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# THE GENT

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No.176

October 2022

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## Gents finish on a high note

Nineteenth victory secured as autumn closes in



Pavan Kota scores 1,185 and Srinivas Namilikonda 820 in batsman's summer

30 wickets for Ranjith Chatharaju and 24 'keeping victims for Ratnakar Sudireddy

Clapham In, Fighting Stars and Millfields beat Gents as records tumble

Brilliant Kent tour climaxes with thrilling win

Final averages

Summary of season

AGM details

Redbourn (abandoned)	Fighting Stars (lost 2 wickets)
Wycombe House (won 5 wickets)	Millfields (lost 7 wickets)
Northfields (won 74 runs)	Lydd (won 5 wickets)
Clapham In (lost 15 runs)	New Romney and Littlestone (won 1 wicket)
Prince's Head (won 143 runs)	Salix (won 2 wickets)
Plastics (won 5 wickets)	Western International Market (won 26 runs)



## AGM details

We will celebrate the season at the AGM and Awards Evening on **Saturday October 22 at The Bulstrode Bar, Lampton Road, Hounslow TW3 1JG, starting 7pm**. Food is sponsored by the club. Agenda and voting pack have been issued. Please consider if you would like to join the Committee for 2023. The posts are: Chairman, Captain, Vice-captain, Treasurer, Fixture secretary, Match secretary. You have the details of how to apply, by Saturday 15 October please.

A reminder that only members, including those elected at the AGM may vote and receive awards. One topic certain to be discussed is the strength of opponent. The record in the last four seasons is: 2019 won 19 lost 5, 2020 9-2, 2021 14-5 and 2022 19-6. While not wishing to devalue some spectacular performances or patronise valiant opponents, the fixture card would not appear to be balanced. One-sided games are fun for neither winner nor loser. Therefore we may wish to strengthen the card in 2023 which would need some tough decisions.

We will also need to talk about venues. It costs us around £200-£260 to host at a good ground (council pitches and facilities have deteriorated) and while away games tend to be cheaper if the host owns its ground, remoteness can mean that petrol costs are high.

## House champions

Congratulations to Wycombe House 1s and 2s who were both promoted as champions of their respective leagues after excellent seasons. Well done captains Hamzah Khan and Fahim Malik. They will now play in MCCL Division 2 of the 1s and 2s leagues. Aamir Ahmed's very young 3s safely avoided relegation and the 4s just missed out on promotion. Ian Pope has transformed the venue in the two years he has been groundsman. Its pitches were voted the third best in the entire MCCL, its outfield the best. No surprise then that there have been 413 runs per Gents game there, the highest of all our regular venues. Hats off also to Old Isleworthians 3s, who won Div. 4B of their league. Vamsee Krishna took 17 wickets and Praveen Bocha scored 379 runs. Pavan Kota also scored a fifty. Old Tenisonians folded before the season after a proposed merger with Old Emanuel fell through. Their future is shrouded in mystery but we wish them well for the future and hope that pitches will still be available there in 2023.

## Khalid's marathon men

Sunday 9 October was a significant date being the last on which cricket was played in England. Battersea Eagles played Tenterden down in Kent in their fiftieth game, 13 of which were in September. Khalid Harris did not bat but still ended up on 1,486 runs. His average of 40 was impressive but just look at Luke Payton of New Romney, who finished earlier: 1,321 runs at an average of 110 and a strike rate of 149 – he achieved 166 against the Gents. Stats are courtesy of the Play-Cricket software tool. This will be the only scoring tool for Gents' matches in 2023.

RANK	PLAYER	GAMES	INNS	NOT OUTS	RUNS	HIGH SCORE	AVG	50s	100s	STRIKE RATE
1	Luke Payton	21	21	9	1321	130*	110.08	12	3	149.28

  

RANK	PLAYER	GAMES	INNS	NOT OUTS	RUNS	HIGH SCORE	AVG	50s	100s	STRIKE RATE
1	Khalid Harris	48	46	9	1486	101*	40.16	11	1	125.41

## Oppo XI of the year

Your favourite feature is back with the usual rules: no more than one player per team and as with *Wisden's* Five Cricketers of the Year no repeat appearances. This season saw some fine batting while bowlers often struggled. One who didn't was Clapham In's Bage, alas selected in 2019 so not picked here.

The top five neatly maps to the top five innings. Webster, Aldridge and young Freddy Hunt all scored tons with Aussie Wilson only three off. Provided Webster doesn't go back to bat after reaching his century, much oomph will be expected from Payton and captain Shaikh, who will be under strict instructions to watch his calling and running. A varied attack will include four seamers in Mehmood, Crowley, Shirley and Payton. Chalal will have spinner's duties. Smith will keep wicket. Unlucky to miss out were Salix's 'keeper Long, Sheahan from St Anne's Allstars and the extremely challenging Symonds from New Romney, kept out by Payton.

**Team:** Webster (Plastics), Aldridge (Squirrels), Hunt (Teddington Town), Wilson (Millfields), Payton (New Romney and Littlestone), \*Shaikh (Wycombe House), †Smith (Clapham In), Mehmood (Fighting Stars), Chalal (Hayes), Crowley (Clapham In), Shirley (Crossbats)

2022 Played 26 Won 19 Abandoned 1 Lost 6				
9/4	Marble Hill Park	Crossbats 181-7 (S. Skinner 56, Shirley 38, Winch 24)	Gents 109 (S. Patel 29, Shirley 4-30)	Lost 72 runs
17/4	Hollyfield School	Gents 170 (Kota 53, Chatharaju 50, S. Patel 23*, Kulasingam 22, Moseley 3-26)		Won 90 runs
		Hook and Southborough 80 (Sadiq 22)		
24/4	Hayes	Hayes 221 (Sam 46, Jyoti 30, G. Singh 30, Bittu 25, B. Singh 25, Varasala 4-40)		Lost 41 runs
		Gents 180 (Kota 49, Kumar 29, Chahal 5-40)		
1/5	FWE Goates MG	Gents 215-4 (Kota 107*, Gulati 52)		Won 81 runs
		Binfield 134-9 (Sugumar 24, Hesketh 23, Chatharaju 3-26)		
8/5	Old Tenisonians	Gents 217-8 (Kota 76, Parvathaneni 63, Prytherch 3-51)	Wimbledon United 90 (Khan 39)	Won 127 runs
22/5	Durston House	Gents 189 (Gulati 60, Krishna 31, Sudireddy 25, Akhtar 3-27)		Lost 4 wickets
		Northfields 193-6 (David Redhead 84*, Derrick Redhead 37, Chatharaju 3-40)		
29/5	Wycombe House	Gents 224-5 (Kota 111*, Sudireddy 38, S. Patel 28*, A. Ahmed 23)		Won 88 runs
		St Anne's Allstars 136-9 (Arnott 40*, Kanwal 22)		
5/6	Raynes Park SG	Gents 206 (Chatharaju 47, Dubey 29, Namilikonda 28, Sudireddy 28, Parvathaneni 26, Najeeb 3-34, Kashif 3-44)	Mpingwe 122 (Kashif 37, Asif 32, Kamida 5-29)	Won 84 runs
12/6	Teddington Town	Teddington Town 216-3 (Hunt 100*, Pereira 62*, Hilmy 21)		Won 7 wickets
		Gents 220-3 (Kota 72*, Dubey 54, Sudireddy 43*, Chatharaju 22)		
19/6	Chiswick House	Gents 200-5 (Gulati 49, Kota 37, Namilikonda 32, Krishna 22*, Kumar 21)		Won 154 runs
		Salix 46 (Chatharaju 3-4, Dubey 3-16)		
26/6	Old Tenisonians	Gents 250-9 (Kota 123, Namilikonda 40, R. Patel 33, T. Chaudhry 3-60)		Won 115 runs
		Ottershaw 135 (O. Timizi 43, Halstead 31, Ahmed 20, H. Patel 5-8)		
3/7	King's House	Whalers 178-5 (Humphreys 50*, R. Singh 40)	Gents 182-3 (Kota 82*, Namilikonda 52)	Won 7 wickets
10/7	Cottenham Park	Gents 312-9 (Namilikonda 151, Gulati 39, Dubey 26, Kota 24, Kumar 20, Taylor 4-54)		Won 111 runs
		Putney 201 (Sorger 39, Burney 28, Bedson 22, Kota 3-27)		
17/7	Old Tenisonians	Gents 324-6 (Kota 160*, Namilikonda 76, Sudireddy 24, Holmes 3-37)		Won 158 runs
		Squirrels 166 (Aldridge 106, A. Singh 4-22, H. Patel 3-48)		
24/7	Redbourn	Redbourn 232-8 (McKay 82, Smith 62, Cook 20)	Gents 74-2 (Kumar 29*, Namilikonda 23)	Abandoned
31/7	Wycombe House	Wycombe House 215-7 (Shaikh 82, Osman 25, Khan 25, A. Ahmed 22)		Won 5 wickets
		Gents 219-5 (Kota 62, Gulati 39, Puli 34*, Namilikonda 25, S. Patel 23*)		
7/8	Old Tenisonians	Gents 212-9 (Namilikonda 101, Pentakota 28*, Akhtar 3-35)		Won 74 runs
		Northfields 138 (David Redhead 35, Yash 24, Kent 20*, Gulati 3-18, Pentakota 3-30)		
14/8	Old Tenisonians	Clapham In 190-4 (Taylor 76*, S. Smith 62*, Ferreira 25, Cheetham 20, Chatharaju 4-23)		Lost 15 runs
		Gents 175 (Gulati 54, Namilikonda 39, Bage 5-35, Crowley 4-23)		
20/8	Richmond Green	Gents 260 (A. Singh 77, Parvathaneni 40, Kota 35, Puli 35, Namilikonda 32, Saad 5-34)		Won 147 runs
		Prince's Head 117 (Thamil 30, Parvathaneni 3-17)		
21/8	Old Tenisonians	Plastics 200 (Webster 110*, P. Bishop 25, Kulasingam 4-33, Puli 3-19)		Won 5 wickets
		Gents 204-5 (Namilikonda 66, Puli 38, Kulasingam 28, Kamida 26)		
28/8	Wycombe House	Gents 265-8 (Kota 57, Namilikonda 50, Chatharaju 34, Parvathaneni 31, Sudireddy 27, Krishna 23, Mehmood 3-37)	Fighting Stars 267-8 (Javed 57, Gilani 52, Farooq 45*, Mehmood 36*, D'Cunha 33, Kulasingam 5-50)	Lost 2 wickets
4/9	Wycombe House	Gents 268-7 (Kota 74, Kumar 56, Pentakota 39*, Puli 34, Namilikonda 26, C. Cooper 3-29)		Lost 7 wickets
		Millfields 271-3 (Wilson 97, Collis 62*, C. Cooper 39*, Baxter 38)		
10/9	The Banks	Lydd 180-8 (Wood 81, Anderson 44, Unwin 38, Kota 3-28)		Won 5 wickets
		Gents 183-5 (Namilikonda 43, Sudireddy 36*, Parvathaneni 35*, S. Patel 27)		
11/9	New Romney	New Romney and Littlestone 106 (Payton 96*, R. Patel 4-7, Kumar 3-23)		Won 1 wicket
		Gents 109-9 (Dubey 29, Chatharaju 28*, Symonds 4-15, T. Harding 3-13)		
18/9	Nursery Road RG	Salix 140 (Ali 30*, Waddington 27, Chatharaju 3-21, R. Patel 3-30)		Won 2 wickets
		Gents 144-8 (Pentakota 53*, Darling 3-9)		
25/9	Lyne RG	Gents 200-6 (Puli 86*, Sudireddy 32, Chatharaju 22, Sami 3-46)		Won 26 runs
		Western International Market 174 (Ajaz 44, Babar 36, Sami 25, R. Patel 3-35)		

Match scheduled for 15/5 was cancelled.

## 2022 Played 26 Won 19 Abandoned 1 Lost 6

<b>Debuts</b>	Parvathaneni, Singh
<b>Runs</b>	Kota 1,185, Namilikonda 820, Puli 337, Gulati 332, Sudireddy 314, Chatharaju 308, Dubey 227, Kumar 224, Parvathaneni 233, S. Patel 190, Krishna 155, Pentakota 124
<b>Wickets</b>	Chatharaju 30, H. Patel 24, R. Patel 24, Kota 15, Gulati 13, Dubey 12, Parvathaneni 12, S. Patel 12, Kulasingam 10
<b>Ct/St.</b>	Sudireddy 14/10, Puli 11, Gulati 10, Kota 9, Dubey 6, R. Patel 6, Namilikonda 5, Parvathaneni 5

After a wet 2021 when rain ruined eight games the Gents were thankful for a dry summer in which only one game was cancelled and one abandoned due to injury. The total of matches played was the highest ever, beating the 25 in 2010 which included four double-header days. An excellent mid-season run comprising ten victories and a draw ensured a winning season under Hemin Patel and Ratnakar Sudireddy, who grew into their leadership roles as the season progressed. It was a batsman's summer which saw the most runs scored and conceded ever and an average Gents' score over 200. Three record stands were set, one by Gents (Kota and Namilikonda appropriately at the crease) and two by opponents.

Kota (1,185) and Namilikonda (820) surpassed Jim Wright's haul in 2000 of 756. Kota scored seven fifties and four hundreds, his 160\* against Squirrels beating the 158\* set by Steve Jones against West XI in 2002. Namilikonda made two tons and four fifties, his 151 against Putney taking only 72 balls and including 12 of his season's 42 sixes. There were ten other fifties of which Gulati, absent for the last eight games, scored three. Chatharaju, who produced the defensive innings of the year at New Romney, Gulati, Puli and Sudireddy notched 300 runs, Dubey, Kumar and newcomer Parvathaneni 200, and Krishna, Pentakota and S. Patel 100. Nor did opponents miss out with three centuries and 15 fifties. Fighting Stars secured a record chase in a Gents' match only to be outdone a week later by the brilliant Millfields. The groundsmen at Old Tenisonians and Wycombe House were sanctioned by the Bowlers' Union.

Chatharaju, in an excellent season, bagged 30 wickets, H. Patel and R. Patel 24 (twelve in the final four games) with six more in double figures. The economical Krishna deserved more scalps. There were five-wicket hauls for Kamida, Kulasingam and H. Patel while five returned a four-for, including the wily Kulasingam who managed ten wickets in four games. Gulati paid 3.5 runs per over with his seam partners Chatharaju, Dubey (who took his hundredth wicket in the final game), Krishna and R. Patel under five.

Fielding and catching were inconsistent though Sudireddy's 24 victims (14 caught, ten stumped) was a record, as were the totals of 90 catches and 116 fielding dismissals. Sometimes Gents could not catch at all; sometimes it came together spectacularly and all ten Plastics' wickets fell to fielding dismissals, a first. Dubey, Gulati, Kota, R. Patel, S. Patel and Puli, the best catcher in the club, worked hard in the outfield.

Home grounds increased in price but improved in quality, becoming perfect for batting. Gents also travelled to some attractive new venues culminating with Lydd on a wonderful tour. Eight new teams were played: Hook and Southborough, Hayes, Redbourn, Wycombe House, Prince's Head, Fighting Stars, Lydd and Western International Market. Returns to Hook, Redbourn and New Romney, and the reinstatement of the cancelled Byfleet fixture, will be much looked forward to in 2023.

The total of 33 players was, Covid-20 excluded, the fewest since 2009. Perhaps continuity helped the captains. Match Secretary Dubey worked tirelessly and delivered full XIs every week. This was no easy task for Karnekanti had moved away, Ahmed only played once and Khan not at all after illness, but a reinvigorated Namilikonda and new players Parvathaneni and Singh, together with enhanced commitment from many others, took up the slack with nine commendably playing 19 or more of the 26 matches. Fourteen debutants took the roster to 422. The captains had a tricky job involving so many all-rounders which inevitably meant some players batting high one week and low the next, or not bowling a week after being among the wickets. This is a fact of life in Sunday cricket and may be impossible to resolve.

A patchy start saw three defeats in six before results perked up. The losses were instructive: Crossbats bowled well on their artificial, the bowlers were unable to contain the Hayes top order and Northfields used their challenging pitch better. Runs then flowed including 312 against Putney and 324 against Squirrels in successive weeks. It took a well-balanced Clapham In to break the run and the batting from Fighting Stars and Millfields was sensational. Gents then closed strongly with four tight victories in enthralling games. Thanks to those who played, arranged replacements or came to support.

## Redbourn v. Gentlemen of West London

Sunday 24 July, Redbourn Common. Redbourn won toss. Sunny, 29C

Abandoned

Redbourn				Gentlemen of West London			
Grant		b Chatharaju	0	Kumar	not out		29
McKay	c Sudireddy	b Tanniru	82	Puli	c Riley	b Naughton	8
Cook		b S. Patel	20	Namilikonda	c Smith	b Arnold	23
W. Smith	c Puli	b Kota	62	A. Singh	not out		7
D. Wright		b H. Patel	10	†Sudireddy, Kota, S. Patel, Vemula, Tanniru, Chatharaju and			
F. Wright	not out		18	*H. Patel dnb			
Hall	run out (Tanniru)		5				
A. Smith		b H. Patel	1				
†Riley		b Kota	6				
*Arnold	not out		9				
Naughton	dnb						
Extras	w6 nb1 b8 lb4		19	Extras	w3 nb4		7
Total	8 wickets	40 overs	232	Total	2 wickets	14.2 overs	74
FoW: 0, 38, 144, 194, 203, 209, 210, 219				FoW: 27, 61			
Bowling: Chatharaju 4-0-19-1, Kumar 4-1-6-0, S. Patel 4-1-28-1,				Bowling: Naughton 5-1-23-1, Cook 5-0-34-0, Grant 2.2-0-11-0,			
A. Singh 4-0-32-0, Vemula 4-0-24-0, H. Patel 6-0-44-2,				Arnold 2-0-6-1			
Tanniru 6-0-30-1, Kota 8-0-37-2							

A beautiful ground, an atmosphere of welcome, and a sunny day kissed by a refreshing breeze. Such were the ingredients for an exciting conclusion to a well-balanced match, but one that had to be abandoned when the unfortunate Smith fell awkwardly and tore a patellar tendon. The paramedics who attended within minutes summoned an ambulance. The poor man could not be moved, the ambulance was estimated to be two hours, so the captains shook hands. No doubt as he lay there shaded by a parasol he was thinking of his well-judged catch at long on to see off Namilikonda.

Much good cricket had been played before then. Chatharaju produced a lethal inswinger second ball before McKay, Cook and Smith assumed a measure of control on a perfect batting pitch. The crosswind did not help the spinners but there were too many long-hops. Gents had their moments and fought back well after Puli's wonder catch with Tanniru, Kota and H. Patel effective in the final overs. But the target was still formidable, the score of 232 the highest by an opponent since the 253-1 by Millfields in 2018.

Puli's catch is worth its own paragraph. Two balls after catching Smith on the boundary, losing his balance and flinging the ball back onto the field of play to prevent a six (stout work and five runs saved), he ran in and dived forward to grab the ball inches above the ground.

In Gents' brief but brisk dig Kumar took two fours and six off Cook's second over and Namilikonda cleared the trees to record the 50th six of 2022. Gents needed 159 off 154 balls when the injury occurred. DLS tables had Gents three ahead but let's not go there. Thanks to guest Nikil Vemula for helping out.

An email enquiring after Smith's welfare was responded to with charm by the hosts:

*Thank you for your email: I was actually in the process of writing an email to you. I was away yesterday but heard about the abrupt end to the game and the rather nasty injury suffered by Andy. The news is that he is OK – given the circumstances – he is due to have an operation tomorrow on a ruptured patellar tendon, and will no doubt have to undergo a considerable period of physio to recover. It was fortunate that his wife, and one of our club members, are both GPs and were on hand to help.*

*A number of the team commented very positively about how supportive the GWLCC team were – and I wanted to thank you on behalf of RCC for all your good wishes. The team also said that the match was played in the spirit of a true Sunday match and they thought it would be great if you could visit the club again. We will definitely keep a date open for you if you do want to visit in 2023, we hope this time with a full game being played! We can't recall a game being called off for injury in recent memory.*

Liam Beere



## Gentlemen of West London v. Wycombe House

Sunday 31 July, Wycombe House. Wycombe House won toss. Cloudy then sunny, 26C

Won by 5 wickets

Wycombe House				Gentlemen of West London			
Minhas	c R. Patel	b S. Patel	17	Gulati		b Chaudhry	39
Doshi	c Kota	b R. Patel	17	Chatharaju	c Adnan	b Chaudhry	0
Khawaja	run out (Namilikonda)		2	Kota	c A. Ahmed	b Abbasi	62
Shaikh	c Gulati	b Kumar	82	Namilikonda	lbw	b Osman	25
†Aftab	c Puli	b H. Patel	13	Krishna	c Khawaja	b Khan	11
Ahmar	run out (Kota)		0	Puli	not out		34
*A. Ahmed	run out (Kota)		22	S. Patel	not out		23
Khan	not out		25	†Sudireddy, R. Patel, Kumar and *H. Patel dnb			
Osman	not out		25				
Adnan and Abbasi dnb			9				
Extras	w3 b5 lb5		13	Extras	w14 nb2 b5 lb4		25
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 wickets</b>	<b>40 overs</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5 wickets</b>	<b>32.2 overs</b>	<b>219</b>
<b>FoW:</b> 28, 38, 45, 118, 118, 156, 165				<b>FoW:</b> 18, 53, 100, 141, 153			
<b>Bowling:</b> Kumar 8-2-27-1, R. Patel 7-0-41-1, S. Patel 4-0-27-1, Gulati 5-3-6-0, Krishna 3-0-20-0, Kota 5-0-36-0, H. Patel 8-0-49-1				<b>Bowling:</b> Chaudhry 5-1-50-2, Adnan 7-0-53-0, Osman 5-0-22-1, Kalair 5-0-23-0, Abbasi 6.2-0-46-1, Khan 4-0-16-1			

Gents and a keen, young Wycombe House Sunday XI enjoyed themselves in an entertaining game rich in incident. After Vasi Shaikh had dominated the first innings with a powerful 82 (nine fours and three sixes), the visitors got off to an absolute flyer with 92 coming up in the first ten overs. They lost wickets but the rock Kota's calm assurance was decisive. The pitch, used by the 1s the day before, therefore produced 910 runs in two games for the loss of only 28 wickets. The welcome offered by House's players, officials and supporters was warm and friendly, the pizzas after the game being much appreciated.

It was a tough day logistically for House whose 1s were short for their Middlesex Trophy quarter-final at Southgate. They tried to co-opt Messrs. Ahmed and Shaikh who stood their ground to honour this fixture. The colts who made up the XI (actually 13 in rotation) were handy cricketers and they fielded the club's top batsman (Mr Ahmed himself with 796) and two of the top three bowlers (Adnan and Osman with 32 wickets each). Everything pointed to a well-balanced contest.

Gents' seamers immediately found their lines but the openers were sound till Doshi clipped a full toss to mid-off. Minhas soon picked out mid-on and Khawaja was run out, leaving 'keeper Aftab to support Shaikh in a good spell for House. Seam and spin came alike to the veteran and he looked on for a century. Aftab holed out to long on but the entry of Ahmed after Ahmar's sad run out promised great things. His first ball, from H. Patel, was a slow full-toss pulled over the pavilion into the premises of Seccombe the builder's merchant. Thirty-eight came up in five overs when Shaikh called his skipper for a single that was never on, Kota and Sudireddy doing the needful, the carnage and Sudireddy's brilliant celebration captured forever on YouTube via FrogBox during a rare lucid interval for the temperamental streaming service. Shaikh was well caught on the long on boundary, a deserved wicket for Kumar. Khan and Osman's stylish stand of 51 in 40 balls ended the innings.

Chatharaju fell early, mistiming a pull. Gulati was ablaze with seven fours and a six off only 27 balls and after he departed having played around a full toss it was his like for like replacement, Namilikonda, who bashed a quick 20. Kota was in peak form and with stout and intelligent support from Krishna (viciously sledged by Shaikh) fewer than a hundred were needed. House worked hard and got back into the game by dismissing Krishna and Kota in quick succession, but were unable to bowl Gents out, that being their only route to victory with run rate long since having ceased to be an issue. A stand of 66 in eight overs between Puli and S. Patel then won the day, Puli equalling his highest score, off only 26 balls.

Back to our new mate FrogBox. One aspect of the day was thoroughly modern, for good or ill. Ahmed, Burman and Khan were constant telephone contact with the 1s' impressive captain Hamzah Khan who is a technical guru. Indeed, the scorer's table looked like a thieves' kitchen of tech with four phones, two iPads and a host of cables. There was also the scorebook which was, for this day at least, as unloved as Jessie the Cowgirl in Toy Story. It sat sadly in the corner.

## Gentlemen of West London v. Northfields

Sunday 7 August, Old Tenisonians. Northfields won toss. Sunny, 26C

Won by 74 runs

Gentlemen of West London				Northfields			
†Sudireddy		b Kent	8	Derrick Redhead	c Puli	b Krishna	2
Chatharaju	c and	b Derr. Redhead	0	Darren Redhead	lbw	b Krishna	4
Kota	c Akhtar	b Afridi	18	Yash	c Puli	b Pentakota	24
Namilikonda	c David-Joseph	b Garner	101	*David Redhead		b Gulati	35
Gulati	c David-Joseph	b David Redhead	4	†David-Joseph		b S. Patel	6
Puli	c Afridi	b Akhtar	10	Garner		b Pentakota	2
S. Patel		b Akhtar	4	Abz	c and	b Gulati	11
R. Patel	c Akhtar	b Garner	9	Afridi	c Kota	b Pentakota	0
Krishna	c Kent	b Akhtar	9	Malhotra		b Gulati	6
Pentakota	not out		28	Kent	not out		20
*H. Patel	not out		11	Akhtar		b R. Patel	18
Extras	w3 nb3 b3 lb1		10	Extras	w4 nb2 b4		10
Total	9 wickets	35 overs	212	Total	All out	29.4 overs	138
FoW: 9, 9, 75, 80, 107, 115, 142, 163, 173				FoW: 3, 8, 49, 61, 66, 86, 91, 94, 105, 138			
Bowling: Kent 7-0-47-1, Derrick Redhead 4-0-20-1, Afridi 4-0-28-1, David Redhead 4-0-28-1, Malhotra 5-0-34-0, Akhtar 7-0-35-3, Garner 4-1-16-2				Bowling: Chatharaju 5-1-12-0, Krishna 7-2-15-2, Pentakota 7-1-30-3, S. Patel 3-0-21-1, Gulati 3-0-18-3, H. Patel 2-0-8-0, R. Patel 1-4-0-24-1, Kota 1-0-6-0			

The wins keep on coming for the Gents with a run of 11 unbeaten matches after our defeat at Northfields in May, writes **Hemin Patel**. Since then, our batsmen have flourished, the bowlers have been on point and the fielding has been near perfect. Only Mpingwe have bowled us out since that game which is a testament to the grit and determination we show every week. These are all points that the captain is proud of and hopes will continue for the rest of the season

The Gents welcomed long-term friends Northfields to Old Tens on another hot and sunny day with only one thing on their mind, a win. After that narrow defeat there the Gents were out to prove a point and that is exactly what we did. After losing the toss and being inserted on what was another brilliantly-prepared wicket, the skipper was ecstatic knowing we had the batting to post a good score.

Ranjith and Ratti opened the batting with Ratti cracking two fours in Kent's first over. Ranjith was caught in two minds in the second and Derrick Redhead took a smart caught and bowled, then in the third Kent got his revenge and bowled Ratti. The Gents' two top scorers this season were now at the crease and things calmed down. Srinu playing in his usual destructive way and Pavan playing with his usual elegance got the run rate going. Pavan was caught for 18 after a stand of 66. Srinu kept on going though and with short and quick partnerships with the middle order continued to keep the pressure on as wickets started to fall at regular intervals. Bobby, Chandra, Sanjay, Raj and Vamsee fell quickly after contributing runs before Raja came to the crease. Confident in his ability he hit the gaps and supported Srinu well. With Srinu running out of gas he got to his century and fell soon after: a peach of an innings. Skipper Hemin Patel came out to bat knowing we needed to get to 200 and managed to put on 33 with Raja to get the Gents to 212 after 35 overs.

Gents, full of confidence, came out to bowl. Ranjith and Vamsee opened the bowling and what an exceptional opening spell it was. Derrick and Darren Redhead fell to Vamsee who had found his bowling form and Northfields struggled to up the run rate. On came Raja and Sanjay who continued the good work. Raja bowled good lengths and lines and got rid of Yash with an outstanding catch from Chandra, his second of the game, and old-timer Sanjay bowled David-Joseph.

With David Redhead still at the crease Gents knew they had to continue to apply the pressure at both ends. Bobby bowled with his usual pace and accuracy, caught and bowled Abz then bowled Malhotra and Raja soon got the wicket of Afridi. Raj took the final wicket and the Gents had won. Bar some dodgy boundary fielding we fielded superbly, catches were taken, and the concentration was excellent. A few shout outs from the captain: Srinu was outstanding with the bat and what a good innings from Raja. Bowling: Vamsee, Ranjith, Raja, Bobby were brilliant, Chandra was outstanding in the field with two brilliant catches.

## Gentlemen of West London v. Clapham In

Sunday 14 August, Old Tenisonians. Toss agreed. Sunny, 33C

Lost by 15 runs

Clapham In				Gentlemen of West London			
Ferreira	c Gulati	b Chatharaju	25	Gulati	c S. Smith	b Crowley	54
Cheetham		b Chatharaju	20	R. Patel	c and	b Crowley	13
Robins	lbw	b Chatharaju	0	Krishna	c Goodman	b Pandya	19
J. Smith		b Chatharaju	1	†Sudireddy	c Taylor	b Crowley	2
†S. Smith	not out		62	Parvathaneni	c Goodman	b Crowley	2
Taylor	not out		76	Namilikonda	lbw	b Bage	39
Crowley, Pandya, Tanuku, *Goodman and Bage dnb				Wagharalkar		b Bage	11
				J. Reddy	lbw	b Bage	0
				Chatharaju		b Bage	13
				S. Patel	not out		5
				*H. Patel		b Bage	0
Extras	nb1 b4 lb1		6	Extras	w2 nb3 b11 lb1		17
Total	4 wickets	35 overs	190	Total	All out	29 overs	175
FoW: 28, 28, 34, 51				FoW: 64, 73, 75, 87, 101, 158, 158, 165, 175, 175			
Bowling: J. Reddy 4-0-21-0, Chatharaju 7-1-23-4, Krishna 7-0-40-0, Gulati 4-0-13-0, H. Patel 7-0-45-0, S. Patel 6-0-43-0				Bowling: Bage 6-0-35-5, Goodman 5-0-33-0, Crowley 7-2-23-4, Pandya 5-0-24-1, Tanuku 4-0-26-0, J. Smith 1-0-8-0, Robins 1-0-14-0			

When after a lot of hard work and resilient cricket they stood at 165-7, needing 26 to win with three wickets and eight overs in hand, Gents had hopes of extending the winning run to 12 games. Six balls later and Clapham In had claimed a famous victory, their third in the last four games in this rubber. It was a chaotic day with plenty of good cricket. Thirteen of the fourteen wickets fell at the Tennyson Avenue end, all to high-quality seam and swing bowling.

Only six Gents and Clapham's Riaan Ferreira survived from the 2021 clash, won by Clapham. The early overs belonged to the Gents with Chatharaju producing a wonder spell to record his best analysis. But a marginal c&b chance aside, S. Smith and Taylor were untroubled in adding 139 in 141 balls, an all-opponents' record for the fifth wicket, beating the 121 in 80 balls by Payton and Harding of New Romney and Littlestone last October. The target of 191 would take some getting.

Gulati (ten fours in his 54) and R. Patel gave the hosts a perfect start with a blazing 64 in only 71 balls before Crowley wreaked havoc, assisted by neat and, in the case of his juggling c&b of R. Patel, spectacular catching. But Namilikonda (three sixes and a four) and last-minute guest Wagharalkar, dressed in civilian clothing and having put in a huge shift in the outfield in searing heat and humidity, wrested back the initiative with 57 off 38. Gents seemed slight favourites.

Exactly three years before, Tom Bage had taken 3-19 in Clapham's convincing win. Here he had carded 4-0-21-0 in his first spell. He then won the match. Namilikonda and Reddy fell lbw off balls one and four of his fifth over. A Chatharaju four and three singles off Tanuku followed, 165-7. Bage's sixth over went for ten but also included the wickets of Wagharalkar, Chatharaju (leg stump knocked out of the ground) and H. Patel. Quite a second spell. The unbeaten run had to end sometime and it was well that it was to a skilled, competitive and very friendly team.

We referred above to chaos. Clapham In have a fixtures app, which directed them to Wycombe House and may therefore fairly be described as bollocks. Having watched the sprinkler there do the Lord's work, they called for directions and turned up in dribs and drabs before insisting on batting first (Gents would have taken first knock which gave plenty of ammunition to the club's conspiracy theorists). The game started 55 minutes late. They updated the admittedly dilapidated and clunky scoreboard only with reluctance until Smith and Taylor were piling on the runs. A diplomatic note was sent but subsequently recalled after an enjoyable post-match social.

Their own wry take was: *'Due to an administrative error, half the team were sent to Osterley near Heathrow Airport, rather than the correct ground near Wimbledon, South West London. Was it a genuine mistake or a Machiavellian masterstroke allowing CICC to bat first without a toss and the chance to unveil usual top-order grafters Callum and Steve as middle-order Bazballers?'*



## Prince's Head v. Gentlemen of West London

Saturday 20 August, Richmond Green. Gents won toss. Sunny, 25C

Won by 143 runs

Gentlemen of West London				Prince's Head			
Puli	c Peter	b Saad	35	Mike	lbw	b Kota	19
A. Singh		b Ian	77	Peter	c Sudireddy	b S. Patel	16
Kota	c ?	b Tom	35	Thamil	st Sudireddy	b Kota	30
Namilikonda	lbw	b Saad	32	Saad		b Parvathaneni	19
Parvathaneni	c ?	b Saad	40	Tom		b Parvathaneni	8
Vemula		b Saad	0	Jan	lbw	b H. Patel	3
Chatharaju		b Loresh	13	Paul		b Parvathaneni	0
†Sudireddy		b Saad	6	Ray		b H. Patel	6
Teja	c ?	b Raj	2	Loresh	not out		0
S. Patel	not out	b Saad	1	Ian	c Sudireddy	b Teja	0
*H. Patel		b Thamil	3				
Extras	w10 nb3 b3		16	Extras	w7 nb3 b6		16
Total	All out	33.5 overs	260	Total	All out	23.3 overs	117
FoW: 95, 157, 157, 223, 223, 230, 248, 252, 257, 260				FoW: 35, 58, 82, 95, 103, 103, 112, 116, 117			
Bowling: Loresh 5-0-37-1, Ray 4-0-32-1, Saad 7-0-34-5, Paul 3-0-27-0, Peter 3-0-40-0, Ian 7-0-43-1, Tom 4-0-42-1, Thamil 0.5-0-2-1				Bowling: Chatharaju 5-0-22-0, S. Patel 5-0-20-1, Kota 5-0-22-2, A. Singh 3-0-20-0, Parvathaneni 3-0-17-3, H. Patel 2-0-9-2, Teja 0.3-0-1-1			

The Gents played their first Saturday game of the season against Prince's Head CC on what can only be described as the strangest cricket pitch we have ever played on, **writes Hemin Patel**. With concrete cycle paths criss-crossing the outfield and creases marked on a random part of the green, the Gents turned up asking if we had arrived at the right place. After asking the pub landlord it was soon confirmed that this was the cricket pitch; he said 'good luck'. As the crowds gathered on the green the Gents, delayed by climate change protesters, got their first shock when they realised they had to get changed on the green in front of the crowd. This put some off, others embraced it and channelled their inner stripper to put on a show for the crowd. Alas, no monies were collected.

The Gents won the toss and batted first. Aman and Chandra opened the innings. Poor bowling and fielding allowed the batters to swing the bat and hit the boundaries regularly along with good running between the wickets to keep the scoreboard ticking over at a good rate. After 10 overs Gents were 80-0 and the skipper was confident of a big score. Chandra eventually got out for 35 with, in the skipper's opinion, his best knock for the club.

Pavan came in and worked a good partnership with Aman who scored his first club 50. Pavan soon passed 1,000 runs for the season. Both continued to hit the gaps and run aggressively, but the tiredness soon set in and with the pitch slowing up with indifferent bounce, Aman was bowled for 77. Gents continued to bat well, Pavan was eventually caught behind and Srini and Abhi continued to attack. Once both had departed the new batsmen found it hard to get going on the pitch and wickets fell regularly. The last two batsmen Sanjay and Hemin discussed that they should just take singles, as many as possible. After a few deliveries, Sanjay had other plans and decided to not play at a ball, let it hit his leg and fell flat on his face. What looked like a plum lbw was not given and the skipper decided it was time to swing the bat before Sanjay did any more damage to himself, but that didn't last long and the innings closed with the Gents scoring 260.

After a quick turnaround and chasing people off the pitch, the Gents knew that all they had to do was bowl straight on a good length and let the pitch do the work. But Ranjith and Sanjay had different ideas and bowled wide and short to allow the batsmen to hit boundaries. Sanjay finally made the breakthrough in the sixth over with a neatly taken caught behind. This brought hard-hitting old timer Thamil to the crease and he did just that, hitting Sanjay hard all over the ground. Pavan and Aman took over with Pavan bowling brilliantly and he soon got his first wicket lbw (Pavan and the umpire were the only two people who thought it was out). Saad came out for Prince's Head and played some strong shots but with Pavan then taking another wicket momentum slowed. Hemin deceived a batsman with his quicker ball and got an lbw and bowled the next with a flighted delivery. Abhi blew away Saad and two others with his pace and swing and Mani finished it off with a caught behind to give the Gents the win.

## Gentlemen of West London v. Plastics

Sunday 21 August, Old Tenisonians. Plastics won toss. Sunny, 25C

Won by 5 wickets

Plastics				Gentlemen of West London			
Webster	not out		110	Parvathaneni	c Soomra	b Gordon	18
Soomra	c Sudireddy	b Chatharaju	2	Kamida	lbw	b Booth	26
Hatton	c Kamida	b Parvathaneni	14	Namilikonda	c Booth	b Rizvi	66
R. Bishop	run out (Parvathaneni)		10	Kulasingam		b Sandham	28
†Webb	c Kamida	b Kulasingam	14	Puli	c Webster	b Booth	38
*†P. Bishop	c Vemula	b Puli	25	Krishna	not out		10
Rizvi	c Parvathaneni	b Kulasingam	7	Chatharaju	not out		8
Bradbury	c Vemula	b Kulasingam	2	*†Sudireddy, Wagharalkar, Vemula and Teja dnb			
Sandham	c Parvathaneni	b Kulasingam	0				
Booth	c Kulasingam	b Puli	0				
Gordon	c Sudireddy	b Puli	0				
Extras	w7 nb6 b3		16	Extras	w7 nb2 b1		10
Total	All out	33.5 overs	200	Total	5 wickets	28.4 overs	204
FoW: 19, 87, 116, 137, 187, 191, 191, 191, 200				FoW: 36, 44, 138, 173, 195			
Bowling: Chatharaju 5-1-27-1, Kamida 4-0-28-0, Parvathaneni 5-1-16-1, Krishna 7-0-42-0, Kulasingam 7-2-33-4, Vemula 2-0-32-0, Puli 3.5-0-19-3				Bowling: Gordon 4.4-0-48-1, Booth 7-0-36-2, Sandham 7-0-35-1, Bradbury 4-0-40-0, Rizvi 3-0-20-1, P. Bishop 1-0-9-0, Soomra 2-0-15-0			

A day spiced by controversy ended in the Gents' favour after a fine chase, Plastics' 200 being overcome with five wickets and 32 balls in hand. It was a notable win for Sudireddy's men. The game had four distinct phases: powerful early batting by Plastics, well led by the excellent Webster; a brave fightback when Gents took the last six wickets for 13 including four without addition; an aggressive start to their reply; and finally a steady canter to victory. Both teams were much changed from the June 2021 clash which Plastics won by 81 runs. Only three from each side returned, Plastics missing the powerful Australian Anderson and paceman Jamieson, and Gents Kota, Kumar, Pingili and three Patels.

Such was Webster's dominance that the other ten batsmen contributed only 74. He gave one chance early when short cover could not cling on to a rasping drive but was otherwise untroubled, hitting 15 fours and five sixes, two of which were kindly thrown back by a Tennyson Avenue resident pottering in his garden. Having reached a fine ton he marched off with the score on 150 in the 24th over. Kulasingam (4-33) and Puli (3-19) were now in tandem and helped by impervious catching both in the deep and close in (four men nabbed two), and an excellent run out from fine-leg, the visitors declined to 191 all out.

Or so the Gents thought. Webster then marched out to resume his innings to the annoyance of the overcooked Gents' scorer, who declared his action a breach of Law 25.4 (Batters Retiring) but captain Sudireddy, ever the diplomat, allowed it. Nine more runs came before Gordon edged behind. Gents had taken ten fielding dismissals once before, when ten Enville were caught in 2004. But they fielded 12 that day, so this instance of all wickets falling to fielding dismissals is unique. Sudireddy went to a club record 21 fielding dismissals in a season (13 ct., 8 st.) two clear of Namilikonda's 19 in 2019.

Parvathaneni hit the first over of the reply for three fours and a six, 18-0, while Kamida also found his range in the next. So much so that though they were both out by the end of the fourth over, Gents had sprinted to 44-2, needing 157 off 31. Namilikonda, who went to 670 for the campaign with 66\* off 59 balls, and the steady Kulasingam knocked off 94 in only 86 balls before Puli's club HS (to go with his PB bowling) nearly took Gents over the line. Krishna and Chatharaju did the needful with no further alarms. One was left with the thought that Webster's early retirement and absence from the middle for 11 overs might have worked against his team. Thus ended a long weekend's cricket. Thanks to all players, especially the six who played twice, and the doughty team secretary whose remote organisation was spot on.

The drone and FrogBox were lacking from previous encounters but Plastics remain technical innovators. They attempted to score the match on PlayCricket before abandoning the project due to an imploding iPad, an experience shared by many clubs. The teams had fun after the match, Gents revelling in the latest successful chase down of a 200-plus score, one achieved without the masterly Kota.

## Gentlemen of West London v. Fighting Stars

Sunday 28 August, Wycombe House. Gents won toss. Sunny, 24C

Lost by 2 wickets

Gentlemen of West London				Fighting Stars			
Dubey		b Mehmood	9	Khan		b Parvathaneni	9
R. Patel	lbw	b Mehmood	8	D'Cunha	c Kota	b Chatharaju	33
Namilikonda	lbw	b Mehmood	50	Javed		b Kulasingam	57
Kota		b Alam	57	D. Singh	lbw	b Kulasingam	9
Krishna	c Mehmood	b Alam	23	Mohid	c and	b Kulasingam	5
*†Sudireddy		b Gilani	27	†Atique		b Kulasingam	4
Chatharaju		b Javed	34	Gilani	c Namilikonda	b Kulasingam	52
Parvathaneni	c T. Singh	b Javed	31	*Farooq	not out		45
S. Patel	not out		6	T. Singh	c Namilikonda	b Kota	0
Puli	not out		4	Mehmood	not out		36
Kulasingam	dnb			Alam	dnb		
Extras	w3 nb8 b3 lb2		16	Extras	w10 nb1 b4 lb2		17
Total	8 wickets	40 overs	265	Total	8 wickets	39.1 overs	267
FoW: 10, 24, 80, 139, 162, 208, 252, 252				FoW: 13, 70, 97, 113, 119, 136, 194, 195			
Bowling: Gilani 8-0-54-1, Mehmood 8-0-37-3, T. Singh 7-0-58-0, Farooq 8-0-33-0, Alam 6-0-47-2, Atique 2-0-27-0, Javed 1-0-4-2				Bowling: Krishna 6-0-38-0, Parvathaneni 3.4-0-18-1, Chatharaju 4.3-0-38-1, Dubey 6-0-34-0, Kulasingam 8-0-50-5, S. Patel 2-0-28-0, Puli 4-0-25-0, Kota 5-0-30-1			

Fighting Stars achieved a famous win and shattered many records, some of great longevity. This afternoon proved that if you have two balanced sides (Stars commendably did not misrepresent their strength when the fixture was brokered), two strong batting line-ups and a flat, true wicket then anything can happen.

For the fifth time in 2022 Gents posted a 250 score but for the first time a team had the skills, nerve and tactics to chase it down. We salute them. There was no controversy and the desire by both sets of players to repeat the fixture in 2023 was universal. Don't rule out the secretary's assertion that one day a side will overhaul 300 on this ground.

Gents' innings on a beautiful late summer's day was based around fine fifties from Kota and Namilikonda and healthy contributions throughout the order with Krishna, the captain and Chatharaju batting steadily and Parvathaneni providing a late blast of 31 off 18. The hosts never broke free, though Namilikonda had threatened to with three sixes off Singh's first five balls, but 113-3 at 20-over drinks became a prosperous 265 without undue alarm. The fielding by Stars held up well and their bowling on a remorseless batsman's wicket was accurate.

Parvathaneni struck early before D'Cunha and Javed put up 57 off 39 balls for the second wicket. Chatharaju had D'Cunha well held by Kota at long on by the tennis courts and Kulasingam made inroads. From 70-1 Stars slipped to 136-6 off 21.4, a good run rate but only four wickets remained for Gents to capture. When Kulasingam got Gilani for a sprightly 52 off 36 (his fifth wicket) and Kota had Singh for a golden, both to neat Namilikonda catches, the match seemed as good as won. But captain Nabeel Farooq – ex-captain of Wycombe House 3s – was a wise operator and with Mehmood attacked the target of 71 off 67 balls with relish, playing proper cricket shots and backing themselves. Interestingly, R. Patel did not bowl.

In contrast to the previous week Gents' catching was below par and there were a few misfields but truly this was a game won by the visitors rather than lost by the hosts. The final eleven overs were played out amid great tension and fading light but the chance would not come and Farooq struck the winning four at 7.25pm.

Naturally the team was disappointed but should regard themselves as privileged to have played in such an memorable encounter. History was made and captain Sudireddy stated that the game was hugely enjoyable. Aamir Ahmed did a lot of good work to make hosts and visitors welcome, thanks are due to him. This remains a venue of the highest quality and its facilities are top notch. Two matches here over the weekend had therefore produced no fewer than 1,026 runs.

## Gentlemen of West London v. Millfields

Sunday 4 September, Wycombe House. Millfields won toss. Sunny, 24C

Lost by 7 wickets

Gentlemen of West London				Millfields			
Puli	c C. Cooper	b Jackson	34	Wilson	c Puli	b Chatharaju	97
Kumar	c Jackson	b C. Cooper	56	Lascelles	c Sudireddy	b R. Patel	12
Kota	c Prowse	b Wilson	74	Baxter	c R. Patel	b Kumar	38
*†Sudireddy	c Lascelles	b C. Cooper	0	*Collis	not out		62
Namilikonda	lbw	b Wilson	26	C. Cooper	not out		39
Pentakota	not out		39	Prowse, Jackson, Hadi, Gardiner, M. Cooper and †Winter dnb			
Chatharaju	c Baxter	b C. Cooper	15				
S. Patel	c Winter	b Hadi	0				
Dubey	not out		7				
R. Patel and Krishna dnb							
Extras	w9 nb2 b5 lb1		17	Extras	w14 nb3 b1 lb5		23
Total	7 wickets	40 overs	268	Total	3 wickets	38.5 overs	271
FoW: 76, 108, 108, 187, 226, 242, 259				FoW: 42, 112, 211			
Bowling: Jackson 8-0-40-1, Hadi 7-1-43-1, Gardiner 5-0-39-0, C. Cooper 8-1-29-3, M. Cooper 8-0-64-0, Wilson 4-0-47-2				Bowling: Dubey 8-1-28-0, Krishna 8-2-19-0, R. Patel 7.5-0-62-1, Pentakota 2-0-13-0, Kota 2-0-13-0, Kumar 5-0-51-1, Chatharaju 3-0-25-1, Namilikonda 1-0-12-0, Puli 1-0-14-0, S. Patel 2-0-14-0			

Millfields produced a perfect chase at sunny Wycombe House to inflict a second successive chastening home defeat. The pitch, used by the 2s 24 hours before, behaved perfectly and both sides had strong batting who delivered, so it was really a matter of whose bowlers held their nerve under the inevitable onslaught and who fielded better. By these criteria, the visitors had the slight edge and so deserved the win. It was a good-spirited contest.

Perhaps mindful of the recent run gluts in Gents' games Millfields had no hesitation in fielding. Kumar and Puli put up a sound 76 in 14.3 overs before Puli skyed to cover, who clung on to a tumbling catch. Drinks at 20 overs brought two quick wickets, Cooper's quicks getting Kumar for a fine 56 ball one of the 21st. and the captain caught by a diving slip off the third. No matter it seemed, as Kota went to a fine 50 off 41 balls. Namilikonda fell to Wilson's slow spin but Pentakota (39 off 27), Chatharaju and Dubey batted according to the requirements of the innings to bring up a hefty 267. Cooper delivered an impressive 3-29.

Dubey – bowled through – and Krishna opened the bowling with some economy but the pony-tailed Australian Jason Wilson was in command from the word go. Lascelles feathered R. Patel's first legitimate ball (he had opened with a wide) behind, Sudireddy's 22nd victim of the campaign, 42-1 off 11.1. Millfields needed 227 @ 7.9 at that point and the truth is they never fell behind the rate. Wilson was in complete control and with the sound Baxter added 70 in 10 overs. When in his first over Kumar got one to jump at Baxter who sparred to silly mid-off Gents had a ray of hope, immediately extinguished by the appearance of Collis. There was still work to do when Wilson on 97 picked out long on, but Cooper was in no mood to hang around and despite valiant efforts by all ten bowlers and improved fielding in the final 10 overs, the visitors won when he drove a six over the old scoreboard to round off a good day for him. The panoply of batting records set by Fighting Stars had lasted a mere seven days.

### Records broken

#### Highest successful run chases

Millfields **271-3** beat Gents 267-8 by 7 wickets (Wycombe House CC 4.9.22)  
 Fighting Stars **267-8** beat Gents 265-8 by 2 wickets (Wycombe House CC 28.8.22)  
 Northfields **261-3** beat Gents 260-7 by 7 wickets (Durstun House 24.5.15)  
 London Owls **239-0** beat Gents 235-9 dec. by 10 wickets (Victoria RG 5.9.93)  
 Northfields **238-3** beat Gents 237-9 by 7 wickets (Durstun House 22.5.16)

#### Highest scores against

12 Angry Men **284-3** (Victoria RG 29.7.01)  
 Stanmore Warriors **281-7** (Shenley CC 3.9.17)  
 Millfields **271-3** (Wycombe House CC 4.9.22)  
 Fighting Stars **267-8** (Wycombe House CC 28.8.22)  
 West XI **263-6** (Victoria RG 24.5.92)

#### Most runs in a game

**539** Gents 267-8, Millfields 271-3 (Wycombe House CC 4.9.22)  
**532** Gents 265-8, Fighting Stars 267-8 (Wycombe House CC 28.8.22)  
**521** Gents 260-7, Northfields 261-3 (Durstun House 24.5.15)  
**513** Gents 312-9, Putney 201 (Cottenham Park 10.7.22)  
**509** Gents 325-5, London Saints 184-9 (Old Tenisonians CC 3.6.07)

## Lydd v. Gentlemen of West London

Sunday 10 September, The Banks. Gents won toss. Sunny, 22C

Won by 5 wickets

Lydd			Gentlemen of West London		
†Wood	lbw	b R. Patel	81	Kumar	b Cooper
Unwin	c Namilikonda	b R. Patel	38	Namilikonda	lbw
Anderson	run out (Kota)		44	Kota	lbw
Wolfe		b Kota	0	Chatharaju	c S. Lawrence
D. Lawrence	c R. Patel	b Kota	2	S. Patel	run out (Anderson)
Addy		b Kota	4	†Sudireddy	not out
*Fletcher	run out (R. Patel)		1	Parvathaneni	not out
Cooper	run out (S. Patel)		0	Puli, Dubey, R. Patel and *H. Patel	dnb
S. Lawrence Jr.	not out		0		
Pyott and Hunt	dnb				
Extras	w2 nb4 b2 lb2		10	Extras	w4 b6 lb1
Total	8 wickets	35 overs	180	Total	5 wickets
FoW: 62, 155, 164, 168, 177, 180, 180, 180			FoW: 21, 47, 58, 102, 108		
Bowling: Dubey 4-2-23-0, S. Patel 4-0-22-0, Chatharaju 3-0-20-0, R. Patel 6-0-26-2, Parvathaneni 5-0-25-0, H. Patel 7-0-32-0, Kota 6-0-28-3			Bowling: Cooper 5-0-20-2, Pyott 3-0-32-0, Anderson 5-0-24-1, Fletcher 7-0-40-1, Wolfe 4-0-30-0, Unwin 2-0-8-0, Addy 1.5-0-22-0		



Rev. Barham wrote in *The Ingoldsby Legends* (1840): ‘*The World, according to the best geographers, is divided into Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Romney Marsh.*’ From the warm welcome via an entertaining game to a lively post-match social, this was a day to cherish at the heart of the fifth continent. The match turned on the run out of Anderson after 27 overs with the score 155-1, a platform for perhaps 220. The dam was breached, the floodgates opened and Gents snapped up seven quick wickets for 25, including two further run outs of significant comedic merit. Lydd closed on 180, a little disappointing for them given their grand start, and consistent batting throughout the order saw Gents home with five wickets and 43 balls in hand.

Though Puli was slightly delayed, Gents assembled on time after a Friday evening passed in Ashford without havoc and we were away at 1.20pm. Early overs were Lydd’s as Wood and Unwin rattled along at five an over until Unwin clipped Raj Patel to mid-wicket in the twelfth. Anderson scored quickly however and the score mounted to 155-1 when Wood ran him out, victim of a misunderstanding.

Gents then seized the day and the next few overs were a whirl of run outs and wickets for Kota and Raj Patel as the final four wickets added three runs. The scorecard therefore had a lopsided look, though not as much as New Romney’s would 24 hours later.

The national anthem was sung during tea. Thanks to Lydd for facilitating this.



The pitch was green but essentially true and Namilikonda took the second over for six, four and six off successive balls. Though Kumar was bowled by the canny left-armed Cooper, the required rate was by this point under five. Kota and Chatharaju flourished briefly, S. Patel was in prime form but there was still work to do at 108-5 when he was run out, with the captain injured and unable to bat.

Sudireddy is rarely at a loss under pressure and Parvathaneni was his ideal partner. Lydd's bowling was accurate and the fielding alert but the batsmen picked out the gaps and punished the loose ball. Sudireddy hit six fours, his partner two and the winning six, driven over the short off-side boundary.

## New Romney and Littlestone v. Gentlemen of West London

Sunday 11 September, New Romney. Gents won toss. Sunny, 22C

Won by 1 wicket

New Romney and Littlestone				Gentlemen of West London			
Haiselden		b R. Patel	0	Dubey	c Symonds	b Payton	29
D. Lawrence		b Kumar	0	Puli	c Symonds	b Payton	5
Patel	c Puli	b Kumar	1	Kota		b Symonds	9
S. Lawrence Jr.	c Dubey	b R. Patel	0	Pentakota	lbw	b Symonds	0
T. Harding	c Parvathaneni	b Kumar	0	Petluru	c and	b Symonds	0
Payton	not out		96	R. Patel	c Owen	b Symonds	1
*Symonds	c Puli	b R. Patel	0	Chatharaju	not out		28
Adams	c Puli	b R. Patel	0	Namilikonda	c D. Lawrence	b T. Harding	10
†S. Lawrence Sr.	c and	b Chatharaju	1	Parvathaneni	c and	b T. Harding	2
C. Harding		b Kota	2	Kumar		b T. Harding	5
Owen		b Kota	0	*†Sudireddy	not out		6
Extras	w4 nb2		6	Extras	w2 nb1 b11		14
Total	All out	21 overs	106	Total	9 wickets	31.1 overs	109
FoW: 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 20, 39, 41, 87, 106				FoW: 15, 45, 45, 47, 54, 69, 71, 99			
Bowling: R. Patel 5-2-7-4, Kumar 4-2-32-3, Chatharaju 6-1-42-1, Parvathaneni 3-0-9-0, Kota 3-0-16-2				Bowling: Owen 7-1-32-0, Payton 6-0-26-2, Symonds 7-4-15-4, C. Harding 4-1-0-12-0, T. Harding 7-2-13-3			



The Gents shaded an absolute classic when Sudireddy clipped Harding Jr. to the square-leg boundary at 5.20pm. It was the most exciting game for years, Gents reducing New Romney to 2-5 then 20-6 before Luke Payton's brilliant, unbeaten 96 (seven sixes and seven fours off 58 balls) took them to a fair score on a green, seaming wicket.

Gents started buoyantly but lost wickets quickly before Ranjith Chatharaju got to grips. His marathon 28\* off 61 balls, soundly supported by Kumar (5 off 24) and Sudireddy (6\* off 13), edged Gents over the line, all witnessed by a considerable live crowd and an audience of 177 on YouTube (excluding Namilikonda perving on his six 5,000 times).

A score of 106 all out or thereabouts is not unusual. That one man scored 96 of them, out of 100 off the bat, most certainly is. The 189 (170 balls) by Viv Richards in a 1984 ODI against England in a total of 272 (10 extras) is arithmetically the most dominant in international cricket. King Viv managed 72% of runs off the bat, Payton a round 96%.

Raja Pentakota and Kalyan Petluru came in in for Hemin and Sanjay Patel, who with Rajit Joshi and Jay Patel would provide voluble support, necessary to compete with the boisterous New Romney faithful. The poor lads would be rewarded for their two hour drive by a brace of ducks, both lasting three balls. Ignoring the siren voices of those who would influence captains Sudireddy got his line-up spot on. Kumar coming in No.10 was a masterstroke, cleverly conceived in his hotel bedroom the previous evening. He had a very good day indeed, conceding no byes and hitting the winning runs, returning home with two not outs to his name.

Sudireddy chose to bowl and this was the timeline of the first five overs:

0.4 overs Haiselden bowled R. Patel, 1-1

1.4 overs D. Lawrence bowled Kumar, 1-2

3.1 overs Patel caught Puli at mid-wicket bowled Kumar, 2-3

3.3 overs the dangerous Harding caught Parvathaneni in the slips bowled Kumar, 2-4

4.5 overs Shane Lawrence caught Dubey at cover bowled R. Patel, 2-5

This was, argued distinguished cricket correspondents, a slightly parlous position for New Romney, but Payton hit out, taking Kumar for a two, a four and two sixes in the sixth over. He was sensational. Symonds and Adams holed out identically to mid-wicket and 'keeper Spencer Lawrence clipped back a high c&b to Chatharaju, 41-8. We then saw the giant youth Payton in his full glory with fours and sixes thumped all over the ground. Kota cleaned up, 106 all out.

There were few early alarms as Dubey and Puli set about their task. Puli called for a helmet but holed out to mid-on next ball off Payton's left-armers but Dubey and Kota pushed the innings on to 45-1 before the match turned on its head. Dubey fell identically to Puli before Symonds struck twice in an over to dismiss Pentakota and Petluru. R. Patel and Kota soon followed, Gents 54-6. Namilikonda drove a six but soon holed out and Paravthaneni chipped another return catch, two for Harding, 71-8 off 19.4.

Chatharaju and Kumar then got their heads down and batted with skill and resolution adding 28 off 49 balls. They edged slowly to 85-8 before Chatharaju unleashed a four and a six off Owen, 95-8. Kumar cut a four (nobody in the club plays this shot better) off Harding but fell next ball, 99-9 off 27.5.

Enter Sudireddy. The last pair saw it through, the winning runs coming after a period of great tension. Chatharaju already has his place in Gents' history with his last-ball six to beat Squirrels in 2018. With due deference to that, his two fifties and a quartet of Battersea Eagles wickets in 2019, this match reporter believes his monumental innings to have been his finest achievement in a Gents' shirt.

Bat and trap was produced after the game and much merriment was had. It is a Kentish game, played with relish on the Marsh. It was a perfect end to the weekend.



### Tech update

New Romney's walkie-talkie set played an important part in garnering information. The wickets are pitched so far away from the scorer's table here that it is hard to recognise players, so scorer Cooper (Lydd's left-arm seamer from the Saturday) was in continual touch with the umpires to get names. The card above is the best one could do.

Scorer: 'Was he bowled umpire?'

Umpire: 'No, definitely caught.'

Scorer: 'Catcher's name?'

Umpire: 'Nilesh.'

Scorer: 'He's not on PlayCricket. Andy, I haven't got a Nilesh.'

Burman: 'Oh pick anybody, we'll sort it out later' (Note: the players later claimed nine catches)

## Gentlemen of West London v. Salix

Sunday 18 September, Nursery Road RG. Salix won toss. Sunny, 17C

Won by 2 wickets

Salix			Gentlemen of West London		
*Sadhra		b Chatharaju	4	Pentakota	not out
Waddington	c Vemula	b R. Patel	27	Puli	lbw
†Ilangakoon		b Chatharaju	16	Namilikonda	b Ali
Ubhi		b R. Patel	4	Vemula	b Darling
Kulasingam	c S. Patel	b R. Patel	2	S. Patel	b Darling
Darling		b Pentakota	4	*†Sudireddy	b Ellis
†Desai		b Chatharaju	16	Chatharaju	b Ilangakoon
Winston	c and	b Nagpal	0	Dubey	b Ellis
Ali	not out		30	R. Patel	c Waddington
Balasubramaniam		b S. Patel	19	Nagpal	not out
Ellis		b S. Patel	0	*H Patel	dnb
Extras	w7 nb3 b5 lb3		18	Extras	w7 nb2 b9
Total	All out	34.2 overs	140	Total	8 wickets 30.4 overs
FoW: 16, 40, 49, 62, 62, 71, 78, 99, 134, 140			FoW: 19, 39, 49, 68, 86, 93, 125		
Bowling: Dubey 5-0-28-0, Chatharaju 7-2-21-3, R. Patel 6-1-30-3, Pentakota 4-0-13-1, Nagpal 4-1-9-1, H. Patel 4-0-18-0, S. Patel 4-2-13-2			Bowling: Ali 5-4-2-27-2, Sadhra 4-0-18-0, Kulasingam 5-1-17-0, Darling 4-2-9-3, Ilangakoon 6-0-21-1, Ellis 5-0-35-2, Balasubramaniam 1-0-8-0		

Seven days after Ranjith Chatharaju's epic 28\* in 20.4 overs, Raja Pentakota batted 30.4 for 53\*, another match-winner and a perfect innings in the circumstances. Salix, eager to avenge their June defeat, fought hard all day and perhaps did not deserve to lose such a tight and exciting game. The pitch was slow and sometimes capricious, and with both attacks greedy runs here were thoroughly earned. The old pavilion is no more and other facilities were non-existent but with a modest investment this otherwise pretty ground could be a very good facility.

Salix started briskly with veteran left-hander Waddington particularly impressive. Ilangakoon hit Dubey out of the attack with four successive fours. But Chatharaju and R. Patel were soon among the wickets, carding three each, 11 against Salix in 2022. It was an unusually spicy attack: Pentakota and debutant Nagpal gave the batsmen no respite and when Salix declined to 78-7 a short afternoon loomed.

Not so. Desai, young Herts League 1s player Ali and Balasubramaniam batted with relish, adding 62 for the last three wickets. A fizzing straight drive from Ali off Nagpal was the shot of the innings. It took veteran S. Patel to clean up and during the brief interval both captains felt 140 to be a par score.

When the second leg of a double-header is played we often refer to the number of changes in the teams. Seven Gents returned and three Salix, so substantially they were a different side, and a very competitive and competent one. Puli was pinned by Ali in front of his stumps before Darling struck three times, 49-4, Pentakota 16\*. Spinners Ellis and Ilangakoon took three more and it was 93-7 in the 24th, Salix slight favourites though Pentakota was ominously unbreached on 33\*.

Hail then R. Patel whose quick 17 was the support required. He ran well with his partner before falling to a cracking one-handed catch at deep mid-on but Nagpal was brave under fire, winning the game with a two and a glanced four off Ali's rockets. Gents had shaded it but it was close run thing.



One Salix player then debouched to the Kiss Me Hardy Wacky Warehouse tavern kitted out in hiking gear looking like Charles Hawtrey's Charlie Muggins character in Carry on Camping.

*Mr Short: Miss Dobbin, what's the meaning of this?*  
*Miss Dobbin: I'm sorry sir but the gentleman kept touching things.*  
*Charlie Muggins: Yes she was showing me how to stick the pole up.*



## Western International Market v. Gentlemen of West London

Sunday 25 September, Lyne RG. Gents won toss. Sunny, 16C

Won by 26 runs

Gentlemen of West London			Western Intenational Market		
Dubey	b Safi	7	†Khazim	b R. Patel	15
Krishna	b Sami	3	Shahid	run out (S. Patel)	4
Namilikonda	b Hider	12	*Ibrahim	st Sudireddy	0
Puli	not out	86	Ajaz	c Chatharaju	44
S. Patel	b Saif	8	Saif	b Chatharaju	4
†Sudireddy	b Sami	32	Sami	b Dubey	25
Chatharaju	c Saif	22	Babar	b S. Patel	36
Pentakota	not out	2	Safi	c Puli	2
R. Patel, Addala and *H. Patel dnb			Hider	hit wicket	0
			Malik	not out	3
			Imran	st Sudireddy	22
<b>Extras</b>	w17 nb4 b4 lb3	28	<b>Extras</b>	w17 nb2	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 wickets</b>	<b>30 overs</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>All out</b>	<b>27 overs</b>
		200			174
<b>FoW:</b> 7, 16, 37, 66, 122, 185			<b>FoW:</b> 5, 19, 41, 61, 88, 115, 137, 137, 146, 174		
<b>Bowling:</b> Sami 6-0-46-3, Safi 6-0-39-1, Ajaz 6-0-42-0, Hider 4-0-26-1, Malik 4-0-18-0, Saif 4-0-22-1			<b>Bowling:</b> Pentakota 3-0-21-0, R. Patel 5-0-35-3, Krishna 2-0-19-0, Chatharaju 3-0-20-1, Addala 2-0-21-1, H. Patel 6-0-30-2, Dubey 3-0-11-1, S. Patel 3-0-17-1		



An exciting finale to the club's thirty-fifth season saw Chandrasekhar Puli inspire the Gents to a narrow win against a young, gifted team who played often brilliant cricket. Puli batted 25 overs and hit eight fours and two sixes. Nor was his day complete, for in the second innings he would take an important catch and less creditably nut one of the opponents' ten sixes over the long on boundary into a ditch before collapsing in a heap.

Eager to sign off as captain with a victory, Hemin Patel won the toss and batted first on a narrow artificial. Gents were soon in trouble, struggling to 66-4 at the midway point. Namilikonda cleared the boundary but otherwise it was predominantly singles, the lush grass allowing few twos.

The batting by Puli, Sudireddy (four fours) and Chatharaju (a four and two sixes) would transform the fortunes of the visitors. Seven times Puli had made it to the thirties but he had never been able to convert. He advanced to 33, whereupon he unleashed two fours, a six and another four to bring up his fifty. Inspired, he fair rattled along after.

Boundaries flowed, 126 runs coming off the final 12 overs. Western International Market were powerless to prevent the onslaught, wilting slightly in the field, and 200-6 off 30 was a healthy position. Puli, Chatharaju and Sudireddy passed 300 runs in a season, the first two for the first time.

After a fifteen-minute interval, play resumed at twenty past two. The excitement of the previous hour's play would continue for two hours of frantic cricket laced with controversy. It became immediately clear that this side with its talented array of bowlers also knew how to put bat to ball. Shahid smacked a four but was then run out sixth ball of the innings after his partner declined a sharp single. Captain Ibrahim was then brilliantly stumped after straying out of his crease.

Outswingers from R. Patel and Chatharaju reduced the hosts to 61-4 scored at a run a ball, a rate they would maintain until the fifteenth over. Ajaz was a mighty hitter who struck 44 in only nine overs before, essaying a second six off debutant Addala, he picked out long on, a fine catch by Chatharaju on the boundary.

This was the pattern of the game and most entertaining it was. Batsmen would take guard, smash a raft of boundaries (Babar hit four sixes) then get out. With the introduction of the experienced trio of the captain, who bowled beautifully, Dubey and S. Patel, Gents gained a measure of control. There was still time for an assault by Imran on R. Patel whom he took for six, four and six before being stumped.

In deciding if this pretty but basic recreation ground is an appropriate venue for the future, Gents should bear in mind that games in late September are notoriously hard to secure, even against opponents who turn up on the day being different.

### The rules of the game

Gents arrived to be told that all overs must be bowled from one end in order not to incur the wrath of an elderly local resident fed up with ball searches in her garden. There was also a childish codicil of no lbws. No negotiation was permitted, this method of dismissal having been a sore point with the hosts since it 'kicked off against a team of Punjabis a few weeks ago.' It would also be a 30 over game, which seemed odd given the (respected) 11.30 start, bright sunshine and sunset not till ten to seven. The match ended at ten to five. Test match wides were also insisted upon. Both sides conceded 17 but one umpire wided everything down leg, reversing one such decision after protests.

### Incorrect decision

R. Patel bowled a No ball to Ibrahim who stepped out his crease. Sudireddy threw down the stumps and the umpire raised his finger. This was incorrect because you cannot be stumped off a No ball. You can be run out but for this to happen 1. Ibrahim would have had to be stealing a run and 2. Somebody other than Sudireddy would have had to break the stumps. We have gone with the original, incorrect decision for stats.

### Who were they?

The fixture was planned to be the return against Ottershaw but they were busy larruping Crowthorne and Crown Wood away with much the same team who visited Gents in June. The authorities were alerted who confirmed that Ottershaw sublet the ground to a wandering team from Southall, Western International Market CC, whose website boasts that its wholesalers offer the freshest and most competitively priced fresh horticultural produce anywhere. No damage really attaches to this other than the loss of the chance to develop the relationship with Ottershaw.

## Final averages for 2022

Player (debut*)	M.	Inn.	NO	Runs	Avg.	Ct./St.	O	M	Runs	Wck.	Avg.
Chatharaju	24	20	2	308	17.11	4	105.4	10	505	30	16.83
Dubey	16	12	2	227	22.70	6	81	13	330	12	27.50
Gulati	12	12	1	332	30.18	10	54.3	10	191	13	14.69
*Kamida	2	2	1	26	26.00	3	11	1	57	5	11.40
Kota	22	21	5	1,185	74.06	9	48.5	0	279	15	18.60
Krishna	20	16	3	155	11.92	1	96.3	8	453	8	56.63
Kulasingam	4	3	1	68	34.00	3	19	2	94	10	9.40
Kumar	15	13	1	224	18.67	1	41	8	226	9	25.11
Namilikonda	21	19	-	820	43.16	5	13	0	89	2	44.50
*Parvathaneni	12	11	1	223	22.30	5	41.4	2	211	12	17.58
H. Patel	19	8	2	39	6.50	2	88.4	1	494	24	20.58
R. Patel	19	13	1	93	7.75	6	77.5	7	369	24	15.38
S. Patel	22	17	6	190	17.27	3	57.2	5	344	12	28.67
Pentakota	6	6	4	124	62.00	1	17	1	83	4	20.75
Pingili	2	2	-	23	11.50	1	4	0	16	0	-
Puli	20	17	5	337	28.08	10	22	2	123	5	24.60
*Reddy	2	2	1	16	16.00	-	4	0	21	0	-
*A. Singh	3	3	2	84	84.00	-	14	1	74	4	18.50
Sudireddy	24	20	3	314	18.47	14/10	-	-	-	-	-
*Tanniru	2	1	-	10	10.00	-	10	0	72	1	72.00
*Teja	2	1	-	2	2.00	-	1	0	1	1	1.00
*Vemula	4	2	-	7	3.50	3	6	0	56	0	-
*Wagharalkar	3	1	-	11	11.00	-	-	-	-	-	-

**One match only:** \*Addala 1/-/-/, 2-0-21-1, A. Ahmed 1/1/-/23, \*Kalisetty 1/1/-/0, 5-1-8-2, \*Kamat 1/1/-/15, 1-0-12-0, \*Kolliparra 1/1/-/0, 1-0-6-0, \*Nagpal 1/1/1/7, 4-1-9-1 (1 ct.), Petluru 1/1/-/0, Sirikonda 1/1/1/1/2, 4-0-15-2, S. Snelling 1/-/-/, 3-1-3-0, \*Varasala 1/1/-/9, 7-0-40-4, Sub. Fielder (1 ct.)



## 2022 in numbers

**Highest score for:** 324-6 *n.* Squirrels

**Against:** 271-3 by Millfields

**Lowest score for:** 109 *n.* Crossbats

**Against:** 46 by Salix

100 partnerships for	100 partnerships against
168 Kota/Namilikonda <i>n.</i> Squirrels (3rd. wicket record) 135 Kota/Gulati <i>n.</i> Binfield (4th. wicket) 115 Kota/Sudireddy <i>n.</i> Teddington Town (4th. wicket) 115 Kota/R. Patel <i>n.</i> Ottershaw (4th. wicket) 114 Kota/Parvathaneni <i>n.</i> Wimbledon United (6th. wicket) 107 Namilikonda/Gulati <i>n.</i> Putney (5th. wicket)	139* S. Smith/Taylor (Clapham In) (opponents' 5th wicket record) 133 Hunt/Pereira/Hussain/Tusher (Teddington Town) (4th. wicket) 103 McKay/Smith (Redbourn (3rd wicket)
50s/100s for (M = first 50 or 100)	50s/100s against
160* Kota <i>n.</i> Squirrels (highest score by a Gent) 151 Namilikonda <i>n.</i> Putney 123 Kota <i>n.</i> Ottershaw 111* Kota <i>n.</i> St Anne's Allstars 107* Kota <i>n.</i> Binfield 101 Namilikonda <i>n.</i> Northfields 86* Puli <i>n.</i> Western International Market <b>M</b> 82* Kota <i>n.</i> Whalers 77 A. Singh <i>n.</i> Prince's Head <b>M</b> 76 Kota <i>n.</i> Wimbledon United 76 Namilikonda <i>n.</i> Squirrels 74 Kota <i>n.</i> Millfields 73 Kota <i>n.</i> Teddington Town 66 Namilikonda <i>n.</i> Plastics 63 Parvathaneni <i>n.</i> Wimbledon United <b>M</b> 62 Kota v. Wycombe House 60 Gulati <i>n.</i> Northfields 57 Kota <i>n.</i> Fighting Stars 56 Kumar <i>n.</i> Millfields 54 Dubey <i>n.</i> Teddington Town 54 Gulati <i>n.</i> Clapham In 53 Kota <i>n.</i> Hook and Southborough 53* Pentakota <i>n.</i> Salix 52 Gulati <i>n.</i> Binfield 52 Namilikonda <i>n.</i> Whalers 50 Chatharaju <i>n.</i> Hook and Southborough 50 Namilikonda <i>n.</i> Fighting Stars	110* Webster (Plastics) 106 Aldridge (Squirrels) 100* Hunt (Teddington Town) 97 Wilson (Millfields) 96* Payton (New Romney and Littlestone) 84* David Redhead (Northfields) 82 McKay (Redbourn) 82 Shaikh (Wycombe House) 81 Wood (Lydd) 76* Pereira (Teddington Town) 76* Taylor (Clapham In) 82 Smith (Redbourn) 62* S. Smith (Clapham In) 62 Collis (Millfields) 57 Javed (Fighting Stars) 56 S. Skinner (Crossbats) 52 Gilani (Fighting Stars) 50* Humphreys (Whalers)
4-wicket returns for (M = first 4 wickets return, D = debut)	4-wicket returns against
5-8 H. Patel <i>n.</i> Ottershaw 5-29 Kamida <i>n.</i> Mpingwe <b>M D</b> 5-50 Kulasingam <i>n.</i> Fighting Stars 4-7 R. Patel <i>n.</i> New Romney and Littlestone <b>M</b> 4-22 A. Singh <i>n.</i> Squirrels <b>M</b> 4-23 Chatharaju <i>n.</i> Clapham In 4-33 Kulasingam v. Plastics <b>M</b> 4-40 Varasala <i>n.</i> Hayes <b>M D</b>	5-34 Saad (Prince's Head) 5-35 Bage (Clapham In) 5-40 Chalal (Hayes) 4-15 Symonds (New Romney and Littlestone) 4-23 Crowley (Clapham In) 4-30 Shirley (Crossbats) 4-54 Taylor (Putney)

Top 5 batting averages (five innings)	Top 5 bowling averages (20 overs)	Top 5 bowling economy rates (20 overs)
Kota 74.06	Gulati 14.69	Gulati 3.48
Pentakota 62.00	R. Patel 15.38	Dubey 4.07
Namilikonda 43.16	Chatharaju 16.83	Krishna 4.69
Gulati 30.18	Parvathaneni 17.58	R. Patel 4.74
Puli 28.08	Kota 18.60	Chatharaju 4.78

**Sixes (83):** 42 Namilikonda, 17 Kota, 7 Parvathaneni, 4 Chatharaju, Puli 2 Gulati, Kumar, 1 Kamida, S. Patel, Pentakota, A. Singh, Sudireddy  
**Run outs of opponents (16):** 6 Kota, 3 S. Patel, 1 Kumar, Namilikonda, Puli, Parvathaneni, R. Patel, Tanniru, Wagharalkar

### Milestones:

- The totals of matches played (26), runs scored (5,311) and runs conceded (4,327) are all the highest ever.
- Three partnership records were established: opponents' fourth wicket (139\* by Taylor and Smith of Clapham In), opponents' ninth wicket (72\* by Farooq and Mehmood of Fighting Stars) and Gents' third wicket (168 by Kota and Namilikonda *n.* Squirrels).
- Chatharaju, Kota and Krishna joined the 100 Club. Sudireddy has played 99.
- Kota's 1,185 runs in a season is a club record (previously J. Wright 756 in 2000). Namilikonda's 820 also beat this.
- Kota passed 3,000 career runs and became club's second-highest run scorer with 3,912, beating M. Ashton (3,848) but behind S. Patel (6,993). Dubey passed 2,000 career runs; Gulati and Sudireddy passed 1,000. Dubey passed 100 wickets.
- Parvathaneni, Puli and Singh scored their maiden fifties.
- Kamida (on debut), Kulasingam, R. Patel, Singh and Varasala (on debut) took their first four-wicket returns.
- All Plastics' wickets fell to fielding dismissals (9 ct., 1 run out), a first.
- Sudireddy's 24 dismissals (14 ct./10 st.) is a record for a season, beating Namilikonda's 19 (16/3.) in 2019. He also became the club's second most prolific fielder with 72 dismissals (52/20), beating M. Ashton with 62 (59/3).

## Career Top 10s (qualification 25 innings/50 overs, ✓ played in 2022)

<i>Appearances</i>		<i>Runs</i>		<i>Wickets</i>	
S. Patel ✓	421	S. Patel ✓	6,993	S. Patel ✓	436
H. Patel ✓	279	P. Kota ✓	3,912	S. Snelling ✓	401
S. Snelling ✓	248	M. Ashton	3,848	H. Patel ✓	373
A. Buck	219	D. Patel	3,225	D. Patel	235
A. Burman	211	J. Wright	3,020	M. Ashton	222
D. Patel	199	N. Husain	2,270	M. Sciberras	152
M. Sciberras	175	S. Kumar ✓	2,241	D. Todd	148
M. Ashton	153	N. Dubey ✓	2,019	J. Wright	135
S. Kumar ✓	151	S. Namilikonda ✓	1,991	S. Kumar ✓	127
J. Wright	149	R. Gilkes	1,874	A. Buck	115
<i>Catches and stumpings</i>		<i>Batting averages</i>		<i>Bowling averages</i>	
S. Patel ✓	126	P. Kota ✓	49.52	C. Wright	9.87
R. Sudireddy ✓	72	N. Husain	49.35	M. Ashton	11.23
M. Ashton	62	G. Cloete	43.82	A. Iqbal	11.68
H. Patel ✓	61	R. Lall	36.96	R. Inkollu	11.81
M. Sciberras	60	V. Gulati ✓	33.38	S. Snelling ✓	11.91
S. Snelling ✓	48	J. Small	31.98	R. Lall	12.67
P. Kota ✓	45	M. Ashton	30.54	A. Oruganti	12.76
A. Buck	44	S. Namilikonda ✓	29.28	W. Thompson	13.13
I. Maughan	42	L. Wahed	28.20	N. Husain	13.41
S. Namilikonda ✓	42	A. Iqbal	27.83	S. Rudru	13.69
D. Patel	42				

## Partnership records

<i>Record partnerships by wicket – Gents</i>				
1	121	S. Bignell (34) and N. Hubbucks (78) <i>v.</i> Enterprise	Victoria RG	2.5.93
2	144	S. Namilikonda (91) and P. Kota (49) <i>v.</i> Clapham In	Old Tenisonians CC	16.8.20
3	168	P. Kota (160*) and S. Namilikonda (76) <i>v.</i> Squirrels	Old Tenisonians CC	17.7.22
4	162	H. Desai (46) and R. Lall (128) <i>v.</i> London Saints	Old Haberdashers CC	14.8.11
5	152	M. Ashton (102) and M. Hughes (57*) <i>v.</i> London Saints	Victoria RG	15.8.93
6	212*	J. Small (131*) and S. Kumar (74*) <i>v.</i> St Anne's Allstars	Boston Manor PF	7.6.15
7	140	R. Sudireddy (96) and V. Gulati (66*) <i>v.</i> Kempton	Old Tenisonians CC	2.8.20
8	109	H. Desai (37) and P. Bocha (76) <i>v.</i> London Saints	LMPF Greenford	12.8.12
9	108	H. Hibbert (81) and M. Sciberras (22) <i>v.</i> Virgin Casuals	Shepherd's Bush CC	17.9.00
10	79*	S. Patel (73*) and R. Pentakota (31*) <i>v.</i> Salix	Imperial College	9.9.12

<i>Record partnerships by wicket - opponents</i>				
1	239*	R. Bulmer (140*) and C. Maddock (87*), London Owls	Victoria RG	5.9.93
2	186	J. Elmes (165*) and Murray (56), Northfields	Durston House	24.5.15
3	215	R. Heyman (132) and R. Jones (89), Village XI	Old Hamptonians CC	30.7.06
4	138	A. Jaques (107) and D. Torbe (65), East Harrow Cheetahs	Beverly Park	4.8.96
5	139*	C. Taylor (76*) and S. Smith (62*), Clapham In	Old Tenisonians CC	14.8.22
6	100	C. Dane (73) and P. Walton (53), West XI	KGF Morden	10.9.00
7	102*	K. Mitha (77*) and Azhar (32*), Mpingwe	Normandy CC	18.7.21
8	65	D. Gaurav (38) and A. Tippell (50*), Ashford	Ashford CC	31.7.16
9	72*	N. Farooq (45*) and K. Mehmood (36*), Fighting Stars	Wycombe House CC	28.8.22
10	57	R. Bendall (28) and T. Treen (27*), Crossbats	Raynes Park SG	9.9.18

## Highest totals

<i>Gents</i>	<i>Opponents</i>
325-5 <i>v.</i> London Saints (2007)	284-3 12 Angry Men (2001)
325-9 <i>v.</i> St Anne's Allstars (2013)	281-7 Stanmore Warriors (2017)
324-6 <i>v.</i> Squirrels (2022)	271-8 Millfields (2022)
313-6 <i>v.</i> Brentham (2019)	267-8 Fighting Stars (2022)
312-9 <i>v.</i> Putney (2022)	263-6 West XI (1992)

## Highest innings

<i>Gents</i>	<i>Opponents</i>
160* Kota <i>v.</i> Squirrels (2022)	165* Elmes, Northfields (2015)
158* Jones <i>v.</i> West XI (2002)	164* Ahmed, Close PF (2015)
151 Namilikonda <i>v.</i> Putney (2022)	150* Walker, Rotherham SC (1995)
143* Husain <i>v.</i> New Barbarian Weasels (2007)	150* Collis, Millfields (2018)
137* Ashton <i>v.</i> Enterprise (1992)	146 Khan, Bengal Troopers (2016)