

# Captain's Report 2025

The stats:

Played 36, Won 19, Zero draws, Lost 15, abandoned 2, Cancelled 6.

Top Runs Olly Walter 629, Rich Stephenson 550, Josh Lamb 426 and Jonno Ponsford 417.

Top wickets

Allan East 28, Joe Walter 27, Nick Wytt 26, Keith Whiter 22

The story behind the stats.

As the great prophet Mr C once correctly stated 'You know that any mountain is capable of moving, the Isis are the new generation who are proving, you can be what you want to be, let your soul and your body and your mind be free'. We lived, and died, by this mantra.

Will Wytt led the way. Game day 1, Enstone away, 2 balls, 3 runs needed. What's your plan Will? Hit it through the covers Rich. First ball through the covers for an easy three. We managed two. Second ball a repeat. Win

Game day 3 Astons away. Defending the perfect score of 180 Jonno channelling the force. Ralph letting his off stump be free, the big hitting mountain removed. Win

I could do this all day. The opponents, Hospitals, OUP, Appleton, West Bladon. The performances Ed Burn, Nick Wyatt and Whiter, Beaven and Duckitt, East and Walter. All before the end of June. And it just kept on coming. Mountains moved.

We played some good cricket.

The wider themes

In previous years there has been mention of Isis joining a league. This year, to me, reinforced that we're a refuge from league cricket, a counterpoint. That discussion seems to have gone away.

I have a dark past. This isn't a secret. My behaviour on the pitch at times hasn't been great. But for myself and Isis I think we need to revisit and re-read 'The Spirit of Cricket'. Pin it on your ceiling, tattoo it on your thigh, write it on your toilet set. Whatever our opponents do we should play cricket our way. Progress made but more to do.

And finally the future. Wib eventually broke himself this year, Roy Blatchford's knees have let us down, Keith Ponsford is now apparently a golfer, B is moving on, Keith Whiter did something unspeakable to his shoulder. Our seam bowling attack were mostly out of action by July. If we don't do a specific push on recruiting new members please keep your eyes and ears open for useful bowlers. Bundle them into your car boot, buy them some Haribo, show them pictures of mountains. It would help us to field balanced teams.

We go again.

Rich Stephenson