



## End of Season at West Ilsley Cricket Club

What a season it has been so far, as reported previously after a lot of exceptionally hard work we were awarded the ECB Clubmark- this is an achievement we are very proud of particularly as there are only 17 such clubs in Berkshire.



Led from the front the 2009 is proved a successful season for the club with both senior teams playing in the Oxfordshire Cricket Association (OCA). The 1st eleven finishing in sixth position of Division 3 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> eleven coming fourth in Division 7. These results were especially pleasing as there are a number of younger players from our regular coaching sessions now making the teams. Our future looks in good hands. The mid week team is held its own in the Charles Hoile Downlands League Division 1 and finished in fourth place.

Our Sunday, Ladies and Youth teams managed some mixed results, with the under 11's reaching the quarter finals of the Berkshire County League Cup, but most importantly enjoying themselves actively encouraged by our band of coaches and team managers.

There were strong individual performances with Amit Rawal finishing in sixth position for the 1<sup>st</sup> eleven in the OCA batting table averaging 63.4 runs per match, George Storton scored his maiden century of 117 not out in his first senior season. Other centuries were scored by Hugh Evans and our club captain Russell Jefferies.

Our youth set up continues to go from strength to strength under the guidance of Tony Scriven and his team of coaches and team managers. We are the envy of many larger clubs and it bodes well for the future. Notable achievements include Adam Barnes who has been selected for the Berkshire under 10 squad and Tom Scriven who has again been selected to represent Berkshire in both the under 10 and 11 teams. Tom who has now topped 1000 runs in his first three seasons representing Berkshire. This year he has scored 571 for the County at an average of 114.2 and achieved a record U10 Berks county score of 180 not out v Gwent, then received a Lords Taverners certificate for his 117 not out v Bucks. More importantly he topped the Berkshire county batting averages for ALL age groups. WELL DONE.



In August we had the honour of being selected to host one of the OCA cup finals – the Steve Dixon Memorial Cup. Our ground staff put in an incredible amount of work preparing the ground for the day. It looked magnificent. The match attracted a large crowd and we were graced with coverage by Sky Sports. Brief highlights of the match were shown during the lunch break of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ashes Test Match.



Our practice, youth training & matches plus social evenings continue to attract large crowds who enjoyed some great weather we have on what must be one of the prettiest grounds in Berkshire and Oxfordshire. We now know that is so as we were just voted the 5<sup>th</sup> best ground in the OCA, that is a real honour as we were only topped by clubs with professional grounds men.

The club is in need of scorers and umpires, a vital and enjoyable role. This is an enjoyable task with the best “seat” on the ground. No experience is necessary for either role and a wide range of training is available if required. If you fancy the chance of either these very rewarding tasks, please contact any club member or discuss this with one of our Umpires and let their enthusiasm rub off on you. The club currently has three umpires who between them stood in a total of 80 matches for the year and two of which finished second and third in the OCA captains assessments list for the season. These matches varied from our Sunday league, the OCA, Thames Valley League, OCA Cup, Berks Cups, Berks Youth County, England Women's Development Team and Army matches including the prestigious Gunner V Sappers 3 day match.

Please look at our web site [www.westilsleycricket.net](http://www.westilsleycricket.net) for further information, calendar, results, statistics etc.

JG, West Ilsley Cricket Club

