	-	1	38	7
4th XI	5	3	-	2	29	9
Colts A	9	2	1	6	16	27
Colts B	4	1	-	3	8	8
Junior Colts A	10	3	1	6	24	26
Junior Colts B	11	5	1	5	34	35
Junior Colts C	3	1	1	1	6	7
Mini Colts A	14	9	2	3	46	26
Mini Colts B	12	8	2	2	33	12
Mini Colts C	10	6	1	3	35	24
Mini Colts D	4	1	-	3	2	18
Total	118	65	12	41	392	251

**SHERBORNE PILGRIMS CLUB
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31 2010**

General Fund	2010		2009	
	£	£	£	£
<i>Income:</i>				
Subscriptions	1,589		2,312	
Donations	2,438		2,393	
Bank interest	634		1,246	
		4,661		5,951
<i>Expenditure:</i>				
Audit	100		100	
Postage, secretarial and website	1,089		991	
Cricket	792		2,211	
Cross Country	-		-	
Hockey	30		382	
Rugby	260		500	
Squash	130		-	
		(2,401)		(4,184)
Surplus for the year		2,260		1,767
General Fund at April 1		35,446		33,679
Surplus for the year		2,260		1,767
General Fund at March 31		37,706		35,446

BALANCE SHEET AT MARCH 31 2010

	2010	2009
	£	£
Cash at bank	37,706	35,446
Represented by:		
General Fund	37,706	35,446

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 2010 and Balance Sheet at that date are in accordance with this information.

J D V Wheatley, 300 E56 Street, Apt 4D, New York, NY10022 USA

April 12 2010

THE SHERBORNE PILGRIMS COMMITTEE

2010

PRESIDENT

H C K Archer

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

P J Lough

VICE-PRESIDENTS

A D Leakey and E D Fursdon

TRUSTEES

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

COMMITTEE

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

Retiring 2011

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

Retiring 2012

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

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

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robert.hands@thetimes.co.uk

CLUB ARCHIVIST

C R J Eglington
020 8946 3863 (H)
charles.eglington@blueyonder.co.uk

Club colours can be obtained from the OSS Office, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3AP.
Tel. 01935 810558 oss@sherborne.org

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
2006-09 P J Lough
2009- H C K Archer

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
1959-67 C R Hopwood
1959-99 J A Tallent, CBE, TD
1959-86 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 H E 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
2003-09 H C K Archer
2006- A D Leakey
2009- E D Fursdon

HON SECRETARIES

(and up to 1966, Hon Treasurer)

1923-35 N H E 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

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.

