

## Stage C C 2017

### Overall

### Match Review

Date	Day	Opposition	Result	Score	Opp Score	Best Batting	Best Bowling
30-April	Sun	Amersham	Lost - 5 wkts	303-3 Dec	307-5	O Oldroyd 112*	L Meagor 2-23
<a href="#">Scorecard</a> (opens in separate window)							
30th April 2017 - The season is under way as posted 303 - 3 against Amersham on a windy and chilly afternoon. Owen carried on from where he left off last season with a smashing 112 off just 57 balls in an opening partnership of 187 with Gabe Manthorp who was run out on 98 just 2 short of his maiden century :( Unfortunately due to 2 of our 10 players having to leave early we were unable to defend the total with Amersham losing just 5 wickets in their chase.							
<i>14<sup>th</sup> May Knebworth match cancelled and replaced by Old Minchendenians</i>							
14-May	Sun	Old Minchendenians	Won - 6wkts	142-4	141-9 (a/o)	G Jones 42	B Seymour 3-41
<a href="#">Scorecard</a> (opens in separate window)							
Today saw our first win of the season in a 40 over match. Stage won the toss and bowled. Four debutants for the Stage all performed extremely well in field with William Troughton (1 for 10 from 6 overs) opening the bowling with Hugh Coles. The best figures for the day was Bert Seymour taking 3 for 41 from his 8 overs however the highlight was a splendid diving catch in slips from Mike Howarth of the bowling of Bert. This could well be the seasons Champagne moment already decided. Old Minchendenians were bowled out for 141.							
Stage batted steadily on what was a very unpredictable pitch, with our other debutant Gwyn Jones scoring a solid 42 along with Hugh Coles 23 and Chris Fletcher 30. The innings was completed by William Troughton and Owen Oldroyd (in a helmet due to the pitch) seeing us home with just 4 wickets down.							
21-May	Sun	Seven Sports	Won – 5wkts	155-5	154-8	W Troughton 72*	L Meagor 3-19
<a href="#">Scorecard</a> (opens in separate window)							
Another re-arranged match, this time against Seven Sports, due to Adastrians being cancelled as Vine Lane was water logged. Stage fielded first on what seemed like the first day of summer in a 35 over match. Seven Sports were restricted to 154-8 on what was a low slow pitch. Lewis Meagor 3-19 from 7 overs and Mike Sadler a mean 1-12 from 6 overs. Stage replied with William Troughton opening the batting and scoring 72 not out, helped by Jeff Davis with 18 and Owen Oldroyd seeing Stage home with an unbeaten 35.							

25-May Thur Montenotte Drawn 282-6 Dec 252-7 G Manthorp 100 M Sadler 4-91

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On a glorious, hot, sunny day Montenotte won the toss and put Stage in. Stage got off to a good start until Chris Fletcher was given run out when he was clearly in followed by another dubious decision when William Troughton was given out LBW on 43. Gwyn Jones was also given out LBW dubiously having looked comfortable at the crease, although having to limp when running due to a twisted ankle. Meanwhile Gabe Manthorp hit his maiden century for the club in just 81 balls. James Lawrence ended up on 45 not out whilst Jeff Davis and Tom Stanley put Montenotte's bowler Sunny Bowry to the sword. Both eventually out to Sunny on 22 and 16 respectively. Stage declared on 282 for 6 off just 38 overs.

Montenotte got off to an excellent start and at 6.30 at the start of the last hour with a minimum of 20 overs were 160-2 requiring just 6 an over with 2 batsman well set at the crease. Some tight bowling from Jeff Davis (7 overs for 29) from the start of the last 20 overs enabled Mike Sadler to dismiss Steve Plum for 100 with a fine catch from Chris Fletcher then following up with the dismissal of Naveed Saed on 87. It was then a case of Montenotte seeing the overs through which they did with Paul Furness and Charlie Myers both still at the crease at the end of the days play.



**Field setting for Charlie Myers whilst facing Lewis Meagor**

28-May Sun Eastcote Abandoned 154-0 233-6 O Oldroyd 95\* M Sadler 2-49

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On a sultry day, Stage took the field having won the toss in a 40 over match. The opening **pace attack** was extremely tight consisted of Jeff Davis 8 overs for 33 and Dave Hills with 2 spells ending on 9 overs 1 wicket for 44 runs. Mike Sadler yet again had the best figures on the day with 8 overs taking 2 wickets for 49 runs. With some amazing fielding especially from Richard Godfrey in the deep and Mike Howarth taking 2 catches in slips, Eastcote were restricted to just 233 for 6 in their 40 overs.

There was a slight rain delay following tea before the opening pair of Owen Oldroyd and William Troughton were able to stroll to the crease. Both Owen (95) and William (51) proceeded to put Eastcote to the sword reaching 154 of just 21.3 overs at which pint the heavens opened and with just 80 runs needed off 18.3 overs the match had to be abandoned.



31-May	Wed	Worcester Park	Lost – 56 runs	189 a/o	245-6 dec	W Troughton	70	M Higginbotham	3-85
--------	-----	----------------	----------------	---------	-----------	-------------	----	----------------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Worcester Park scored 245-6 on a good batting wicket with a fast outfield. The best of the bowling was Max Higginbotham with a spell of 14.4 overs taking 3 wickets for 85. Stage got off to a fine start with an opening partnership of 80 when Gwyn Jones was caught for 41. Will Troughton scored a fine 70 with very little support and Stage were eventually all out for 189.

04-Jun	Sun	Southgate Compton	Lost – 56 runs	170 a/o	226-7 dec	O Gibbs	51	P Brown	3-59
--------	-----	-------------------	----------------	---------	-----------	---------	----	---------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Winter seemed to have returned to England on our first visit to Southgate Compton. It was windy and cold when we took to the field and for a while it looked like we were going to face a massive total with Southgate Compton reaching 69 off the first 8 overs. Tight bowling from Phil Brown 12 overs 3 wickets for 59 and Jeff Davis 10 overs 1 wicket for 31 slowed Southgate Compton up. A very fair declaration was made on 226 from just 35 overs. Despite this Stage failed to chase down the target and were all out for 170 with only Ollie Gibbs offering anything of any note with a fine 51.

08-Jun	Thu	Dulwich	Cancelled
--------	-----	---------	-----------

Dulwich had to cancel due to lack of players

11-Jun	Sun	Lord's Taverners Buccaneers	Drawn	240-8	257-6	Dec	J Lawrence	81	J Davis	3-56
--------	-----	--------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-----	------------	----	---------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On a lovely but somewhat windy day, Stage travelled up the M11 to Audley End House for an annual fixture against The Lord's Taverners Buccaneers and what amazing place to play cricket despite the lack of showers in the changing rooms. The Taverners won the toss and batted first. G. Buck took the Taverners towards their total of 257-6 declared when he was eventually out on 88 being given out LBW to the bowling of Jeff Davis, who ended up with figures of 3 for 56 off 9 overs. The ball did end up on several occasions in the River Cam and one occasion was actually retrieved by one of Richard Wilson's dogs.

Stage's reply was led by James Lawrence 81 and Owen Oldroyd 63 but with little help from the rest, it was left to Sam Sargant and Mike Sadler to offer up stubborn resistance for the 10th wicket resulting in a drawn match. At the end of the match James Lawrence was presented with a Lord's Taverners Pin and had to wear the Buccaneers hat for the rest of the evening. Entertainment in the pub was led by James Lawrence and Ollie Gibbs.



14-Jun Wed The Cricketers Club Won – 9 wkts 206-1 205 a/o R Marett 77\* J Davis 3-40

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Summer had returned as we hosted The Cricketers Club at Stanmore with a side that had several guest and hopefully future new members playing for us. James Lawrence lost the toss and we took the field in glorious, hot sunshine. The Cricketers Club were all out for 205 with Enfield's Australian Overseas player Houlahan retiring out on 100. All of Stage's bowlers bowled well notably with Jeff Davis taking 3 for 40 from 8, Harsha Rathnayake 1 for 45 from 9 and Paul Tripp 3 for 46 from 8. During the fielding we were somewhat hit by injury with the skipper leaving the field with an Achilles issue and Andre Remy-Holder with a pulled Hamstring leaving us with just 8 on the field until the opposition gave us a fielder.

The Stage reply got off to a flying start with Chris Fletcher scoring 34 which included 8 fours before he was caught and bowled. Roy Marett carrying his bat with a fine 77 not out and was backed up by Nav Saed 72 not out.

18-Jun Sun Tilford Cancelled

Cancelled due to lack of Stage availability.

22-Jun Wed Wembley Drawn 288-6 dec 241-6 O Oldroyd 133 K Marthellis 1-28

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On a day when the temperature was the hottest June day since 1976, Stage C.C. Captain, Matthew Gallagher, won the toss and elected to bat.

Opener, Owen Oldroyd played with his customary assurance and scored a fine 133, even managing in the heat to run any number of quick singles.

Sam Sargent contributed a spirited 47 and a couple of Wembley players, kindly lent to Stage, also chipped in with useful runs. Stage C.C. declared on 288 for 6 after 38 overs.

Wembley replied with 241 for 6 off 34 overs, so the match was drawn.

All Stage bowlers contributed, with Mike Sadler being asked to open the bowling – the first time in about 35 years! On one side of the pitch the boundary was extremely short. Runs for both sides came easily if any bowler strayed remotely off line and with the heat bowling was a tough proposition.

Stage gained two impressive run outs and wicket keeper, Graham Seed took a fine stumping and a difficult high catch.

At one point it look very likely that Wembley would easily make the 289 target, but a fine caught and bowled from Sam Sargent and Michael Taylor bowling very tightly, taking another wicket, removed the last of Wembley's proper batsmen; this forced Wembley to defend the last few overs as the target became unattainable.

A good day's cricket, played in good spirit by both sides, despite the extreme heat.

Your correspondent is reminded of the comment made by Hobbs and Rhodes when opening for England in 1912 and batting all day in Australia: "the pitch was as hot as the paving stones of Hell".

M. Sadler											
25-Jun	Sun	Berkamsted	Lost – 9 wkts	157 a/o	159-1	O	Oldroyd	133	K	Marthellis	1-28
<a href="#">Scorecard</a> (opens in separate window)											
02-Jul	Sun	Shepherds Bush	Won – 7 wkts	183-3	180 a/o	H	Coles	83*	O	Oldroyd	1-6
<a href="#">Scorecard</a> (opens in separate window)											
05-Jul	Wed	Richmond	Drawn	196-9	217-8 dec	S	Chandarana	61	T	Whyte	5-56
						J	Davis	61			
<a href="#">Scorecard</a> (opens in separate window)											
09-Jul	Sun	Morden	Lost – 55 runs	187-7 a/o	242-2	J	Wood	93	J	Dobree-Carey	1-28
<a href="#">Scorecard</a> (opens in separate window)											
On Sunday 9th July, Stage C.C. were scheduled to play Morden C.C. at 1.30p.m.											
Due to unforeseen circumstances, Stage were only able to field a side of 8 players.											
At least 4 of that 8 had great difficulty in reaching the ground due to extremely heavy traffic and by the start time of 1.30 only 3 players had reached the ground.											
The match eventually started at 2.40 and was reduced to a 35 overs a side game.											
Morden won the toss and elected to bat first.											
On a very hot day and on a pitch that was not in the best condition, Stage bowlers toiled manfully.											
All bowled a good line and length, but with a fast outfield and only 6 fielders, apart from the bowler and wicketkeeper, it was hard to keep runs down.											
Had there been a full eleven, Stage would have restricted Morden to about 80 less runs. As it was Morden made 242 for 2.											
Stage replied with 187 all out, with a fine 93 from opener James Wood, ably supported by 41 from Dave Hills. Hugh Coles also batted well.											
Morden were a pleasant side and would like to play Stage again next season.											
16-Jul	Sun	Wargrave	Cancelled								
Late cancellation by Wargrave due to player availability											

19-Jul	Wed	Harrow St Mary	Won – 98 runs	282-7	193-8	O Oldroyd	124	R Chandarana	2-33
--------	-----	----------------	---------------	-------	-------	-----------	-----	--------------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

On what felt like a late autumn day Stage won the toss and chose to bat in a 4 over match. Owen Oldroyd was in good form and hit 100 in just 79 balls eventually being bowled for 124. He was supported by Gwyn Jones 31 and Al Barrie 39 taking us to a total of 252 in the 40 overs.

Harrow St Mary replied with 193 for 8 making it a comfortable victory. The whole match can be viewed on youtube at

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjqdyB\\_cqID9vlzdJyDamA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjqdyB_cqID9vlzdJyDamA) Personally I am not too keen to watch it as I contributed with a duck ☹️

23-Jul	Sun	Taplow	Cancelled						
--------	-----	--------	-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--

Rained off

26-Jul	Wed	Watford Town	Cancelled						
--------	-----	--------------	-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--

Rained off

30-Jul	Sun	Stanmore Warriors	Won – 8 wkts	191-2	190-7	S Khan	121*	J Davis	2-38
--------	-----	-------------------	--------------	-------	-------	--------	------	---------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Where had the summer gone? We had just had the last 2 matches cancelled due to rain and now this re-arranged fixture against Stanmore Warriors at Shenley CC was in doubt. It had rained all night and the main ground was too wet and we were now due to play on the Nursery Ground that was pretty damp too. We started a 40 over match with Stanmore Warriors getting off to a good start when the heavens opened after around 5 overs. The rain eventually ceased and we took to a very sodden field in a reduced overs match of 30 overs. Stanmore Warriors bludgeoned their way to 190 for 7 in their 30 overs with Al Barrie taking 2 for 22 and Jeff Davis taking 2 for 38.

The sun was now shining as Stage set about the task of chasing down 190 which was done in just 27 overs with Sayf Khan smashing a fine 121 not out along with Owen Oldroyd not out on 43. We certainly hope to return to Shenley as the ground is great the opposition were excellent too.

04-Aug Fri Gloucester Gipsies Drawn 136-6 183-8 dec S Chandarana 67 A Hassan 4-38

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Summer had still not returned as we travelled to Gloucester to play the Gipsies at Stowell Park. In fact both Wednesday and Thursdays matches had been cancelled. Fortunately Owen won the toss and we took to the field on a very damp, sticky wicket. Stage bowled 58 overs before The Gipsies declared on 183-8 with Ali Hassan taking 5 for 38.

Despite feeling confident at chasing down the 183 and even with a good start opening with Owen Oldroyd 28 and Sanjay Chandarana 67 with the first wicket falling at 62 it all started to fall apart. With just 41 overs bowled the innings ended on 136 for 6 with the match drawn.



06-Aug	Sun	Musicians XI	Drawn	256-6 dec	165-8	C Fletcher	100*	W Troughton	5-48
--------	-----	--------------	-------	-----------	-------	------------	------	-------------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Had summer returned as we hosted a match at Stanmore with the sun shining and the temperature reaching the heady heights of 20 degrees! Stage batted first with a strong batting line up in a 12 aside match. The declaration was made when stage reached 256 for 6 off 40 overs with Chris Fletcher hitting his maiden century for Stage retiring at 100 with Sanjay Chandarana 56.

Stage used 8 bowlers and failed to take the required 11 wickets with the Musicians XI finishing on 165 for 8. The pick of the 8 bowlers was William Troughton with 5 for 48 from 14 overs.

09-Aug	Wed	Ickenham	Cancelled						
--------	-----	----------	-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--

Rained off

13-Aug	Sun	Merstham	Lost – 97 runs	139 a/o	236-7	J Davis	33	J Davis	3-26
--------	-----	----------	----------------	---------	-------	---------	----	---------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Our annual match at Quality Street, Merstham was an absolute disaster! We had a weak side with just 3 recognised batsman and yes I include myself in that 3, the opposition refused to play a timed game and insisted on a 40 over match as they wanted to win! We did our best to restrict them in the 40 overs with debutant Dinesh Selvaraj taking 3 for 48 and Jeff Davis 3 for 26. Despite this Merstham amassed 236 for 7 which unless Owen Oldroyd could take them on single handed it was going to be too much of a task.

Owen opened the batting and shock horror whilst I was still donning the pads in the changing room he was out first ball. Not a good start ☹️ We failed dismally with Hadley Smith 31, Jeff Davis 33, Ed Pegge a fine 9 and another 4 ducks in the innings. Eventually all out for 139 in 31 overs.

17-Aug	Thur	Cross Arrows	Won – 2 wkts	280-8	278 a/o	S Khan	73	W Troughton	2-35
--------	------	--------------	--------------	-------	---------	--------	----	-------------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Due to the West Indies Test Match at Lord's being in September our annual fixture against the Cross Arrows was brought forward to 17<sup>th</sup> August. The weather in the morning was overcast and the Cross Arrows won the toss and despite the overcast conditions chose to bat. We used just 5 bowlers all taking 2 wickets each and bowling the Arrows out for 278 with 2 overs to spare! Most notable wicket being A. Tandulkar (son of Sachin) on 51, being caught by Owen off the bowling of Will Troughton. I have to add that he is supposedly a bowler not a batter.

In the afternoon sun, Stage got off to a steady start so I trundled of to the Museum with Ryan and Lucy. On our return were 3 down for 70 odd with Tom Stanley (49) and Sayf Kahn (73) at the crease. It would appear that we were cruising to a victory when wickets started to fall. Yours truly had to hobble to the crease with Sanjay Chandarana as my runner only to stand at square leg and watch a further 2 wickets fall. In walked the hero of last year Sam Sargent with 13 needed. With some sharp running between Sam and Sanjay making a 2 out of what would have been a single if I was running we moved toward the total. A streaky four from me helped the cause and then Sam hit a FANTASTIC 6 to win the match, making this the 3<sup>rd</sup> victory in so many years at Lord's



20-Aug	Sun	Provender	Lost – 186 runs	114-10	300-8	G Manthorp	35	A Luff	3-74
--------	-----	-----------	-----------------	--------	-------	------------	----	--------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

The toss I believe was a mutual agreement as Provender like to bat first and as they are extremely good host who are we to argue. With a distinct lack of bowling Owen Oldroyd opened the bowling and pushed his body through 5 overs taking 1 for 21. James Lawrence was not to be seen at the start of the match so Sevenoaks & District captain Alan Luff took the field in oversized trousers to help out and bowled 9 overs, taking 3 wickets for 74 runs. James eventually turned up following a call from Roger Barrett asking where he was. He had his trombone and PA system with him but no kit as he thought the match and tour was the following week! After 40 overs Provender had scored 300 for the loss of 8 wickets with both Mike Sadler and Jeff Davis taking 2 wickets each.

300 was always going to be far too much for Stage who were bowled out for 114 in just 26.4 overs. Despite this we all had a FANTASTIC day with entertainment in the evening supplied by James Lawrence on his Trombone and PA system and Simon Clayton performing some stand up which had unfortunately had to be kept as clean as possible due to some young children in the club house.



23-Aug	Wed	Sevenoaks & District	Drawn	128-5	222-5 dec	R McCann	46	M Higginbotham	2-33
--------	-----	----------------------	-------	-------	-----------	----------	----	----------------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

This game (against Sevenoaks) was played at Four Elms. Your correspondent also counted 5 Beech trees, a silver birch and, unusually, a hornbeam around the boundary. The pavilion appeared to be made mostly of scots pine with oak supports. I think the tea table was possibly mahogany, but I am no expert. The toilet seat was polished ash. All the players who batted on either side were using bats made from Salix Caerulea (Ed's note: Would it be possible to get on with recounting the events of the match? I am not sure our readers need this orgy of arboreal excess) Pah! "Very well!"

The Stage opening bowlers (Higginbottom and Harrison) restricted the Sevenoaks openers in the first three quarters of an hour without making any serious breakthroughs. Skipper Davis introduced Barclay into the attack in an attempt to break the deadlock. It must be said that the wisdom of this move must be questioned more than somewhat. Bald figures do not always reveal the full extent of the devastation but Barclay's analysis of 1-0-22-0 suggest that once again Barclay must be seen as something of a "Ferrero Rocher" bowler: a collection of chocolate balls wrapped in gold paper. Too many of them might make you sick. The man to gorge himself on Barclay's less than penetrative off spin was Arora: an ex Delhi Under 19's player with a predilection for hitting the ball very hard and a long way. Arora was not discriminatory, both Davis and Aubin\_Parvu received a certain amount of disdainful punishment and Arora was finally dismissed for a swiftly acquired 72 and Sevenoaks declared on 222 for 5.

Jones, Mc Cann and Streatfeild all set about their task with a certain amount of resolution, without ever quite reaching the required run rate. Again Arora played a significant role by bowling a prodigiously turning chinaman. These bowlers are as rare as rocking horse shit and it was not surprising when Streatfeild, (who essayed some some well timed Comptonesque sweeps to the boundary) Barclay and Millican struggled to impose themselves. The net result of this futile endeavour was the Stage finishing some 94 runs short of the target.

The Five Elms Club offered a sumptuous and clean looking real ale that was hand pulled. Your correspondent quaffed several pints of this beverage and is therefore unable to remember what it's name was. BVB or DVD or Scruttock's Old Dirigible? Anyway, it was an excellent clean tasting hop filled bitter with toffee notes and a caramel finish reminiscent of Eldridge & Pope etc,etc con. P.94 Mr. Aubin-Parvu left his sun hat but your correspondent has it in his possession and will return it to Mr. Aubin-Parvu at a time and place of his choosing. It may cost him a pint of Scruttock's old Dirigible.

27-Aug	Sun	Watford Town	Cancelled
--------	-----	--------------	-----------

This was a re-arranged match that was cancelled due to lack of player availability.

30-Aug	Wed	Little Marlow	Cancelled
--------	-----	---------------	-----------

Rained off

03-Sep	Sun	Sunbury Squires	Lost – 66 runs	213-5	279-6	O Oldroyd	115	M Sadler	4-34
--------	-----	-----------------	----------------	-------	-------	-----------	-----	----------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Due to the weather and with heavy rain forecast late afternoon, it was decided to play a 30 over match rather than a timed game. Sunbury Squires won the toss and decided to bat. Stage took to the field with just 9 men and fielded for 20 overs before having a full complement. Sunbury set off at 10 an over and eventually finished on 279 runs for just 6 wickets. The best of the bowling by far was Mike Sadler with figures of 4-34 off his 6 overs.

Stage's reply was all too dependent on Owen Oldroyd who certainly rose to the challenge, reaching 115 before he was out. Unfortunately there was no real support from the other batsman and Stage completed the 30 overs 66 runs short of a winning total. Well at least we got a game in despite it drizzling most of the afternoon.

17-Sep	Sun	Maidenhead & Bray	Lost – 22 runs	145-8	167-6	S Chandarana	44	J Child	2-24
--------	-----	-------------------	-------------------	-------	-------	--------------	----	---------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

Once again we take the field with less than 11 Stage players and are kindly loaned 12 year old John Child by Maidenhead & Bray to take us up to 10 players. On a very damp wicket Maidenhead & Bray struggled to build a high total in a 40 over match. They eventually reached 167 for 6 wickets with the pick of the bowlers John Child 2 for 24 off 8 overs and Jeff Davis 1 for 9 off 8 overs.

Stage set off towards the total with the first wicket (Sanjay Chandarana 44) falling on 62. It was downhill from there with a total 145 for 8 and the end of 40 overs. The last pair John Child 6 and Brian Jackson 1 were both not out. Could this be the largest gap of age between players at the crease 86 – 12?



20-Sep	Wed	Gaieties	Lost – 5 Runs	174 a/o	179 a/o	J Lawrence	48	T Whyte	4-33
--------	-----	----------	---------------	---------	---------	------------	----	---------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

The season is fast coming to a close as we have our annual match against Harold Pinter's Gaieties held at Stanmore CC. It was a chilly grey day with Gaieties winning the toss and choosing to bat. They scored at 4 over pretty much throughout their innings eventually being bowled out for 179 off 44 overs. Pick of the bowling was Tom Whyte taking 4 for 43 from 15 overs and Paul Tripp with 2 for 14 from 5 overs.

Stage made hard work of what should have been a relatively easy chase. James Lawrence looked in good form making a solid 48 but with very little support and all looked totally lost until Tom Whyte at number 10 joined Paul Tripp at the fall of the 7<sup>th</sup> wicket with the score on 133. Tom, batting sensibly with Paul eased the score onto 167 when Paul was out trying to clear the inner ring. At the fall of the 9<sup>th</sup> wicket Lucy Davis returned to the crease having retired hurt earlier to try and stay with Tom. Having survived the bowling of Gaieties quick bowler who had caused her earlier injury she succumbed to the off break bowling Schneider who was far too good for 3 other Stage players! Owen's comment to Lucy "Well done for going out again. Gutsy". (One very proud father too)

28-Sep	Thu	Montenotte	Lost – 5 wkts	149 a/o	150-5	R McCann	46	J Davis	1-13
--------	-----	------------	---------------	---------	-------	----------	----	---------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

What awful weather we are enduring at the end of this season however we did manage to play a 35 over match with a late start at 1.30. Stage won the toss and decided to bat. We got off to a reasonable start with the 2<sup>nd</sup> wicket falling (Roger McCann 46) at 101 after 21 overs. James Lawrence was the 3<sup>rd</sup> wicket when he was on 35 however 180 looked on the cards. Then it all fell apart with 5 wickets falling whilst on 135 and eventually Stage were all out for 149, which was never going to be enough to defend.

Stage opened the bowling with Tom Whyte and Jeff Davis. Tom's first spell of 3 overs for 6 runs and Jeff's spell of 7 overs for just 13 runs gave us some hope. Unfortunately the rest of the bowlers were put to the sword and Montenotte reached the target in just 28.2 overs.

01-Oct	Sun	Barnes Common	Cancelled						
--------	-----	---------------	-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--

04-Oct	Wed	Nomads	Won – 6 wkts	230-4	229-8 dec	O Oldroyd	82	S Greenland	2-46
--------	-----	--------	--------------	-------	-----------	-----------	----	-------------	------

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

It felt very much like winter was on the way as Stage took to the field with 9 men, with two players still to arrive, having lost the toss. Early in Nomad's innings Imraj Sohal took an amazing catch at long off to dismiss S. Beri who was looking dangerous having reached 12 with 3 hard hit fours. This was to be the last catch that Imraj took as he dropped a further 3 or 4 as the ball followed him around. After the final drop he was moved and Sanjay Chandarana took his slot at long on where the ball was hit firmly to him. Sanjay took the catch without having to move which dismissed Yadav on 79. Nomads declared on 229 for 8 off 37 overs.

Stage set about their reply with Sanjay and Owen Oldroyd opening the batting. The first wicket fell on 83 when Sanjay was dismissed. Tom Stanley followed shortly after only for Imraj to take to the crease hoping to make up for the dropped catches. He did not disappoint and when Owen was out for 82, Stage still required 51 runs to win. Imraj rose to the challenge, hitting the ball to all parts of the ground. He ended up on 79 not out as Stage won by 6 wickets.

08-Oct Sun Highgate Won – 6 wkts 255-4 254-4 dec G Jones 124\* J Davis 2-49

[Scorecard](#) (opens in separate window)

The final match of the season had arrived and amazingly it was warmer than Wednesday when we had last visited Highgate to play Nomads. Highgate having had their annual club dinner the night before were in disarray. Players had pulled out at the last minute leaving them with just 8 players. Mike Howarth kindly offered to play for them to try and even the numbers up a bit. Stage won the toss and fielded. Wickets proved very hard to come by with the first wicket falling with around 150 on the board. Highgate eventual declaring on 254 for 4 from 42 overs.

Stage set about the chase knowing that they would not receive much more than 35/36 overs. Gwyn Jones and Paul Furness set off at a pace and the first wicket fell on 91 after just 11 overs, when Paul was out for a fine 34. The middle order struggled a bit until Tom Whyte came in at 6 and proceeded to take the Highgate bowling apart whilst at the other Gwyn calmly went about his business. The total of 255 was reached in the 32<sup>nd</sup> over with Gwyn 124 not out and Tom 49 not out. A FANTASTIC way to end what has been a very enjoyable season.

