



Pic: Pete Wilson

Winged tribute to Peggy Fisher

As Peggy Fisher sat waiting for the flypast of a Hawker Hurricane over her Northwood Green home, to mark her 100th birthday, the news came through that the flight had to be called off owing to severe crosswinds. The large, expectant crowd who had gathered to watch slowly dispersed, hoping that kinder weather would permit another attempt. As we mentioned last month, Peggy had worked on Hurricanes at the Gloster Aircraft Company during the war, and it was thought that the aircraft would have been one that she worked on. The news came through that another attempt would be made on July 11th but sadly Peggy passed away in the intervening

period. Nevertheless the flight went ahead in her memory, and on a sunny Saturday



Peggy's coffin arriving at church on July 21st

with only light cloud, the reassembled gathering looked skywards as the first unmistakable note of the 12 cylinder, 27 litre Rolls Royce Merlin engine was heard in the distance. It slowly resolved itself from a small dot into one of the second world war's most successful fighter planes, making several low passes over the eager throng below, before the pilot waggled the wings and flew off back to Duxford, via Staverton. A fitting, if belated, tribute to a lady who contributed to the defence of the realm, and so much more besides.

Parish Council

Westbury Parish Council 'Zoom-ed' again for the July meeting and hardly a technical problem was to be seen! After the formalities, we started on the planning applications. The first was for extensions to a house in Stantway Lane, which raised some concerns as to the effect on the house next door. As there had been no objections raised by neighbours and the planning officers would be examining any features that might adversely affect them, it was agreed that we would not object to the application. There were also no objections to the application for the conversion of a stable to an annexe extension in Elton Lane or the temporary siting of a sign and sales suite structure in the car park adjoining the White Hart Inn at Broadoak. The application for Listed Building Consent to erect a single story rear extension at Bays Court in Bollow also raised no objections. Fiona then updated us on the application for an agricultural building in Bury Court Road which had been granted. The Parish Council had been asked to comment on an appeal against the FoDDC's enforce-

ment action regarding land at Bosley Court and agreed to support the District Council, as the appellant had failed to follow the correct planning process.

Enforcement action has also been instigated with respect to a travellers' site opposite the Severn Bore Inn. No planning application had been received but by the time the Planning Officer was able to serve a Stop Notice, mains services had been installed, with traffic on the A48 reduced to a single lane near a dangerous bend so that this could be done. An injunction has now been obtained with court action due at the end of this month. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mark Harper MP asking why utilities companies do not require proof of planning consent before connecting green field sites to water, electricity and mains drainage.

Meetings of the District Council's forward planning group have been disrupted by the coronavirus and so there has been no decision as yet regarding the proposed eco-village. Chairman Simon Phelps is hopeful that his fellow district councillors may be coming round to the idea that the housing shortage is best addressed by small developments throughout the area rather than one huge development, such as was proposed. He has spoken to various local landowners so that, as a parish, we have been able to propose our fair share of small sites for housing.

Finance The Parish Council's accounts had been audited by the Internal Auditor and were ready and signed for the External Auditor.

Highways The aim to get more people walking and cycling is clearly a good one but cycling along the A48 is not a tempting proposition. Last month the idea of a cycle lane between Newnham and Gloucester was raised but Brian Robinson felt that there was little likelihood of

there being enough funds for this but that there is a greater possibility of a cycle lane between the A48 junction with Blaisdon Road and the Parish Hall, although there are a couple of pinch points along the way which complicate things rather. Brian had joined us by this time and made the point that in the Forest area priority would be given to shorter routes e.g from Berry Hill to Coleford, as there is some scepticism about how much motor traffic would be reduced by the provision of a cycle lane into Gloucester. Mention was made of the excellent job that had been done clearing the footpath between the Broadoak and Jordan Hill railway bridges but the path up Wintles Hill has not yet been tackled and is very overgrown as far as Goose Lane. Numerous drains all along the A48, including through the village, seem to be blocked, so this was also reported.

Another A48 issue was raised recently regarding the dangers of emerging onto the main road from houses along Wintles Hill, with traffic coming round the bend from the village at quite a speed. Extending the 30mph limit was suggested but Brian Robinson was doubtful that this could be done as there are national criteria for 30mph speed limits and previous requests to extend the limit at the other end of the village have been unsuccessful. However, he will raise the matter with Highways. Apparently less traffic during the pandemic has led to higher speeds which is an added challenge at the moment.

Burial Ground Simon Phelps and I had met with Mr and Mrs Lewis, from the adjoining property, and discussed the removal of the 'second' hedge which has grown up on the burial ground side of the fence and which tends to spread over the cremation graves alongside. They had no objections to this and we agreed to form

a working party to do this work ourselves. The original hedge will be left in place as a screen between the house and the burial ground. Simon has also been busy cutting the grass in the lower field and, together with Peter Radley, will be tidying up the edges. An application has been received for the siting of a memorial bench in the burial ground and this was agreed with the usual conditions.

Burial Ground extension The next step in this process is to reach an agreement as to the rent payable by the County Council for the area required by the school, and a professional evaluation is to be obtained as a basis for this discussion.

Ley Park Woods As many of you will know, Ley Park Woods are currently being sold as individual plots, which has caused some concern about the various plans of the purchasers. Mike Townsend had met with one owner who is clearly a keen conservationist and who told him about the good things that are happening as far as creating and maintaining wildlife habitats, putting up dormouse, bird and bat boxes, and re-establishing the oak/ash/hazel rotation is concerned.



Ley Park Woods

However, it was later noticed that a building had been erected on another plot, and although this is in Blaisdon

parish, it has been reported to the Planning Officer. There are also concerns about safety in the woods, where shooting, public footpaths and families with children all seem to be rather too close to each for comfort. There have also been signs that fires have been lit on the woodland floor which in a dry spell could be disastrous. Forestry England are to be consulted and our concerns reported to the Ley Woods Manager and the public Rights of Way team.

Other matters There appears to be sewage running down Rock and Fountain Lane – the smell being the main giveaway! Calls to the Environment Agency and the District Council had achieved nothing. A leaking sewage pipe was causing problems nearby a while back, and it seems possible that when this was repaired, it just moved the problem to a different place. So Simon has been in touch with the District Council and has got a more senior officer to investigate the source of the problem.

So, on that sweet smelling note, the meeting ended. Our next meeting – unless there is anything urgent to discuss in August – will be on Monday 21st September at 7pm. *Di Landon*



We live in strange and uncertain times, exemplified in part by subtle shifts in the meaning of familiar words. Zoom, for example no longer just means the noise a motorbike makes scorching up Wintles Hill, it now conjures up a gallery of faces on a screen, glancing up, down and sideways, waiting for a chance to speak, interrupting, or in some cases, resigned to being unheard. However, such is the expert touch of Jan D’Ambrogio who chairs the virtual meeting of the Parish Hall Management Committee, that the monthly business was dispatched quickly and efficiently. She is keeping up to date with the bulletins from Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) which seem to be saying what every other agency is saying at present, that we live in strange and uncertain times, and it is difficult to plan.

However, amidst the uncertainty, Nikki Edginton was able to confirm a cricket match at the Hall on July 25th. The league, she explained, had arranged ‘pods’ of local teams to minimise travelling. The Hall, of course, would remain firmly closed, and spectators would be expected to observe social distancing regulations. The players would arrive in their whites and leave in their less than whites, as the changing rooms would be closed. Toilet and washing facilities would, however, be available. In keeping with the usual cricket club efficiency, the rules of behaviour would be posted up,

**Westbury-on-Severn Parish Church
Friends
100 CLUB**

JULY 2020 DRAW RESULTS

1st: 30 Marylyn Nelson £50
2nd: 81 Ann Manning £20
3rd: 98 Julie Hewlett £10

If you would like a chance of winning in our quarterly draw, please contact: Frances Down (760270).

The next draw is in October.

There are numbers available for new subscribers.

Cost: £12 for the year.

including a request for everyone's contact details. Cans of drink would be available for sale at close of play.

Jan welcomed the return of sport at the Hall and hoped the rain wouldn't spoil the party. Clive Tempest commented that at Aston Ingham he had observed crowds of hundreds, although whether this was watching cricket or to watch him playing tennis was not made clear.

Jan confirmed that there had been no outside bookings for August, although some had been received for September, and also an enquiry about a wedding in September. She added that warm air hand driers had been identified as a risk, so paper towels would be provided, and the blowers taped off. Jan reaffirmed that the Hall remains shut for all indoor activity until further notice.

Odds and Ends

Val Morgan-Townsend pointed out that on reopening, a screen would be required for the protection of bar staff. Jan agreed. Treasurer Sarah Mitten gave details of the Hall's finances, which, despite the lack of revenue, are healthy.

Di Landon advised that the play area was back in use, with users being asked to disinfect equipment used by their children. Gen Riley noted that we need to consider necessary signage.

Tim Smith asked that we donate the Hall laptop to a charity supporting disadvantaged children.

Mike Edginton confirmed that Westbury Players would not be putting on a Spring production, and the future of the pantomime was under review.

At this point the screen seemed to erupt, but it was only Clive Tempest sneezing, and Jan took the opportunity of closing the meeting. *Ed*

It's a funny old world—a man's lucky if he gets out of it alive

Pete Wilson

For some years now WoSP has been indebted to Pete Wilson for stunning pictures of local events, the latest being his photo of the Hawker Hurricane over Northwood Green (p1) On his retirement from BBC Radio Gloucestershire, we thought it an appropriate moment to acknowledge the considerable contribution to the life of Westbury-on-Severn of this thoroughly local, unfailingly good-humoured, kind and generous man.

Pete was born in the middle of Westbury at Granny Taylor's house near what was the Post Office. He says his mother's waters broke in the two seater toilet at the end of the garden and he could have been "down the pan there and then." His mum was one of ten children and her family from Coaley were too poor to be able to keep them all and so she was brought up by Granny Taylor, her aunty. Pete remembers that Grampy Taylor drove a "proper" steam roller.

They moved to 13 Stantway Lane (where Pete's brother still lives) soon after he was born and Pete went to Walmore Hill School and then on to Abenhall Secondary Modern School. He had passed the 11+ but had begged his mum not to send him to East Dean Grammar School because they called each other by their surnames there and played Rugby, which was not for him.

Instead, he played for the Abenhall junior football team on the first Saturday after he started there and went on to play for the Senior team, became captain of his house team (Edge) and played for The Forest of Dean Schools Team. He played his first game for the Westbury Men's team at the age of 12 and carried on playing for over thirty years, captain-

ing both the first and second teams. He also played cricket, firstly for Grange Court and then, many years later, joining Westbury. He says he stopped playing “when the ball was hitting me more than I was hitting the ball” and, instead, he now takes around 10,000 photos a year of Westbury cricket matches – whether it be the Firsts, Seconds, Mid Week, Ladies or Youngsters.

In 1965, he started work at British Nylon Spinners as a Junior Process Trainee. At Abenhall, he had had to take the very first year of CSE’s and although he got 9, none were the grade 1 ‘O’ Level equivalents. However, when he took voluntary redundancy in 2006 after 41 years at BNS, ICI, Dupont & Invista, he found that to get the job he had been doing, you would now need a first class honours degree and 5 year’s experience. So he felt that this was “not bad for a boy with no qualifications coming from a rural village.”

BBC Radio Gloucestershire opened in 1988 and Pete’s wife, Sue was employed there as a receptionist. Pete’s debut with them was on Dec 3rd that year, when he was taken to the Playhouse Theatre in Cheltenham with Nick Herbert and Lucy Longhurst, where he was to learn to sing ‘Younger than Springtime’. He says “it was awful.” When Nick left to go to LBC, Lucy took over the weekends and every Sunday Pete went out in his car to phone in from a phone box somewhere in the county. It was called “Fun in a Phone Box”, and listeners had to work out where he was from his descriptions of

what he could see. Twenty to thirty cars would turn up every Sunday but he never found out how many went to the wrong place.

In 1991, he drove the station manager to Twickenham for the Rugby World Cup Final and interviewed loads of rugby celebs before watching the match. He remembers interviewing Mike Burton in his car in the middle of Twickenham High Road.

After a short time as a receptionist, Sue started presenting the request show, with

Pete answering the phones for her, but he also worked on the sports side, reporting on football, rugby, cricket, racing and swimming. He twice broadcast live on-pitch from Wembley for the Cheltenham & Forest Green FA Trophy finals and also from Lords for Frocoster’s Village Knock-out final.

Sue and Pete were then asked to present Saturday and Sunday morn-

ings together, which they did for quite a few years, with Pete out in the radio car while Sue was “driving” the desk and presenting. Rachael Clapton and her husband Glyn were their contributors out in the radio car and they claim the record (for competitions etc) with 525 calls taken by two people in 3 hours. Sue went on to present other shows while Pete took over Saturdays and Sundays as presenter in the studio. This went on till he started the past 15 - 16 years of documentaries, although it was Sue’s documentaries from many years ago that gave Mark Hurrell (Station Manager) the idea. Pete’s programme was called “Wilson’s



Pic: Brian Evans

Wanderings” until the BBC stopped allowing programme titles.

Particularly memorable was an outside broadcast from the Mansion House in London which ended with meeting Mark Cummings at the end of his Dick Whittington Walk from Pauntley to London. Pete also remembers how Children in Need was always fun with extra phone lines put in and 15 people answering phones all day and night. One year Pete took the last pledge at 4am just as the breakfast newsreader was coming in.

On hearing the news of Princess Diana’s death, Pete and Sue both rushed into the Radio Station to see if they could help. Sue went to Avening to interview hairdresser, Peter Hickman, a friend of Princess Diana while Pete went to the Bishop’s Palace to interview the Bishop of Gloucester.

Pete was selected as the Mock Mayor of Barton in 2013, a job which consisted of taking the mickey out of the Right Worshipful Mayor of Gloucester who, during Pete’s time was Chris Chatterton (who now lives in Australia). Pete remembers him as being amazing and them having lots of fun.

By the time Pete ended his radio career on 28th June, he had made 750 programmes in the current documentary series. When Mark Hurrell had first asked him to do them he said it would be a series of around 20 programmes. Pete has kept CD copies of all of them. He has no clear favourite but a few stand out in his mind. The very first programme was broadcast on 11th September 2005 and was about the Churchdown Male Voice Choir’s Tour to Tewkesbury’s Twin Town of Miesbach in Bavaria. Pete wasn’t actually actively singing then but he and Sue had been elected as Vice Presidents. He then started singing with the Choir in January 2007 and is still doing

so now and actually sang in a Concert at the Parish Hall a few years ago. Pete recalls a great response to a programme he made in 2006 about East Dean Grammar School, when he had found a very rare and old recording of the School Song “Tall and Strong is our Forest Tree.”

Pete loves horse racing and he and Sue are members of the Martin Keighley Racing Club where they have up to four horses in training at any one time and Sue is in a twenty person syndicate which owns a horse called Black Prince. This love of racing led to Pete making a programme about Cheltenham Racecourse every year for the past 10 years. He started with Edward Gillespie, who was the Managing Director (and is now Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire), and has since featured jockeys, trainers, ground staff, fence builders and the current CEO, Ian Renton (who’s grandfather Bobby Renton Trained Freebooter to win The Grand National in 1950)

His last contribution on BBC Radio Gloucestershire after 32 years was on 28th June, and contained a couple of short extracts from a programme from a few years back, with Jerry Green the Head Gardener at Westbury Court Gardens. Jerry was brilliant and Pete was determined that his home village had to be his last official contribution.

Parish Churches Re-opened

I am delighted to announce that all four of our Parish Churches are now open for individual prayer. Visitors are very welcome to sit quietly and pray, keeping social distance from members of other households. Please observe protocols detailed on notices at each church. The arrangements are as follows-

Blaisdon – Daily, am and pm;

Flaxley – Sun 10-2 approx; Wed 2-6

Minsterworth – Daily, am and pm;
Westbury – Sunday, 10-4 approx;
NWG church may also be opened on
Sundays, 10-4 approx.

Worship has also begun in our churches,
though the pattern of services is rather
simplified. It is hoped that the pattern
will be more normal in September.

All these arrangements are subject to
further change as circumstances de-
velop, and have been established by the
efforts of wardens and PCC in each par-
ish, to whom my sincere thanks are due.
If anyone has any questions about these
arrangements, please contact me or your
wardens. *Rev. Steve. 760756 stevewill-
stay@gmail.com*

Churchyard Working Parties

Saturday 11th July saw the reas-
sembly of the Churchyard Work-
ing Party, and there was certainly
no shortage of work for us. Brambles,
nettles and elder bushes have obviously
been rejoicing in our absence but, by
the end of the morning, many of them
were consigned to Simon Phelps's
trailer. The churchyard path was a
patchwork of weeds but Reverend Steve
spent the morning on his knees dealing
with them, although it's going to be a
long job. We worked in different parts
of the churchyard and so were easily
able to observe social distancing, and
we all took our own refreshments and
had them outside rather than gathering
inside the church as would normally
have done.

The next session will be on Saturday 8th
August from 10am until 1pm. If the
weather is wet, we will meet instead on
the following Saturday 15th August. We
would welcome more volunteers and
would ask them to bring their own fa-
vourite tools and their own refresh-
ments.

Di Landon

Westbury-on-Severn

Coronavirus Helpline

During the lockdown, the West-
bury Parish Coronavirus
helpline has been linking those
who had been advised to stay at home
with a wonderful band of volunteers,
who have been collecting prescriptions,
doing shopping or taking people to
medical appointments. Since we started
on 23rd March, around fifty residents
have been assisted on many occasions
and in various ways.

However, now that the lockdown has
been eased and Westbury Surgery has
re-opened for prescriptions, we are no
longer getting requests for help. This is
just as well as many of our volunteers
have returned to work and so we have
now decided to end this service. We will
be keeping a close eye on the coronavi-
rus infection rate in case there are signs
of a 'second wave' in which case we
will be able to reinstate the line without
delay. We have contacted those who
have used this service to explain that the
phone number 01452 229570 will now
return to being the Parish Hall number
only and will not be manned every day.
I would also like to remind residents
that the charity Lydcare can provide
transport which can be really useful for
those unable to get to appointments. The
drivers are volunteers and the charge is
50p per mile, which is calculated from
the driver's home and back. Their num-
ber is 01594 544414.

A big thank you from our community to
all those who so quickly volunteered
their time when this all started and who
have made such a difference to those
who have had to remain in their homes.

*No matter how useless a man is, his
friendship is worth more than his
hatred*



The Wind in the Willows

(Zooming in)

No mere global pandemic was going to stifle the creative urge of David Crunkhurn, his enthusiastic staff and his talented charges at Westbury Primary School. Realising that no public performance was possible, they harnessed the power of the internet to put on a lively and very different version of Kenneth Grahame's classic using the now familiar medium of Zoom. Despite the lack of an audience, the cast displayed their customary enthusiasm and singing and acting talents, and were in no way diminished by appearing on a small screen (at least in our house). It was encouraging to see how technology, so familiar to their generation, is deployed not simply to exploit them by the gaming companies, but can be bent to a higher purpose.

Thank you!

Jan D'Ambrogio would like to say a huge thank you to all who took her up on her offer of a cream tea (as we did, it was delicious). She tells us that as a result she has raised £145 for the Great Oaks Hospice, and hopes that everyone enjoyed the teas as much as she did preparing them.

The Cast

Rat Amber Fransham
Mole Lottie Loveridge
Badger Honey Griffiths
Toad Ella Jones
Washerwoman/Bargewoman/Girl
 Elise Pearson
Engine Driver Jack Lewis
Narrators
 Poppy Jones
 Millie Trigg
 Lincoln Skidmore
 Ewan Dean
Chief Weasel Callum Dean

Mice Carol Singers
 Issie Brown
 Izzy Waite
 Ella Jones
 Abbie Swale
 Joshua Thomson
 Flora Loveridge

Next Term

During the summer holiday we will be completely changing the landscape of the school and reorganising learning spaces so that all our amazing children will be able to return to fresh and exciting learning, in new and improved locations. We now just need to hope that we can all return together, on time, in September!

As you know, it has always been my joy and delight to serve the families of our Westbury community and surrounding villages and parishes, and the staff and I look forward to welcoming not only our new reception children, but pre-schoolers at the same time in September!

David Crunkhurn

Westbury Sport Cricket

By Mark Landon

*Kingsholm XI 100-6 vs Westbury
Midweek XI 98 all out*

Westbury emerged tentatively from a trying period for chairman Ian Dunn and the cricket club committee, and especially Fran Stirrup who had been studiously pouring over reams of ECB advice, rules and recommendations in order to get cricket back on track, and travelled to Kingsholm to get the season started.

A gentle 20/20 match was in order to start the season and blow off a few cobwebs but for Charlie Gayther, there was nothing gentle about matters as Kingsholm chased down Westbury's modest total by launching into his bowling and plundering 34 runs from one over. For non cricketers, that's a bowlers equivalent of having a filing and then the dentist says he's going to have to go in and have another go - 5 times. On the plus side, this clearly showed a consistent line and length, albeit one that unfortunately led straight onto the middle of the bat of the oppo.

Lydney XI 209-6 vs Westbury 1st XI 203-9

This was the first full on 45 over match of the season and it proved to be an exhilarating one. To add to the fun, it was also the first chance to witness a club wrestling with the new social distancing rules whilst running a game and a bar at the same time. The results could be said to be mixed but significantly closer to ideal than the football club next door who seemed to be having a whale of a time despite there being no evidence of any football being played nor any on TV. On the pitch, Westbury were fielding when your correspondent belatedly ar-

rived and managed to navigate the one way system leading the bar via a signing in sheet that contained some not altogether convincing names and personal details.

Lydney were progressing at a steady rate with Jim Walkley Cox and debutant Jack Weaving opening the bowling. Cox was as miserly as ever and Weaving, recently arrived from Ruardean Hill CC, generated some pace off a very smooth run in and looks a fine prospect.

The spin department was manned by Ted Edginton and Jacob Brown, taller and more angular than ever - this could well be the tallest spin attack in Westbury history and with Weaving and young Alex Wyman in action we could have our shortest pace attack as well which should play havoc with the oppositions sense of distance.

Skipper Greg Artus, sporting a headband in light of the new anti-sweat rules (I may struggle with that one) bowled off a short run but still managed to snaffle a couple of wickets including a fine stumping by James Down, a welcome returnee. In fact we have so many returnees at the moment that Moses may be required to organise them - good news for the selectors !

Anyway, Lydney racked up a modest total of 209 in their overs, special mention should go to Charlie Gather for an excellent catch - I didn't see it but he ended up sprawled on the floor and that's good enough for me.

In reply, Alex Wyman (21) and Ian Dunn (38) set up the chase circumspectly but soon Wyman was moving through the gears and was just getting into his stride when he was cruelly adjudged run out despite being clearly in his ground. The "new normal" still includes dodgy umpiring decisions it seems.

Another debutant, Alex Gray (7), played

some elegant shots for little reward before a lofted drive was caught at mid off. Artus (25) and Down (13) lifted the run rate with some crisp hitting. However as the game seemed to be slipping, enter young Gayther who put his midweek trauma behind him and set about the bowling with an array of flourishing drives and brutal pull shots, one threatening the safety of the spectators such was its savagery. He raced to 42 in 27 balls before being adjudged LBW.

From there the chase became a bit more awkward although Dan Jarvis (8) and Jack Weaving (16) kept going. In the end it came down to 6 required to tie the match off the last ball. Weaving went for a towering pull shot but the ball got to him a little too quickly and it spliced up into the air for the keeper to take the catch.

All in all a good game to watch and encouraging for what remains of the sea-

*Westbury CC 1st XI 164 all out vs
Redmarley CC 1st XI 161 all out*

Westbury clinched a nail biting victory in their much anticipated opening league game of the season against Redmarley.

Westbury set what seemed to be a modest total featuring an excellent debut half century from Alex Grey (53) and strong lower order efforts from two more league debutants Jack Weaving (22) and Aaron Brown (21 n.o).

They set about defending this total though with determination and fine spells from Dan Hockaday (3-19) and Aaron Brown (3-44) pegged Redmarley back. Captain Greg Artus (4-30) applied the coup de gras with a stumping off a cunning offside wide courtesy of excellent glove work from James Down (who also got duck - but we won't mention that, or Ted Edginton's for that matter).

*Apperley 2nd XI 239 all out vs Westbury
2nd XI 157 all out*

Firstly some context. Given the disruption to the season, the mini league that has been set up is comprised of a mixed bag of local clubs and Apperley were a division above Westbury so were favourites to win this one.

That said, Westbury started well with Tom Landon (0-17) and Johnny Burrows (0-29) keeping the run rate at a reasonable level but unable to make a breakthrough. First change Jacob Brown managed to claim the first scalp as Ollie Jelfs clung on to a steeping catch to everyone's obvious relief, and Burrows clung on to a second catch for Brown - who is, in fact, strangely brown at the moment, I thought foreign holidays were banned !

Anyway, whilst this was happening Apperley were rather feasting on the bowling and poor Jelfs was somewhat savaged as he experimented with various lines and lengths, but the season is young. However, just when a breakthrough was needed enter Jonathan Coleman aka Sooty (an entirely acceptable etymology, by the way) who, it must be said, seldom features for his fielding exploits. Today was his day though as he hurled himself to his right to intercept a crisp flick through midwicket and in a flash hurled the ball back to the strikers end to the astonishment of the suddenly marooned batsmen and indeed the keeper Ian Dunn who watched on as a spectator as the ball clipped the stumps to run out the batsman.

From there wickets fell with some regularity Young Sooty took one regulation catch and yours truly was cruelly duped by a small child walking out to bat at No 10 and lobbed up a little off spinner which the university undergraduate (I now learn) in a child's body and hiding his moustache under his batting helmet

then smashed into the field. However, Sooty was not to be denied and next ball hurled him self to his left this time, diving to claim the catch and the final wicket and promptly rushed off to the toilet as the excitement and efforts had become too much for his bowels to withstand.



The run chase sadly didn't amount to much. Ian Dunn (2) unfortunately edged to the keeper but Neil Wyman (32) and Fran Stirrup (28) looked comfortable and kept us up with the rate until Wyman



stuck the ball towards the point boundary (by the Maple tree) and, having struck what he thought was a fine boundary

he wandered to the middle of the wicket to discuss the weather etc with Stirrup. Unfortunately he didn't notice the fielder lurking on the boundary who sneakily and quietly collected and hurled the ball back to the keeper leaving the horrified Wyman scrambling to get back - he didn't.

From there wickets fell regularly. Skipper Karl George (12) was unlucky to see a smashed pull shot off a rank long hop get palmed up in the air and then caught by the midwicket fielder who seemed to be trying to get out of the way.

Your correspondent was brutally adjudged out LBW. Using in-house state of the art ball-tracking technology (right) the injustice is



clear - I shall say no more.

Other contributions were all too miserable to mention although Jacob "brown" Brown managed 11 not out. However, cricket is back....!

Rugby Union

With the Government easing sport back to the playing fields, new coach Stan was able to run his first socially distanced training session. All RFU guidelines are being observed with a strict two metre distance applied, this huge distance did cause some initial problems in some of the boys being able to pass that far ! However persistence prevailed. So we continue.

Training every Tuesday & Thursday 7pm at the club - come along get fit - all levels welcome ...new to the game, returning players, veterans - see you

Peter Miles



What better place to train?

*If you watch a game, it's fun.
If you play it, it's recreation.
If you work at it, it's golf.*

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