
THE GENT

No. 184

October 2026

Season No. 39 has ended – thank you all



Review of 2026 season

A season of records

AGM date confirmed

Final statistics

Draft financials

Around the circuit

West XI 2009 remembered – Gilkes, Khan and the Patels set up a glorious win

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2026 Played 22 Won 10 Lost 12

Debuts	Z. Chaudhri, A. Chowdhary, A. Doshi, A. Hussain, W. Khawaja, H. Malik, P. Panjeta, A. Zahid
Runs	A. Ahmed 395, V. Gulati 343, A. Doshi 263, N. Dubey 244, N. Sinha 230, Z. Ahmed 216, S. Patel 197, A. Hussain 183, P. Kota 179, A. Chowdhary 156, A. Parvathaneni 138, W. Khawaja 131, P. Panjeta 118
Wickets	H. Patel 29, H. Malik 21, S. Patel 21, N. Dubey 13, V. Gulati 13, S. Ahmed 12
Ct/St.	S. Patel 9, V. Gulati 8, H. Patel 7, N. Sinha 5/2, N. Dubey 6

A much-changed squad had a season of promise and it is hoped that it will stay together and prosper in the seasons to come. For that reason, the 2027 campaign will be the most important for many years. Wrote John Arlott of the vintage 1947 English season 'To have seen it is to count oneself a member of a club within which there is no disagreement, only a consciousness of riches shared.' His fine words echo in this review. To the delight of students of the absurd, the performances of the Gents in 2026 careened from the abysmal to the brilliant, as though a higher power were conducting a bizarre sporting experiment. Scarcely a week went by without a record being set and statisticians revelled in it.

Gents overhauled some big totals, but were unable to defend 250-5, 237 and 201-6 against London Itinerants, Plastics and Clapham In. They won and lost games by some astonishing margins. They scored 44 all out against Millfields and 280-6 against John Buckner XI on successive Sundays. The eight who played both of these matches will have a tale to tell their grandchildren about the unpredictability of cricket. Sandwiched amid the mayhem were memorable close wins by 3, 4, 11 and 16 runs.

Forty-two men played, the most since 2018, with 20 on debut. R. Chatharaju, V. Chowdhary and R. Inkollu disappeared, taking with them 105 overs of seam bowled in 2025. Other previous regulars played less for a variety of reasons. The slack was taken up by new players signed by vice-captain A. Ahmed from Wycombe House; A. Chaudhry, Z. Chaudhri, A. Doshi, A. Hussain, W. Khawaja, H. Malik and P. Panjeta, who all fitted in superbly. His efforts were indefatigable and the club is indebted to him.

Those Gents who stayed gained reward for their loyalty and enjoyed sun-kissed games on some beautiful grounds. Not a single over was lost to rain. The three Ahmeds, Aamir, Sufyan and Zahid, played a combined 48 times. N. Sinha became a regular and prospered. With N. Dubey, V. Gulati and the Patels they formed the basis of a squad complemented by the new signings and six guest appearances by C. Kulasingam. It was a much-changed side and with stronger opponents than ever before it was no surprise that results took a dip, Gents losing seven of the first nine. Results improved from 14 June with only one defeat in the next seven after V. Gulati returned from India, but 12 defeats out of 22, a total never exceeded, has to be acknowledged. The strong finish to the season was very welcome.

Pitches at Dundonald RG and Wycombe House improved. As the sun beat down, opponents scored eight centuries and 16 fifties. The bowling economies were ugly, though not through want of effort. Of the regulars, only V. Gulati and slow left-armer H. Malik, who carded an exceptional 6-18 against Putney, paid fewer than five runs per over as Gents struggled to dismiss sides, doing so only seven times. H. Patel (29 with two four-fors) took most wickets with H. Malik and S. Patel, who closed on 499 career wickets, claiming 21. It was a delight to see young S. Ahmed in double figures for wickets and he will cherish his 4-13 at Windsor Great Park, as well as topping the bowling averages and delivering the best strike rate.

The batting was a different matter. W. Khawaja's 104* against John Buckner XI was the innings of the year. P. Kota and A. Parvathaneni joined him as century makers. Eleven others scored fifties, seven for the first time. The consistent V. Gulati garnered four, A. Doshi three, A. Ahmed and A. Hussain two, and Z. Ahmed, A. Chaudhry, J. de Watterville, N. Dubey (with 99*), R. Joshi, Panjeta and S. Patel one. Though he tailed off slightly due to injury, opener A. Ahmed scored most runs, 395 at 23.24, with V. Gulati on 343 at 38.11 in eight fewer innings. A. Doshi, N. Dubey, N. Sinha and Z. Ahmed bagged 200.

Captains A. Ahmed, R. Patel and S. Patel had the difficult task of balancing involvement with results, the perennial challenge in Sunday cricket exacerbated by frequent changes week to week, due to injury, work or personal circumstances. They bore the strain and acquitted themselves with honour and no little success. The plentiful non-playing support lent a vibrant atmosphere to the matches, particularly at Wycombe House. There was tragedy with the illness and passing of Chetan Patel, father to Jay and Raj, and other Gents suffered loss or illness in their families. The club's thoughts remain with them all.



2026 Played 22 Won 10 Lost 12

11/4	Marble Hill Park	Crossbats 283-8 (Winch 100, Deoras 56, Masini 31, Suri 23, Carter 20, H. Patel 3-40) Gents 102 (R. Patel 26, A. Ahmed 24, Shirley 3-17)	Lost 181 runs
19/4	Byfleet	Byfleet 143 (Harrison 63*, Tharaka 21, Kulasingam 4-12) Gents 118 (A. Hussain 46, R. Patel 21, Tharaka 3-10)	Lost 25 runs
26/4	Dundonald RG	Merton Hawks 233-5 (Prebble 100, Gun 51, Counihan 42) Gents 234-6 (A. Ahmed 56, Dubey ret. hurt 41, A. Chaudhry 36, S. Patel 33*)	Won 4 wickets
3/5	Dundonald RG	Putney 247-4 (Webster 134, Puntan 72*) Gents 207-6 (S. Patel 70*, Joshi 60*, A. Ahmed 45, Chadhra 3-34)	Lost 40 runs
10/5	Abbeyfields	Gents 151 (A. Hussain 50, A. Ahmed 43, Milton 5-37) Seven Sports 135 (Childs 45, Ward 31, H. Patel 4-20, H. Malik 3-25)	Won 16 runs
17/5	Dundonald RG	Gents 63 (Sinha 22, Shafaya 3-10, Mahin 3-14) Empire 64-1 (Robin 26*, Zakaria 20)	Lost 9 wickets
24/5	Wycombe House	London Theatres 324-5 (Taylor 102*, Pyne-James 78*, Blackburn 33, Townsend 30, Milton 27, H. Patel 3-52) Gents 71 (Kane 5-19, Brown 4-4)	Lost 253 runs
31/5	Hollyfield School	Gents 162-9 (A. Chaudhry 75, Isaacson 3-22) Hook and Southborough 165-3 (Oliver 63, Milton 38, Pai 36*)	Lost 7 wickets
7/6	Teddington Town	Teddington Town 174 (Virdee 56, Roshawan 31, Singh 22, S. Ahmed 3-29) Gents 91 (Z. Chaudhri 21)	Lost 83 runs
14/6	Barn Elms ST	Gents 180 (Dubey 99*) Salix 177 (Chennareddy 65, Kulasingam 49, Darling 24)	Won 3 runs
21/6	Wycombe House	Gents 168-6 (Doshi 73*, Z. Ahmed 25, A. Ahmed 21, Miller 3-13) John Buckner XI 157 (Davies 42, Thompson 42, Hagerty 32, Gulati 3-19, Dubey 3-23)	Won 11 runs
28/6	Sheen Common	Sheen Park 179 (George 88, Latham 42, Gulati 4-23) Gents 180-7 (A. Hussain 87, Panjeta 32)	Won 2 wickets
5/7	Dundonald RG	Gents 250-5 (Gulati 77, Panjeta 67, Doshi 52, A. Ahmed 38) London Itinerants 253-6 (Saha 74, Korwar 66, Malanki 47, Maitra 38)	Lost 4 wickets
12/7	York Club	Gents 299-7 (Parvathaneni 138, Z. Ahmed 32, Kota 31, Sinha 29, Gulati 24*) Windsor Great Park 49 (Elliott 26, S. Ahmed 4-13)	Won 250 runs
26/7	Barn Elms ST	Whalers 243-6 (Hussain 77, Yadav 53, Kalagond 43*, Raman Preet Singh 35, H. Patel 4-51) Gents 244-6 (Z. Ahmed 75, Gulati 36, A. Ahmed 30, Sinha 30, S. Patel 20*)	Won 4 wickets
2/8	Putney	Putney 96 (Ransom 46, H. Malik 6-18) Gents 97-0 (A. Ahmed 56*, Kota 37*)	Won 10 wickets
9/8	Dundonald RG	Gents 201-6 (Doshi 63*, A. Ahmed 24) Clapham In 204-4 (Ferreira 104*, Whaley 38*, Sanua 33, Eyre 20)	Lost 6 wickets
16/8	Wycombe House	Gents 237 (Kota 104, Gulati 69, Narasimhan 7-24) Plastics 241-6 (Gillan 101, Sear 92)	Lost 4 wickets
23/8	Wycombe House	Whalers 183-9 (Hussain 44, Hogg 29, Kalagond 28, Yadav 28) Gents 139 (Doshi 43, Singh 3-8)	Lost 44 runs
30/8	Haydons Road RG	Millfields 253-4 (Collis 146*, Taylor 60) Gents 44 (Jackson 4-20)	Lost 209 runs
6/9	Wycombe House	Gents 280-6 (Khawaja 104*, Gulati 54, Doshi 31, Toor 25, Sinha 22) John Buckner XI 276-4 (Mistlin 103, Brown 93, Herbert 28)	Won 4 runs
13/9	Dundonald RG	Gents 265-6 (de Watteville 85, Gulati 59*, Sinha 36) Salix 184-7 (Kulasingam 59, F. Umaier 38, Hardik 31, H. Umaier 21, de Watteville 3-40)	Won 81 runs

The campaign closed with Gents having scored 3,783 runs for the loss of 167 wickets, 172-8 on average; opponents scored 4,263 runs for 157 wickets, 194-7 on average which was the highest ever. This was the first losing campaign since 2011. The 12 defeats equalled the number in 2003 and 2005 and has never been exceeded. Three more games were played than in 2025 and the fixture card had a refresh. Gone from 2025 were Actonians, Canary Wharf, Long Ditton, Northfields, St Anne's Allstars and Wycombe House, whereas Empire, London Theatres, Seven Sports and Windsor Great Park were added.

The absence of St Anne's Allstars, who were first played in 2002 and was the club's oldest fixture, and Northfields (2009) meant that Salix (2004) became the most venerable fixture (that opening tied game is still fondly remembered), with Millfields (2016) and Putney (2018) the second and third oldest. Some history has inevitably been lost as traditional opponents have fallen off the card. Teams bailed five times. Seven Sports, London Theatres and Hook and Southborough replaced Northfields, Actonians and Yarl. That was three defeats. Gents cancelled against Chaddleworth for the second successive year (it is a beautiful ground but a heck of a distance), and then pulled the return with Hook and Southborough, who spared the club's blushes by using the pitch.

2026 averages

Player (debut*)	M.	Inn.	NO	Runs	Avg.	Ct./St.	O	M	Runs	Wck.	Avg.	Econ.	SR.
A. Ahmed	18	19	2	395	23.24	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. Ahmed	16	13	4	80	8.89	3	28	0	189	12	15.75	6.75	14.00
Z. Ahmed	14	13	1	216	18.00	4	9	0	61	2	30.50	6.78	27.00
Z. Chaudhri *	7	7	-	78	11.14	1/3	2	0	31	0	-	15.50	-
A. Chowdhary *	10	9	2	156	22.29	1	37.2	3	189	4	47.25	5.09	55.75
A. Doshi *	6	6	2	263	65.75	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N. Dubey	16	15	3	244	20.33	6	82.4	7	419	13	32.23	5.07	38.15
V. Gulati	12	11	2	343	38.11	8	69.1	3	335	13	25.77	4.84	31.92
A. Hussain *	3	3	-	183	61.00	3	9.0	1	25	-	-	2.78	-
R. Joshi	5	4	1	61	20.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
W. Khawaja *	5	5	3	131	65.50	-	8	0	59	1	59.00	7.38	48.00
P. Kota	4	4	1	179	59.67	-	5	0	33	0	-	6.60	-
C. Kulasingam	6	5	1	45	11.25	1	270	1	150	5	30.00	5.56	32.40
H. Malik *	14	6	1	13	2.60	2	88.	6	416	21	19.81	4.73	25.14
N. Nagpal	2	2	-	22	11.00	-	4	0	28	0	-	7.00	-
P. Panjeta *	4	4	-	118	29.50	3	14	1	61	3	20.33	4.36	28.00
H. Patel	22	11	3	35	4.38	7	117.2	5	756	29	26.07	6.44	24.28
R. Patel	9	8	-	91	11.38	1/3	28	0	160	3	53.33	5.71	56.00
S. Patel	21	14	6	197	24.63	9	102.5	5	606	21	28.86	5.89	29.38
C. Puli	5	5	1	31	7.75	2	14	0	119	1	119.00	8.50	84.00
A. Sarda *	2	2	1	4	4.00	-	11	0	66	2	33.00	6.00	33.00
N. Sinha	18	17	-	230	13.53	5/2	10	0	68	4	17.00	6.80	15.00
J. Toor *	2	2	-	25	12.50	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A. Zahid *	4	3	1	9	4.50	1	10	0	60	0	-	6.00	-

One game only: T. Aftab * 1/1/-/6, D. Ahmed * 1/1/-/-, G. Arikatla 1/1/-/4, 2-0-14-1, D. Bisht 1/1/-/1, 3-0-27-1, J. de Watterville 1/1/-/85, 7-0-40-3, R. Dony * 1/1/-/0, M. Gilkes 1/1/-/0, 5-0-32-1, A. Haq * 1/1/-/0, 3-0-25-0 (1 ct.), R. Haq * 1/1/-/11, 5-1-19-1, A-R. Khan * 1/1/-/5, 4-1-27-1, V. Krishna 1/1/-/0, 1-0-9-0, A. Mansoor * 1/1/-/0, A. Parvathaneni 1/1/-/138, J. Patel 1/-/-/-, K. Patel 1/-/-/-, S. Sharma * 1/1/-/1, 4-0-23-0, J. Singh * 1/1/-/8, 2-0-22-0, R. Sudiredy 1/1/-/0, (1 ct.)

Batting averages (five innings)		Bowling averages (20 overs)		Bowling economy rates (20 overs)	
A. Doshi	65.75	S. Ahmed	15.75	H. Malik	4.73
W. Khawaja	65.50	H. Malik	19.81	V. Gulati	4.84
V. Gulati	38.11	V. Gulati	25.77	N. Dubey	5.07
S. Patel	24.63	H. Patel	26.07	A. Chowdhary	5.09
A. Ahmed	23.24	S. Patel	28.86	C. Kulasingam	5.56
A. Chowdhary	22.29	C. Kulasingam	30.00	R. Patel	5.71
N. Dubey	20.33	N. Dubey	32.33	S. Patel	5.89
Z. Ahmed	18.00	A. Chowdhary	47.25	H. Patel	6.44
N. Sinha	13.53	R. Patel	53.33	S. Ahmed	6.75
R. Patel	11.38	-	-	-	-

Records set in 2026



By Gents

Fifth-wicket stand: 199 P. Kota (104) and V. Gulati (69) *v.* Plastics

Winning margins by runs and wickets: 250 runs *v.* Windsor Great Park (299-7 *v.* 49), 10 wickets: Putney 96, Gents 97-0

Highest score batting second: 244-6 *v.* Whalers

Lowest all-out score: 44 *v.* Millfields

By opponents

Highest score: 324-5 (London Theatres)

Fourth-wicket stand: 199 Webster (134) and Puntam (72) (Putney)

Sixth-wicket stand: 188* Pyne-James (78*) and Wilson (102*) (London Theatres)

Tenth-wicket stand: 79 Hackney (14) and Harrison (63*) (Byfleet)

Winning margin: 253 runs by London Theatres (324-5 *v.* 71)

Centuries in a season: 8

Bowling return: 7-24 Narasimhan (Plastics)

2026 in numbers

Highest score for: 299-7 *v.* Windsor Great Park, **Highest score against:** 324-5 by London Theatres
Lowest score for: 44 *v.* Millfields, **Lowest score against:** 49 by Windsor Great Park

100 partnerships for (R = wicket record)	100 partnerships against
199 5th wicket P. Kota (104) and V. Gulati (69) <i>v.</i> Plastics R 137* 7th wicket R. Joshi (60*) and S. Patel (70*) <i>v.</i> Putney 107 3rd wicket V. Gulati (77) and A. Doshi (52) <i>v.</i> London Itinerants	199 4th wicket Webster (134) and Puntan (72*) (Putney) R 188* 6th wicket Pyne-James (78*) and Wilson (102*) (London Theatres) R 172 4th wicket Gillan (101) and Sear (92) (Putney) 135 3rd wicket Prebble (100) and Gun (51) (Merton Hawks) 131 1st wicket Winch (131) and Masini (31) (Crossbats) 129 2nd wicket Mistlin (103) and Brown (93) (Jon Buckner XI) 121 2nd wicket Collis (146*) and Taylor (60) (Millfields)
50s/100s for (M = first 50 or 100)	50s/100s against
138 A. Parvathaneni <i>v.</i> Windsor Great Park 104 P. Kota <i>v.</i> Plastics 104* W. Khawaja <i>v.</i> John Buckner XI M 99* N. Dubey <i>v.</i> Salix 87 A. Hussain <i>v.</i> Sheen Park 83 J. de Watteville <i>v.</i> Salix M 77 V. Gulati <i>v.</i> London Itinerants 75 Z. Ahmed <i>v.</i> Whalers 75 A. Chaudhry <i>v.</i> Hook and Southborough M 73* A. Doshi <i>v.</i> John Buckner XI M 70* S. Patel <i>v.</i> Putney 69 V. Gulati <i>v.</i> Plastics 67 P. Panjeta <i>v.</i> London Itinerants M 63* A. Doshi <i>v.</i> Clapham In 60* R. Joshi <i>v.</i> Putney M 59* V. Gulati <i>v.</i> Salix 56 A. Ahmed <i>v.</i> Merton Hawks 56* A. Ahmed <i>v.</i> Putney 54 V. Gulati <i>v.</i> John Buckner XI 52 A. Doshi <i>v.</i> London Itinerants 50 A. Hussain <i>v.</i> Seven Sports M	146* Collis (Millfields) 134 Webster (Putney) 104* Ferreira (Clapham In) 103 Mistlin (John Buckner XI) 102* Wilson (London Theatres) 101 Gillan (Plastics) 100 Prebble (Merton Hawks) 100 Winch (Crossbats) 93 Brown (John Buckner XI) 92 Sear (Plastics) 88 George (Sheen Park) 78* Pyne-James (London Theatres) 77 Saif (Whalers) 74 Saha (London Itinerants) 72 Puntan (Putney) 66 Korwar (London Itinerants) 65 Chennareddy (Salix) 63* Harrison (Byfleet) 63 Oliver (Hook and Southborough) 60 Taylor (Millfields) 59 Kulasingam (Salix) 56 Deoras (Crossbats) 56 Virdee (Teddington Town) 51 Gun (Merton Hawks)
4-wicket returns for (M = first 4 wickets return, D = debut)	4-wicket returns against (R = record return)
6-18 H. Malik <i>v.</i> Putney M 4-12 C. Kulasingam <i>v.</i> Byfleet 4-13 S. Ahmed <i>v.</i> Windsor Great Park M 4-20 H. Patel <i>v.</i> Seven Sports 4-23 V. Gulati <i>v.</i> Sheen Park 4-51 H. Patel <i>v.</i> Whalers	7-24 Narasimhan (Plastics) R 5-37 Milton (Seven Sports) 5-19 Kane (London Theatres) 4-4 Brown (London Theatres) 4-20 Jackson (Millfields)

Sixes (40): 9 A. Ahmed, Parvathaneni 8 Gulati 2 A. Hussain, Khawaja, Kota, Panjeta, S. Patel 1 A. Chaudhry, de Watteville, Nagpal, Sinha
Run outs of opponents (7): 2 Sinha 1 P. Kota, H. Patel, R. Patel, S. Patel, Toor

Lessons from 2026

Pre-season was a farce. Nets were booked at Featherstone SC in Southall, but it became apparent that uptake would be light. The treasurer moved quickly to get a refund, neat work there. No doubt some players netted elsewhere but the squad was definitely undercooked in the opening matches. Nets are good for team-building and should be supported. There is talk of combining with another club for 2027 nets which will need careful planning and a volunteer to carry it forward.

After Gents had to cancel the final match they donated the Dundonald RG pitch to their bereft oppo Hook and Southborough, who arranged for Stoke d'Abernon to come along. They played a 40/40 game starting at midday which ended impressively early at 17.40. The result? Stoke 195-7 beat H&S 178-5 by 17 runs, so it was clearly a fair batting track. No bad light problems for these chaps, all down to a brisk over rate of 16 and not having drinks breaks every 10 overs on a dark autumn day. Study and take heed, Gents.

The Play-Cricket selection process worked well and full sides were fielded in all but one game. Mr Dubey deserves the thanks of everyone. It seems like only yesterday that Mark Ashton would organise teams by ringing round on landlines, carefully bypassing wives. And only the day before yesterday, in the editor's youth, that players were advised of selection or non-selection by a postcard that dropped on the mat on the Wednesday before a game.

Career performances

The 2026 data have been uploaded and a few things jump out. It is well known that S. Patel has 499 wickets, but did you know that he has played exactly the same number of games, 499? When Gents take the field on a freezing April 2027 Sunday at Marble Hill Park, he shall have a guard of honour.

H. Patel passed 350 games in 2026 (to date 353 with 490 wickets) and Gulati passed 100 (108 to date with 2,866 runs and Jim Wright in his crosshairs, 108 wickets and 53 catches, splendid tallies), in the process narrowly overhauling Dubey to go sixth in the career batting. His extraordinary century in Windsor saw Parvathaneni pass 1,000 runs (1,012).

With 212 appearances, Dubey overhauled Burman (211) to go fifth in the appearances table. Only Buck (219), Snelling (248) and the Patels now ahead of him. Buck should be overhauled in 2027. The total of players who have represented the club now stands at 470, of whom 180 played only once and 68 twice.

Top 20s and partnership records

<i>Appearances (✓ played in 2026)</i>	<i>Runs</i>		<i>Wickets</i>		
S. Patel ✓	499	S. Patel ✓	7,604	S. Patel ✓	499
H. Patel ✓	353	P. Kota ✓	5,939	H. Patel ✓	490
S. Snelling	248	M. Ashton	3,848	S. Snelling	401
A. Buck	219	D. Patel	3,225	D. Patel	235
N. Dubey ✓	212	J. Wright	3,020	M. Ashton	222
A. Burman	211	V. Gulati ✓	2,866	M. Sciberras	152
D. Patel	199	N. Dubey ✓	2,848	N. Dubey ✓	151
M. Sciberras	175	S. Kumar	2,377	D. Todd	148
S. Kumar	164	N. Husain	2,270	S. Kumar	140
P. Kota ✓	158	H. Patel ✓	2,109	J. Wright	135
M. Ashton	153	S. Namilikonda	1,991	R. Chatharaju	128
J. Wright	149	R. Gilkes	1,874	P. Kota ✓	117
D. Todd	147	A. Buck	1,815	A. Buck	115
R. Chatharaju	144	R. Sudireddy ✓	1,635	V. Krishna ✓	114
R. Sudireddy ✓	144	V. Basker	1,604	V. Gulati ✓	108
R. Gilkes	141	A. Ahmed ✓	1,577	N. Boddington	98
V. Krishna ✓	141	M. Sciberras	1,521	N. Hussain	76
K. Toft	137	P. Bocha	1,465	D. Dolan	74
P. Denton	129	R. Chatharaju	1,446	S. Namilikonda	67
I. Richmond	112	J. Small	1,439	R. Inkollu, P. Hill	66

Record partnerships by wicket – Gents

1	173	A. Ahmed (88*) and V. Gulati (80) <i>v.</i> Whalers	Barn Elms ST	7.7.24
2	156*	N. Dubey (62*) and P. Kota (86*) <i>v.</i> Salix	Barn Elms ST	18.6.23
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	199	P. Kota (104) and V. Gulati (69) <i>v.</i> Plastics	Wycombe House CC	16.8.26
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	120	R. Sudireddy (52) and R. Chatharaju (82*) <i>v.</i> New Romney and Littlestone	New Romney	10.9.23
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

Record partnerships by wicket – opponents

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	199	J. Webster (134) and S. Puntan (72), Putney	Dundonald RG	3.5.26
5	139*	C. Taylor (76*) and S. Smith (62*), Clapham In	Old Tenisonians CC	14.8.22
6	188*	K. Pyne-James (78*) and T. Wilson (102*), London Theatres	Wycombe House CC	24.5.26
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	82*	M. Rajasansir (65*) and A. Hadi (53*), Salix	Dundonald RG	15.9.24
10	79	E. Hackney (14) and J. Harrison (63*), Byfleet	Byfleet	19.4.26

The old records are fast disappearing. Only one, the 239* for London Owls' first wicket, now dates back to the first decade of the club's activities. Six on each list have been set in or since 2000. Dundonald RG now proudly figures twice, as do Barn Elms ST and Wycombe House. Old Tenisonians heads the list with three record partnerships. Gulati and Kota feature three times, Sudireddy twice.

The 2026 AGM

You are cordially invited to attend the 2026 GWLCC Annual General Meeting and Awards Evening, which will take place on **Saturday 14 November** in the main hall at Wycombe House Cricket Club, Wood Lane TW7 5PJ. The room will be open from 6.00 pm and we will start the meeting at 6.30 pm.

This is where Gents celebrate the season, vote on playing awards and elect the Committee to take the club forward. Your attendance would be greatly appreciated. Detailed agenda will follow. *Nominations for the Committee will be sought between 17 October (first date for nominations) and 7 November (final date) for: Chairman, Captain, Vice-Captain, Treasurer, Fixture Secretary and Match Secretary.*

Draft 2025-26 finances

Income	2025-26	2024-25
Subscriptions for current season	1,155.00	980.00
Match fees	1,844.00	1,695.00
Nets	236.28	
Opposition match fees	1,080.00	720.00
Interest		6.93
Total	4,315.28	3,401.93

Expenditure	2025-26	2024-25
AGM	120.00	300.00
Web hosting	132.00	168.00
Insurance	151.43	137.15
Equipment	353.88	168.00
Opposition match fees	985.00	500.00
Nets	236.28	345.00
Pitches	2,293.35	1,932.50
Teas	66.75	
Umpire fee	45.00	
Total	4,383.69	3,550.65
Profit (Loss)	(68.41)	(148.72)

GWLCC has £436.44 in the bank as of 11 October 2026. Debtors total £150 as of the same date. The pitch price was £250 @ Wycombe House and £149.05 @ LB Merton.

The loss over the season based was £68.41. There were 17 paid members including one non-playing and two who played once. Total subs income was £1,155, up from £980 in 2024-25. Nets were refunded.

Total match fees income was £1,844, up from £1,695 in 2024-25, being 79% of the maximum collectable. The non-collectable element is explained by the club's policy of not charging guests and offering a free first game to prospective members. One game was cancelled which resulted in lost match fees of c. £80 and the loss of an opponent's fee.

Around the circuit

Crossbats shockingly lost 17 games last season. Skinner's head must roll. But wait, they won 35, drew two and tied one. That's 55 games, on Saturdays, Sundays, a few Wednesdays and some probably on days yet to be invented. By the time Gents visited on 11 April, they had six games under their belt including a tour of Andalusia. They have a bright and informative website but their match reports are password-protected. Whalers are a very popular opponent but their previous clunky if informative website now gives you a 404 Error, so a detailed review is impossible. Pay your web hosting fee, chaps.

Millfields ended 9-8 and on 12 July on a dodgy Hilly Fields wicket they lost to John Buckner XI. Their 148 (Collis b Haworth 8) was coolly chased down with 149-4. A shock result? Not really. JB are an improving team with youth in their favour. Plastics celebrated their tenth season. They have to be the most improved side on the circuit and play their cricket in a sporting way. How many captains would have done what Iain Gordon did and remove their star bowler from the attack after bowling just two overs, after which Gents had plummeted to 12-4?

Salix's sparkling website tells us that they used 44 players in 2026, two more than Gents. They honoured their fixtures, stout work by organiser Sai Balasubramaniam. They do the best match reports around (the review of their Polish tour is particularly recommended). A word of thanks here for how generously they supported the St Raphael's Hospice charity fundraiser, even if the snivelling little two-timing gits did grass up the Gents' scorer for having a moment. In the rain, with limited back support on his chair, and not even a drink of water or packet of crisps offered.

Last winter the Gents discussed a merger with Northfields which came to naught because of the welcome influx of new players. Despite problems booking the Durston House School ground, Northfields played seven games according to Play-Cricket. The Redheads moved clubs but later returned to play a few. Every club has a Taking the Fun out of Cricket day; theirs was against Wilkinson Way who scored 351-0 before skittling Northfields for 65. It is good that this proud old club (founded 1920) is carrying on.

A classic from the vaults

Gentlemen of West London v. West XI. Won by 94 runs

Sunday 19 July 2009, Old Tenisons Sports Club. West XI won toss. Cloudy, 21C

Gentlemen of West London				West XI			
Khan	lbw	b Taylor	60	Taylor		b Inkollu	3
Gilkes		b Taylor	68	Boden	c S Patel	b H Patel	42
Rudru	c Bhatt	b Taylor	31	*Wright	run out		14
Sciberras	st Bignell	b G. Dave	15	Bhatt	c Khan	b Inkollu	28
Iqbal	c G. Dave	b Bhatt	15	M. Dave	c and	b H Patel	10
*S. Patel	not out		15	G. Dave	c Khan	b S Patel	9
Inkollu	not out		11	Norcott		b Sciberras	3
S. Desai, †H Desai, Toft, H. Patel and Snelling dnb				Rennie	run out (Rudru)		4
				†Bignell	not out		7
				Laing			1
				Hill	dnb		
Extras	w3 nb1 b16 lb2		22	Extras	w7 nb5 b9 lb1		22
Total	5 wickets	35 overs	237	Total	8 wickets	35 overs	143
FoW: 113, 180, 180, 201, 221				FoW: 5, 55, 78, 110, 115, 128, 129, 137			
Bowling: Wright 3-0-13-0, Hill 3-0-14-0, Bhatt 7-0-59-1, Boden 3-0-15-0, M. Dave 6-0-37-0, G. Dave 3-0-26-1, Taylor 7-0-33-3, Laing 3-0-22-0				Bowling: S. Patel 3-0-11-1, Inkollu 5-0-18-2, Iqbal 6-0-29-0, Snelling 7-2-20-0, Rudru 5-0-22-0, H. Patel 6-1-23-2, Sciberras 2-0-5-1, S. Desai 1-0-5-0			

The Bob Ashton Memorial Cup returned to the Gents' trophy cabinet for the first time since 2002 after a vibrant performance at gusty Motspur Park. A record opening stand in this series of 113 in just 18.5 overs between Khan (60 with seven fours) and Gilkes (68 with twelve fours and a six), carried on by some big hitting from Rudru and the middle order, set up a score of 237-5. West XI replied with guts and skill but in the teeth of some accurate bowling gradually fell behind the required rate to finish 94 runs short. We therefore toast the victors and commiserate with the gallant losers. The game was played in a good spirit and roll on the third match in September.

Wright inserted the Gents on a green wicket that played very true all day, though the captain of Old Tenisonians IIs had advised a reconnaissance party on the Saturday night that it was a bowl first strip. After five quiet overs, Gents having moved to 18-0, Gilkes hit Hill out of the attack with three fours before a similar fusillade caused Bhatt to be retired from the fray after just two overs. Something special in the club's history was being made flesh, both batsmen playing at the peak of their powers. Gilkes's fifty, full of withering drives, cuts and pulls, came up to huge applause in the 14th. over, the century partnership two overs later.

Gilkes fell in the second over of Taylor's pacy spell, but Khan and Rudru added a quick 67 against testing bowling from Taylor, who deserved his figures and the twirl of Laing and the Daves. Both fell in Taylor's final over, the latter to a fine catch at long on by Bhatt off a skier. Sciberras, Iqbal, S. Patel and Inkollu (off the mark with a majestic six that landed ten yards over the long-on boundary) then scored heavily to take Gents to a position from which they would have to bowl and field extraordinarily badly, or West XI bat extraordinarily well, to lose. The wise ones knew that neither scenario was an impossibility.

With no time to die wondering, Wright put his best batsmen in the top four positions, but Taylor was bowled in the second over by a corker from Inkollu which pitched leg and clipped the off bail. Boden and Wright then batted attractively before the latter was run out by Rudru off his own bowling, the Beggar captain sportingly walking after the umpire was unsighted. Boden looked to be on for a big score but clipped H. Patel to silly mid-off S. Patel, who took a smart diving catch. Snelling then embarked on a spell of parsimony, opening with the day's first two maidens, so true was the wicket. The required run rate rose to ten after 20 overs and victory drew closer with the sensational dismissal of Bhatt off Inkollu. In a reprise of Rudru's dismissal, he launched a ball into the clouds high over deep mid-wicket. Three fielders converged on the ball, but Khan it was who ran and caught it running away from the wicket, a marvellous feat of hand-eye co-ordination. The bowlers and fielders were inspired by this and the innings was smothered until life became extinct, the Patels and Sciberras gaining further scalps.