

**2025**

## **Esher Cricket Club**

Founded 1863

**Annual Report & Accounts 2025**

**Notice of AGM and 2026  
fixtures**

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## **SAVE THE DATE**

**ESHER CC END OF SEASON EVENT**  
**Friday 11th September 2026**



<u>Club Calendar</u>			
AGM	Thursday 9 April 2026	New Road	7-30 pm
Get Set day 1	Saturday 28 March 2026	New Road	from 9 am
Get Set day 2	Saturday 4 April 2026	New Road	from 9 am
City Lunch	Friday 24 April 2026	London	12 noon
Club Day	Sunday 30 August 2026	New Road	10 am
End of season event	Friday 11 Sept 2026	TBC	7-00 pm

## **President's Report**

I write this report as England have just lost the Ashes 4-1. A really disappointing result for all of us English cricket lovers, and by the time you read this, there will no doubt have been a full inquest.

For Esher Cricket Club looking forward, I trust lessons will be learned from our very disappointing 1<sup>st</sup> XI season. Credit to all the players who responded so valiantly to ensure that relegation was not the outcome. In that period late in the season when we were fighting relegation, there were several outstanding performances, particularly from our younger players. We are lucky to have such quality within our younger players, and I very much hope that they will be at the forefront of a much-improved 2026 season. The club has nurtured this talent for many years, and it will be gratifying to see it come through into our top teams.

The terrible tragedy of losing Lek is foremost with many of us as we review 2025. I first played against Duncan in 1976 when he was a remarkable fifteen-year-old batting prodigy. He came to Esher as a player in 1992 and has been with us each season since then. He and Lek were fixtures at our club for so many years, and we can only pay tribute to the tireless efforts that they both put in over those years. Geoff Ellis spoke eloquently about her life at Esher at the funeral and all present paid their respects to a true servant of the club, who will be remembered so fondly. R.I.P. Lek.

I would like to pay tribute to Neil McCallum for his service as Chairman for the last three years. I am delighted that he will stay involved in the capacity of Secretary to the Club, but his enthusiasm, hard work and focus have been vital to Esher, and we should all thank him for the huge effort that he put in. Neil is followed in the role by Dan Taylor, who has been a long time Committee member, involved in many aspects of the club. He will no doubt continue to trap batsmen with his wily left arm spin, and I am sure he will combine the roles of player and Chairman very effectively. He has plenty of expertise within our club to call upon with so many of our team having such a long history with the club. Good luck, Dan!

So, in closing I do wish all our players, male and female, seniors and juniors, a wonderful season, let's hope for good weather and trophies!

**Andrew Bernard**

# TEAMWEAR TRUSTED BY THE BEST

GRAY-NICOLLS X ESHER CC



SCAN TO SHOP YOUR  
ESHER CC TEAMWEAR

## Chairman's Report

This report cannot begin before we take a moment to remember Lek who sadly passed away in August. Her full obituary is elsewhere in this report, but it is right to remember that Lek was a very well-loved colleague and friend to us all and has done so much to make the club what it is today through her many years of dedicated service. Lek will be sadly missed by all of us at the club.

It was also heart-warming to see the wonderful response from members to offer support both practical and emotional and for the well-respected one-minute silence in honour of Lek before each of the senior matches on the following Saturday.

The cricket season had some great moments. It started in May with the Women's 1<sup>st</sup> XI winning the Surrey Cup for the first time in the club's history, a wonderful achievement. It ended with the U19s winning their T20 final at the Oval. Some lads have now played at Lords and the Oval in the space of two seasons; dreams do come true!

The volunteers on the Management Committee and in central roles have done a great job to keep the club moving forward. Whether it be improving the facilities, safeguarding, financial control, membership enquiries or fixtures planning, a lot of time, care and attention is given to make sure that the club is run effectively, thank you.

When I started as Chairman, I put in place some standing goals for the club to aim for. I provide an update below.

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Status</u>
To maintain financial stability	Achieved. In addition, an investment has been made this year to move the club to a limited company with charitable status.
To maintain premier league status for men's first team. Second team to be competitive in its league and for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , and 5 <sup>th</sup> teams to show progress in the new league structure.	Achieved (just!). The 1 <sup>st</sup> team maintained their premier league status, the 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI finished 3 <sup>rd</sup> in a competitive league with other club's 1 <sup>st</sup> teams and the 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> teams all gained promotion.
To continue to field men's fourth and fifth teams in the Surrey Championship as this provides a pathway for Young Cricketers.	Achieved.
To develop and strengthen our Ladies section.	This has been another wonderful season for the Ladies with a keen group training and playing in several softball matches with growing success. Well done to Sue Da Vall.
To develop and grow our Girls section.	The older girls played for the Women's 1 <sup>st</sup> XI in the Surrey league and won the Surrey Cup Final, held over from 2024. The younger age groups are all making good progress and enjoying the Tuesday evening or Sunday morning training sessions. Sid and Matt deserve a lot of credit.
To provide increasing opportunities for Young Cricketers (girls and boys) to play in adult cricket.	This continues to be a strength of the club with many of our young cricketers contributing to the senior adult teams this year.

To develop further the practice facilities at New Road	No major developments have taken place this year, but the area behind the nets has been landscaped and a ditch installed to reduce the flood risk.
To work with Imber Court to improve the facility over time.	The pitches have generally been very good this year, hence the good totals from our 5 <sup>th</sup> XI for example. The outfield, in line with other grounds, suffered with the dry weather.
To uphold Esher CC values at all times.	Mostly achieved. There are isolated cases where members need to be reminded of the club values and which are addressed during the season.
To remain fully compliant with Clubmark requirements at all times.	Achieved
To provide support for members/potential members who struggle to fund cricket activities.	This remains a work in progress.
To encourage increasing volunteer involvement in the club.	This remains a work in progress. The club recognises and thanks the many members who volunteer as AGMs, scorers, umpires during the season. New volunteers are required to assist with the work of the Management Committee. Nothing just happens!

In terms of the structure of the Club, a small working party has worked hard to change the structure from an unincorporated association to a limited company with charitable status. This follows the approval of the new structure from the members in May 2025. I am pleased to report that the Charities Commission approved the new company in October, and we have transitioned the club to the new structure over the winter months. I believe that this is an important development for the club that places the club on a good footing for the medium term. My thanks to all those on the working group, with a special mention for David Crook and Nick Page.

### 2025 Season

The 2025 season was a roller coaster but enjoyable, nonetheless. The 5 wins on the last day of the season, with 3 sides being promoted and the 1<sup>st</sup> team securing their spot in the premier league, was a particularly good day.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team struggled to put consistent results together and therefore became embroiled in a relegation battle for much of the season. In the last month good wins against Wimbledon, who won the league, and Sutton on the last day of the season, meant that the 1<sup>st</sup> team survived in the premier league by 7 points. Phew!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> team played in a league with several 1<sup>st</sup> teams and did very well to finish a commendable 3<sup>rd</sup>, with ten victories. Darren Helwick, Ali Birkby and Adam Helwick topping the run charts, and Joe de la Fuente and Dan Taylor taking the most wickets.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI proved to be the beating heart of the club. Well led by Angus Barrett the side played a lot of positive cricket, winning 11 matches and in an exciting end to the season clinched a promotion place in a battle with 3 other clubs. Will Hamilton, Angus Barrett and Austin Wilman had good seasons

with the bat, Kunal Mishra and Chris Parrish topped the wicket-takers and Max Simpson was the top all-rounder.

The 4<sup>th</sup> XI had a successful season with 11 victories with promotion achieved on the last day. Craig Williams, Alex Mason and Zachary Perkins were the top run scorers with Shailendra Singh, Chris Harvey, Tom Burnett and Odran Williams taking the bowling honours. Congratulations to captain John Woollhead for leading his team to promotion.

The 5<sup>th</sup> XI had another strong finish to the season, bolstered by several Esher youth players.

Ben Frendo and Fraser Bache were the top run scorers and Rahul De Silva, Fraser Bache and Joe Goodson took the most wickets in a team where over 60 players donned an Esher shirt, with cameo performances leading to promotion up the sides for several players. There were ten league victories, and an exciting winner takes all match on the last day of the season where the Esher team held its nerve to secure promotion for the second consecutive season. Congratulations to skipper, Gareth Narinesingh.

The Development XI continued to provide a useful springboard from youth to adult cricket, and the U19s won the final of the T20 competition for the fifth time in six years with the final being played at the Oval in mid-September. Our thanks for the work done behind the scenes by Glenn Harrison and Darren Helwick to bring the side together and support our young players in the summer holidays with U17, U19 and Trust league matches.

The Senior Academy girls side won the Surrey Cup for the first time, playing age group matches and also representing the club in the Ladies Surrey Slam hardball league.

The junior sides, both boys and girls, have also performed admirably, with more than 800 matches played. The reports of each section provide details of the many talented cricketers we have at the club as well as the tremendous energy and commitment that is provided by the leaders and administrators within each age-group.

Two achievements that are worthy of note are the top run scorer and top wicket taker for the club in 2025. In a competitive field Will Hamilton scored 947 runs in 24 innings, including a 50 at the Oval, and Byron Miller took 42 wickets in 38 games. Two young players with a bright future.

Congratulations to the following young players:

- Alex French for signing for Surrey and playing for England U19s.
- Oliver Hunt for making his debut for the Surrey team in the Metro Cup.

### Special Thanks!

The club is very grateful for the time, commitment, and hard work that so many volunteers put into making Esher such a fantastic club. I would like to express my particular thanks to the following:

- John Woollhead, for masterminding the Ball, leading projects for the club including the drainage behind the nets at New Road and much much more!
- Vince Chandler, for his dedication to the club and his calm running of the adult section.
- Alisa French for, once again, the superb organisation of the fixtures and pitch allocations throughout the season. We are pleased that Alisa has also stepped in to be the new Membership Secretary.
- Rachel Narinesingh for carefully running the safeguarding responsibilities for the club.
- Nouman Hashmi for his hard work as Treasurer for the club, ably supported by Viraj Pillai.
- Carolyn Lenton for the excellent administration of the membership for the club, as Membership Secretary. Carolyn is stepping down from this role after several years—thank you.
- Rachel Garrett for expertly assisting Carolyn with the membership administration

- Sid Simmons and Matt Price for running and developing the Girls cricket section, with results improving every year.
- Sue Da Vall for managing the Ladies section with good humour, getting the team together and playing in a number of festivals.
- Glenn Harrison and Darren Helwick for their role in organising the U19 and Trust league teams.
- Brian Dunleavy for being our website guy.
- Geoff Ellis for the superb masterminding of the City Lunch, a great start to the season.
- The Ball team, Dan and Charlotte Taylor, Vince and Helena Chandler together with John Woollhead for organising a tremendously enjoyable and successful end of season Ball and coping admirably with the untimely poor weather!
- AGMs, umpires, scorers for keeping all the age groups running smoothly.
- The team captains for their leadership, patience and inspiration.
- And of course, Duncan for his hard work, cricketing nous, coaching and excellent young cricketer tournaments.

### Finance

We continue to manage Club funds responsibly and rely on fundraising events to move the club forward. It is not easy to balance the books at cricket clubs, therefore thanks to all those members who support the events held during the year and take advantage of the member rates at the bar. Note that the City Lunch this year is set for Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

This year we are grateful to our sponsors Curchods, The F.I.T Partnership, Subway, Ranmore Fund Management, AJ Sports, Rowan Preparatory School, Kingston Grammar School, Milbourne Lodge, Parkside, and Danes Hill School.

### Final Comments

I would like to wish the captains for 2026, David Brent, Joe de la Fuente, Angus Barrett, John Woollhead, Gareth Narinesingh and Tim Lenton and all our cricketers the best of luck for the 2026 season.

The AGM will be held on Thursday 9 April 2026 at 7.30pm in the Clubhouse. The formal notice is on page 77 of this report. You are more than welcome to attend. An open question and answer session will be held at the conclusion of formal business to respond to any questions relating to the club.

Finally, as I step down as Chairman, I would just like to say that it has been a privilege to serve the club as Chairman for the last 3 years. With the help of the Management Committee, we have been able to take the club forward with some important developments and taken steps to run the club in an organised and collegiate environment.

I would like to wish Dan Taylor all the best in the role. He is a top man who has the cricket club's well-being at the forefront in all he does for the club.

### **Neil McCallum**

*"Putting the fun into Cricket!"*

## **Chairman elect report**

The 2025 season started in brilliant fashion with a win for the Ladies in SWCL County Cup and continued with many wonderful performances both individually for players, but also for many of our teams. Despite all the good things, the season finished in tragedy with the dreadfully sad death of Lek, such a massive presence at the club despite the small frame for so many years.

The winter has seen much effort from our dedicated team of volunteers as they work tirelessly to ensure we are able to compete and stay compliant through 2026. My first act as interim chair is to thank each and every one of them. My second act is to thank Neil in particular for the amazing job he has done for the last three seasons, and I am delighted that he has agreed to stay on the committee as Secretary: I know I will use his wisdom and calm nature often. Considering he took over in a caretaker capacity for a few months, the commitment he has shown has been invaluable.

I want to use this report to outline my priorities for the forthcoming year, and the seasons following. They are fivefold:

1. Competitiveness – We are a performance cricket club, playing at the very top of Surrey cricket at many age groups, across boys and girls, men and women. We need to continue to use the wonderful facilities we have, and the wonderful training we receive, to be successful and have fun whilst doing so.
2. Finance sustainability – We must continue the path that Neil has set us on to financial sustainability. We live in challenging times, and this increases the financial pressures on households as well as cricket clubs. We need to use the wonderful facilities we have and ensure that we are maximising the commercial returns from them.
3. Volunteering – So much is completed by the few. Burdens need to be lightened and new ideas and energy are needed. The personal returns from volunteering are wonderful and endless, and the more people prepared to give a little of their time, the easier and more successful the cricket club will be.
4. Women & Girls Development – As the sport of cricket continues to grow for women and girls, we need to continue to develop with it. 2026 presents us a wonderful opportunity to grow the game as England celebrates hosting the T20 Women’s World Cup. Let’s join the celebrations and grow the game here at Esher.
5. Facilities – We have some of the best facilities in Surrey, and we need to continue to maintain and develop these to maintain our position at the forefront of the game. This should include facilities so all can enjoy the game, regardless of disability or sex.

We have everything we need for a wonderful summer ahead: as of the last week in March the clubhouse redevelopment will be complete, and we have now transitioned fully to charitable status. All that remains is that we make the most of what we have and enjoy a wonderful summer playing and watching exciting cricket.

I wish all our players a safe and successful summer, and I look forward to celebrating with all at various occasions throughout the summer.

**Dan Taylor**

## ESHER CRICKET CLUB-OUR VALUES

### Player Development

We are committed to helping players improve. Our experienced coaching team work with aspiring professionals and first timers alike. All levels of development are equally important.

### Inclusivity

For over 150 years we have been at the heart of the community. We provide space where people come together around a shared love of cricket. We hope to enrich the lives of all our members and friends. Regardless of ability, gender, age, race, disability, orientation, belief or experience we welcome you.

### Respect

We treat everyone with respect. On the field to officials, opposition and teammates, and off the field to everyone we come into contact with.

### Enjoyment

We are committed to providing enjoyable cricket and social experiences for people of all ages and to having fun. Fun is what sport is all about.

### Integrity

Esher cricketers play hard but fair within the MCC spirit of cricket

### Humility

We are magnanimous when we win, and gracious when we lose. We always strive to learn, and believe conduct is more Important than sporting prowess.

## **Report on change to charitable status-Incorporation of the Club as a Charity**

Since the proposal to change of the structure of the Club from an unincorporated association to a limited company with charitable status was approved by the members at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 1st May, the project has been completed following the approval of the Charities Commission. The change has taken place with effect from 1st January 2026.

As a reminder of the key features of this new structure:

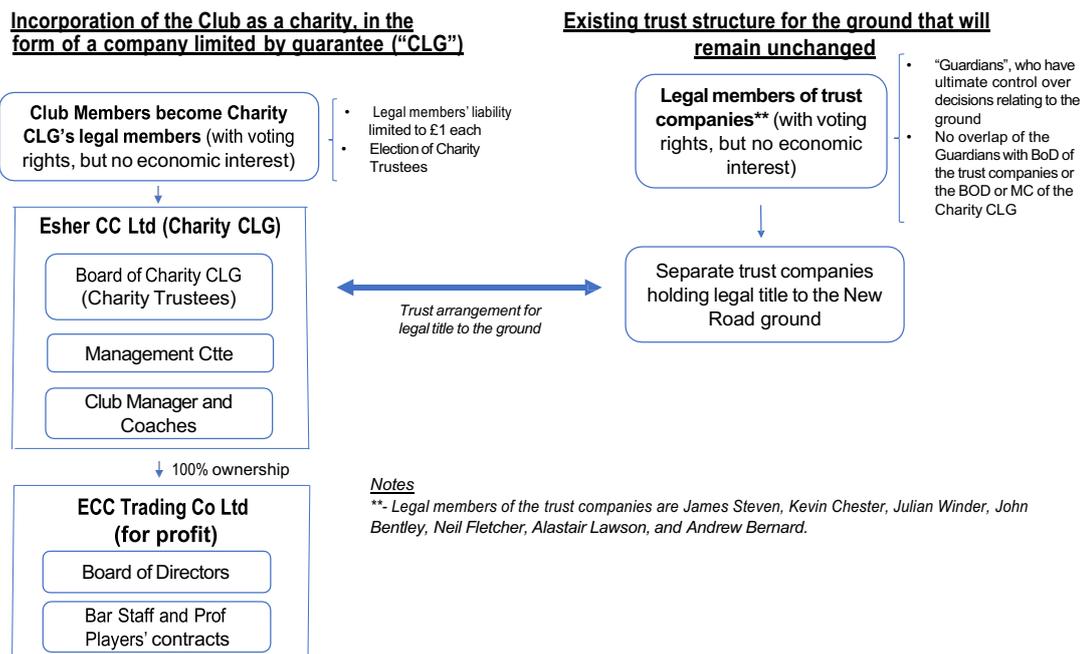
- The charity entity will be a company limited by guarantee (a “CLG”). The legal members of that company (the equivalent of shareholders) will each provide a guarantee limited to £1 and will have no other liability because of their status as the legal members.
- In line with commonly adopted practice, the charitable CLG will have a separate trading subsidiary for those activities which are not permitted to be operated from within the charity, for example the running of the bar.
- The day-to-day operations of the Club, age group and team management, training arrangements and so on will all continue unaffected by the change of legal form. Most importantly, the day-to-day management of the cricket-related activities of the Club will continue to rest with the Management Committee, with appropriate delegated authority from the trustees.
- All of the existing unincorporated association’s assets and contracts will transfer to the new charitable CLG or the trading subsidiary, depending on which part of the Club’s activities they relate to. We have been advised that there will be no tax consequences for the existing Club or its members as a result of that transfer or the transition to the new structure.
- The legal title to the ground will continue to be held on trust by two ECC Property companies, for the benefit of the charitable CLG instead of the existing Club.

To explain the key features of the governance and structure of the charitable CLG:

- All members of the Club, other than social members, will be the legal members of the charitable CLG with voting rights (but will have no economic interest in it or its assets).
- As a charity, the CLG can reclaim gift aid from the Government for the part of each subscription fee that relates to membership of the Club, providing voting rights and the right to attend the Club’s Annual General Meeting, as long as it is paid by a UK taxpayer (including parents paying for juniors). There is no cost to you. Further details will be provided during the membership process for 2026.
- One important point of detail is that, in relation to the young cricketer sections, there is a “one vote per child” approach. So, where a young cricketer is registered with the Club, both parents/guardians will continue to have the rights of social members, but only one will be a legal member of the charitable CLG. Where there are siblings registered, the relevant parent/guardian will have one vote per young cricketer.
- The charitable CLG will have a board of trustees who will oversee and be legally responsible for all the Club’s activities and compliance with the requirements of company and charity legislation. No more than three of those trustees will be members of the Management Committee (the equivalent of “executive directors”). The other trustees will be “non-executive” and provide independent oversight. All trustees will be elected by the legal members of the charitable CLG at the AGM.
- The initial board of trustees are Neil McCallum, John Woolhead and Vince Chandler, as the three executives, and David Crook, Nick Page and Geoff Ellis, as the three non-executives. Dan Taylor will replace Neil as a trustee in the new year, then all of the trustees will stand for re-election at the next AGM. After that, the executive directors will need to stand for re-election at each AGM, while the non-executives will have three-year terms and retire by rotation.

- In the normal course of events, the matters that the legal members of the charitable CLG will vote on will be confined to the election of trustees and standard General Meeting matters such as approval of the accounts, but the charitable CLG’s constitution will also require special majority approval of certain key matters by the legal members, in particular proposals regarding any sale or transfer of the interest in the ground. Any amendment to the charitable CLG’s constitution will require member approval, with a special majority being required to amend certain key provisions.
- As mentioned above, the board of trustees will delegate day-to-day management of operational and cricket-related activities of the Club to the Management Committee. The Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Safeguarding Officer will all be elected at the AGM. Other members of the Management Committee will be co-opted by the Chairman.
- As is the case now, our expectation is that all the trustees and members of the Management Committee (other than our General Manager, Duncan Pauline) will continue to be volunteers and not receive remuneration for performing those roles.

The Club would like to thank the project working group that has successfully completed this transition, which puts the Club on a sound footing going forward. In particular, the Club is indebted to David Crook and Nick Page, for their expertise and guidance not to mention the many hours, in making the project a success.



< 2026 🔍 ...

# SOCIAL EVENTS

**08-APR**

PRE-SEASON DRINKS

**24-APR**

CITY LUNCH

**09-MAY**

CAPTAIN'S DRINKS

**28-MAY**

PARENTS DRINKS

**06-JUN**

QUIZ EVENING

**11-JUL**

LADIES DAY

**01-AUG**

BEER PONG

**30-AUG**

INTER CLUB TOURNAMENT

**05-SEP**

AWARDS EVENING

## 2025 Achievements

### Adult cricket

<b>Leading League run scorers</b>			
Darren Helwick	535@44.58	David Brent	471@42.82
Will Hamilton	494@49.40	Teague Wyllie	424@42.40
Nic Smit	490@37.69	Adam Helwick	415@29.64
<b>Leading League wicket takers</b>			
Ben Townsend	24@27.50	Tom Burnett	20@15.85
Kunal Mishra	23@14.83	Joe de la Fuente	20@19.45
Shailendra Singh	20@13.30	Don Butchart	19@32.63
<b>League positions</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> XI	8th	4 <sup>th</sup> XI	2nd
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	3rd	5 <sup>th</sup> XI	3rd
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	2nd		
<b>League Hundreds</b>			
Ali Birky v Guildford 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	144	Ben Frendo v Old Pauline 5 <sup>th</sup> XI	115
Darren Helwick v Leatherhead 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	131	Will Hamilton v Shepperton 3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	108*
Teague Wyllie v Reigate Priory 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	116	Jaydon Forward v Whiteley V 4 <sup>th</sup> XI	106
Darren Helwick v Sunbury 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	116	Joe Pullinger v Long Ditton 5 <sup>th</sup> XI	100

<b>League 6 wickets</b>			
Kunal Mishra	7-9 v Walton on Thames 3rd XI	Freddie Harrison	6-35 v Dulwich 1st XI
Shailendra Singh	6-24 v Whiteley Village 4 <sup>th</sup> XI	Don Butchart	6-70 v Spencer 1st XI

<b>Senior Player Awards</b>			
1st XI player of the year	Ben Townsend	3rd XI player of the year	Max Simpson
2nd XI player of the year (joint)	Darren Helwick	4th XI player of the year	Craig Williams
2nd XI player of the year (joint)	Adam Helwick	5th XI player of the year	Tim Lenton

<b>Young Cricketer (boys) League and cup results</b>			
<b>Under 10</b>		<b>Under 11</b>	
Central regional Surrey Cup winners		Tier 1 Sunday Central winners	
Tier 1 Sunday central winners		Tier 2 North West runner up	
Tier 2 Central winners		Surrey Cup winners	
T1 North West runners up			
<b>Under 12</b>		<b>Under 14</b>	
T1 West Winners (U13 league)		Tier 1 North winners	
Surrey Cup Runners Up		Tier 2 Central winners	
T1 Sunday North Winners			
T1 Sunday North West Runners Up			
<b>Under 17</b>		<b>Under 19</b>	
Winners Tier 1 plate		Surrey Cup winners	

<b>Young Cricketer (girls) League and cup results</b>	
<b>Under 9</b>	<b>Under 10-11</b>
Girls U9 Smash IT West runners up	Girls U10-11 Tier 2 North West Runners up
	Girls U10-11 Hundred cup finalist
<b>Under 12</b>	<b>Under 13</b>
Girls U12 Tier 2 West Runners up	Girls U13 Tier 2 North West Winners
	Girls U12-13 Hundred cup semi finalist
<b>Under 15</b>	<b>Women's 1<sup>st</sup> XI</b>
Girls U15 Tier 1 North Runners up	Surrey Women's plate winners
Girls U14-15 Hundred cup semi finalist	

### **Young Cricketer Representative Cricket – Boys in 2025**

<b>Young Lions/England U19</b>	<b>Surrey 2nd XI</b>	<b>Surrey Academy /U18s</b>	<b>Bunbury Festival</b>
Alex French	Alex French	Alex Chambers	Ollie Mortlock
	Ollie Hunt	Alex French	Josh Wiles
		Ollie Hunt	
<b>Surrey U16 CAG</b>	<b>Surrey U15 CAG</b>	<b>Kent U15 CAG</b>	<b>Surrey U14 CAG</b>
Adam Helwick	Max Chambers	Kunsh Khanna	Sam Hawkins
Ben French	Zach Perkins	Arjun Talihani	
Fergus De Mestre	Orson Jones	Kian Mahmood	
Ollie Mortlock	Ollie Mortlock	<b>Berkshire U15 CAG</b>	
	Josh Wiles	Adhritdev Baghel	
<b>Surrey U14 Performance</b>	<b>Surrey U13 CAG</b>	<b>Surrey U13 performance</b>	<b>Surrey U12 CAG</b>
Harry Harding	George Garrett	Finley Morrison	Samuel Callaghan
Marley Gould		Fletcher McHarg	Freddie Carswell
James Siveyer		George Garrett	
Tom Hooke			
Barney Ashton			
Ollie Sangster			
Heath Bradbury (Hants)			
Harry Harding			
<b>Surrey U12 performance</b>	<b>Surrey U11 CAG</b>	<b>Surrey U11 performance</b>	<b>Surrey U10 performance</b>
Arthavit Anoop	Charlie Thompson	Arjun Munshi	Akhil Pillai
Max Ashton	Noah Hopkinson	Isaac Kwei	Angad Srivastad
Alex Hawkins	Rory Frost-Chesters	Joseph Crowley	Arthur Carswell
Jack Hooke	Ryan Arora	Matthew Andrews	Ayman Awan
Tom Hugall (Sussex)	Sajan Sahota	Nayan Desai	Cameron Wallis
Ben McClintock		Ollie Ashton	Joshua Latham
Jake McGlashan		Rafferty Guest	Jude Calderbank
Dylan Narinesingh		Toby Morgan	Lawrence Cooke
Ethan Saunders		Xander Morgan	Nico Randall
Daniel Sealy			Zachary Carswell
Aariz Awan			Zayd Akhtar

<b>Surrey U9</b>	<b>Surrey W/Keep Specific entrance</b>		
Leo Smith			
Arti Mumford	Ethan O'Sullivan		
Eddie Wilkinson	Francois Conraide		
Benji Johns			
George Young			
Henry Hughes			
William Goodge			
Ben Ashton			
Elyan Roberts			
Leo Smith			

### Young Cricketer Representative Cricket-Girls in 2025

<b>Sussex U18 Performance</b>	<b>Surrey U15 Development</b>	<b>Surrey U14 Development</b>	<b>Surrey U14 Performance</b>
Saskia Simmons	Hannah Price	Kaylee Muller	Mia Heslop
Raphaella White	Sonali Garcha	Zara Iqbal	
	Arabella Choudhury	Sahana Iyer	
<b>Surrey U13 Development</b>	<b>Surrey U12 CAG</b>	<b>Surrey U12 Development</b>	<b>Surrey U11 Performance</b>
Amaya Patel	Martha Garrett	Lucie Turtle	Martha Garrett
	Rachel Helwick	Shriya Patel	



## Sam Ryder Award

### Lek Pauline



For several years we have presented the **Sam Ryder award**, to the person who has made a contribution to the life of the club far beyond the norm. For this year there could only be one worthy recipient of this award, and that is Lek. Her contribution to Esher Cricket Club has been immense, and for the last 20 years she has warmed the cricketing experience of all of us at the club from the young junior cricketers attending cricket camps or playing in tournaments to the more senior chaps who enjoy a beer on a Saturday afternoon. Lek has also been a great friend and highly supportive of our team of coaches.

This award will ensure that Lek is rightly honoured and remembered for being the heart and soul of the club for so many years. I am sure that I speak for all of us in saying that we all miss her very much.

The eulogy given by Geoff Ellis at Lek's funeral is repeated in full on page 73 of this report

#### Previous winners

2016	Sam Ryder	2022	Geoff Ellis
2017	John Woollhead	2023	Alisa French
2018	Henry Witten	2023	Will Edwards
2019	Duncan Pauline	2023	Chris Burton
2020	Matt Sabben-Clare	2024	Vince Chandler
2021	Carolyn Lenton		

**CURCHODS**

01372 462000  
esher@curchods.com

# Proudly Supporting Esher Cricket Club

## SELL YOUR HOME SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

As a member of Esher Cricket Club, should you choose to sell your property with Curchods Estate Agents, we will gladly make a donation of £1000 to the club in your name when the sale completes.

\*T&Cs apply. Referral to be made prior to Curchods Estate Agents being contacted or instructed by the referee.



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## Treasurer's Report

### For the year ended 30 September 2025

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#### Financial Highlights

- Total income increased slightly to **£325,689.07**, reflecting continued strong participation across the club.
  - Membership income remained the club's largest and most stable revenue stream at **£175,295.78**.
  - Bar operations and facility rentals both improved compared with the previous year.
  - Higher operational and professional costs resulted in a **net deficit of £38,814.88** for the year.
  - The club continues to maintain a **strong asset base of £407,308.54**, supporting long-term stability.
- 

#### Executive Summary

The financial year ending 30 September 2025 was a year of continued activity and development for Esher Cricket Club. Overall income increased slightly to **£325,689**, compared with **£318,999** in the previous year, reflecting strong membership participation and steady performance across a number of revenue streams. During the year, the club also incurred additional costs relating to professional advisory work and the ongoing maintenance of our facilities. These costs, together with increases in operational expenses, resulted in a **net deficit of £38,814** compared with a deficit of **£5,476** in the previous year. While this represents a challenging financial outcome for the year, it should be viewed in the context of the club's longer-term investment in governance, facilities and infrastructure. The club continues to benefit from a strong membership base, dedicated volunteers and a valuable asset base which together support its long-term sustainability.

#### Income Breakdown

Membership subscriptions and match fees remain the club's largest and most reliable source of income, generating **£175,295** during the year and continuing to form the backbone of the club's finances. Fundraising activities such as the **City Lunch and End-of-Year Ball** contributed **£30,330**, demonstrating the importance of member engagement and community support. The **bar operation produced a net contribution of £10,504**, representing a healthy improvement on the prior year. Coaching programmes, camps and tournaments generated **£37,957**, reflecting the strength of the club's junior and development programmes. Rental income from pavilion and ground hire increased to **£18,218**, while the **playgroup rental income remained a stable and valuable contribution of £32,387**. Other income streams, including coaching hire, kit sales and miscellaneous income, contributed **£9,646**. Sponsorship income declined to **£11,350**, and strengthening this area will be an important focus for the coming year.

#### Expenses Breakdown

Total expenditure for the year increased to **£346,188**, compared with **£298,921** in the previous year. The largest element of expenditure relates to **ground and pavilion costs totalling £125,245**, covering maintenance of the New Road and Imber Court grounds, utilities, pitch hire and pavilion operations. **Staff and player costs amounted to £65,545**, reflecting the continued investment in coaching staff, match officials and operational support necessary to run the club effectively. **Coaching and equipment costs totalled £57,854**, supporting the club's extensive junior and senior cricket programmes. Administrative costs increased to **£76,368**, largely due to professional advisory fees incurred during the year relating to the matters associated with the club's future organisational structure. These costs are largely one-off in nature. Playgroup operating costs totalled **£21,175** and relate to the nursery facilities operating within the club grounds.

## Financial Stability

Despite the deficit reported this year, the club's underlying financial position remains stable. As at 30 September 2025, the club reported **net assets of £407,308**, supported by tangible assets including the pavilion, cricket square, nets and other facilities. These assets provide long-term security and support the club's cricketing activities for many years to come. Cash balances were reduced during the year largely due to higher operating expenditure; however, the club remains able to meet its financial obligations and continues to operate on a sound footing. The committee will continue to focus on maintaining prudent financial management while ensuring the club continues to invest in its facilities and cricketing programmes.

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## Club's Priorities for 2026

Looking ahead, the committee will focus on several key priorities:

- Strengthening sponsorship and commercial partnerships.
- Continuing to grow membership participation across junior, academy and adult cricket.
- Expanding revenue from events, facility hire and cricket development programmes.
- Maintaining careful control over operating and administrative costs.
- Supporting the club's long-term governance and organisational structure improvements.

With the continued support of members, volunteers and sponsors, the committee remains confident in the **long-term financial health and sustainability of Esher Cricket Club**.

**Nouman Hashmi**

Hon. Treasurer

March 2026

## Esher Cricket Club 200 club

- £60 per year and 50% of all payments are distributed as prize money by way of 6 monthly draws.
- All profits go to capital improvements at the club.

For more information and application forms please email  
[eshercc200club@gmail.com](mailto:eshercc200club@gmail.com)

## Annual Accounts 2025

### Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 30 September 2025

	2025	2024
	£	
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions and match fees	175,296	168,481
Sponsorship	11,350	21,700
Fundraising and functions (note 1)	30,331	32,484
Bar (note 1)	10,504	6,169
Courses and tournaments (note 1)	37,957	39,233
Rent	18,218	15,949
Playgroup income	32,387	30,267
Other Income	9,646	4,836
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>325,689</b>	<b>319,119</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Ground and Pavilion	125,246	124,685
Staff and player cost	65,546	55,905
Coaching and equipment cost	57,854	49,284
Administration	51,630	46,245
Playgroup cost	21,176	22,803
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>321,451</b>	<b>298,921</b>
<b>Excess/(deficit) before Depreciation, Exceptional items and tax</b>	<b>4,238</b>	<b>20,198</b>
Depreciation (note 2)	41,609	47,720
<b>Excess/(deficit) before Exceptional items and tax</b>	<b>(37,371)</b>	<b>(27,522)</b>
<b>Exceptional items</b>		
Government and sporting body grants	4,698	13,042
Donations - General	20,726	10,542
Incorporation project-Professional fees	(24,738)	
<b>Total Exceptional Items</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>23,583</b>
<b>Excess/(deficit) before tax</b>	<b>(36,685)</b>	<b>(3,939)</b>
Taxation	2,130	1,418
<b>Net Excess/ (Deficit)</b>	<b>(38,815)</b>	<b>(5,357)</b>

## Balance Sheet at 30 September 2025

	Cost £	Depreciation £	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Freehold Ground (note 3)	2,750		<b>2,750</b>	2,750
Pavilion	435,754	174,374	<b>261,380</b>	270,095
Car park and Pavilion surrounds	67,539	66,861	<b>678</b>	4,055
Nets, outside machinery and scoreboard	288,467	174,019	<b>119,628</b>	135,000
Pavilion equipment	53,981	53,981	--	75
Patio, fence and sheds	96,680	48,036	<b>50,644</b>	55,650
Kitchen and bar furniture	36,089	26,703	<b>9,385</b>	1,510
			<b>444,465</b>	469,135
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Stock			<b>2,184</b>	1,716
Trade debtors			<b>11,780</b>	13,132
Other debtors and prepayments			<b>3,084</b>	4,124
Cash at bank			<b>1,283</b>	57,006
			<b>18,332</b>	75,978
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Creditors and provisions			<b>27,359</b>	57,476
Unsecured loans payable within 1 year			<b>10,000</b>	40,000
Taxation			<b>2,130</b>	1,418
			<b>39,489</b>	98,894
<b>Net current assets (liabilities)</b>			<b>(21,157)</b>	(22,916)
<b>Total Assets less Current liabilities</b>			<b>423,308</b>	446,219
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year			<b>16,000</b>	
<b>Net asset value (excluding enhanced value of Freehold Land (note 3))</b>			<b>407,308</b>	446,219
<b>Represented by</b>				
General Fund			<b>407,308</b>	446,219

Approved by the Management Committee on 23 February 2026 and signed on its behalf by

Neil McCallum ACA

Nouman Hashmi FCCA

## Funds Flow and notes to the accounts for year ended 30 September 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash generated from operating activities		
General	(38,815)	(5,357)
Depreciation	41,609	47,720
Cash inflow from operating activities	2,794	42,363
Movement in working capital		
(increase)/decrease in Stock	(468)	(57)
(increase)/decrease in Debtors	2,391	14,293
(increase)/decrease in Creditors	(59,501)	(6,785)
Total changes in working capital	(57,578)	7,451
Capital Expenditure	(16,939)	(19,576)
Operating Cashflow	(71,723)	30,238
Financing		
Loan	16,000	20,000
Total Financing	16,000	20,000
Increase / (decrease) in cash	(55,723)	50,238

## Notes to the Accounts

### 1. Income

Income lines for Fundraising and Functions, Bar and Courses are shown net of costs. All other income lines are shown gross.

### 2. Depreciation

Depreciation has been charged as follows.

- Pavilion over 50 years
- Car park and pavilion surrounds over 20 years
- All other equipment over 10 years
- Kitchen, bar furniture and software over 5 years

### 3. Net Asset value

The Club is sole beneficiary of a trust arrangement which holds legal title to the grounds at 47 New Road, Esher, Surrey KT10 9NU.

The Club has exclusive right of use of the grounds, and the Management Committee are of the opinion that recognition of these rights in the Club's balance sheet is reasonable; this is described as Freehold

Ground and is stated at its historical cost from 1935 when the original trust was settled. The current trust is by way of two companies (limited by Guarantee) which act as trustee of the grounds.

The Club applies the historical cost principle in its accounting and reporting, and accordingly, does not revalue its assets and liabilities.

## **Independent Examiner's statement on the accounts**

Report to the Management Committee and members of Esher Cricket Club (the Club) on the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2025 set out on the previous pages.

### **Respective Responsibilities of the Management Committee and the Independent Examiner**

The Management Committee is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Management Committee considers that an independent examination is needed in accordance with the Club rules.

As the independent examiner, it is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts: and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiners Statement**

An independent Examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Club and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Management Committee concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

### **Independent Examiners Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - To keep accounting records.
  - To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met.
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

### **Aileen Woolhead**

Relevant Professional qualification ACA

23 February 2026

## Safeguarding Report

2025 has been another positive year for Esher Cricket Club, and safeguarding continues to be a key priority as our club grows and evolves. With a large and diverse membership, we remain committed to ensuring Esher CC is a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone involved in the game.

### Club Standards and National Framework

Safeguarding at Esher CC continues to be guided by the ECB's [Safe Hands](#) policy and the updated ECB Safeguarding Regulations introduced in 2025. These updates reinforce the importance of clear reporting processes, appropriate training, safer recruitment and shared responsibility across clubs, counties and the wider game.

Esher CC works closely within the safeguarding framework provided by Surrey Cricket, benefiting from county-level guidance, training opportunities and clear escalation pathways when needed.

### Keeping Our Club Safe

During the 2025 season, a small number of safeguarding matters were raised. As in previous years, these were handled promptly and appropriately, following ECB and Surrey Cricket guidance. In each case, concerns were addressed sensitively and resolved, with the wellbeing of those involved remaining the priority throughout.

Thank you to players, parents, coaches and volunteers for continuing to raise concerns where needed and for supporting a culture of openness and trust across the club.

### Safeguarding in Practice

With a strong junior section and increasing numbers of young players transitioning into open-age cricket, safeguarding remains an important focus. Captains and coaches continue to receive guidance on supporting junior players in adult teams, ensuring appropriate supervision, communication and inclusive behaviour.

The club also continues to uphold clear policies covering areas such as:

- [Codes of conduct](#)
- [Anti-bullying](#)
- [Safe use of photography and social media](#)
- [Transport and supervision](#)
- [Reporting and whistleblowing](#)

These policies are posted on our website and are designed to support both prevention and early intervention, helping to create the right environment for everyone involved in club life.

### Training and Awareness

Safeguarding training remains an important part of club activity. The ECB's online [safeguarding course](#) is an accessible way for volunteers, parents and players to build confidence in recognising concerns and knowing what to do if something doesn't feel right.

We also make sure that all our coaches are fully trained in safeguarding. We also encourage all of our volunteers to complete the basic level safeguarding training provided by the ECB and, of course, we ensure that all volunteers working with children are DBS compliant.

## Looking Ahead

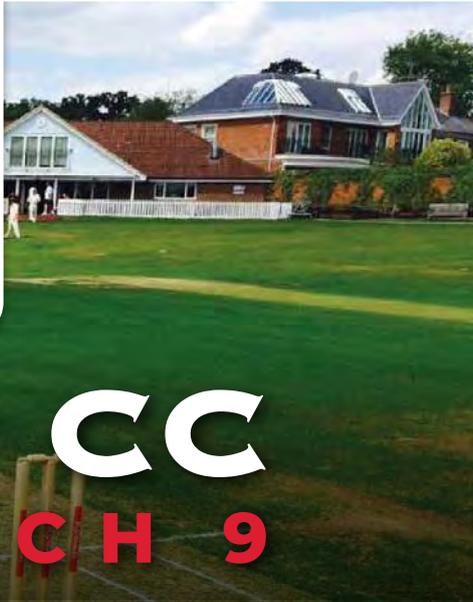
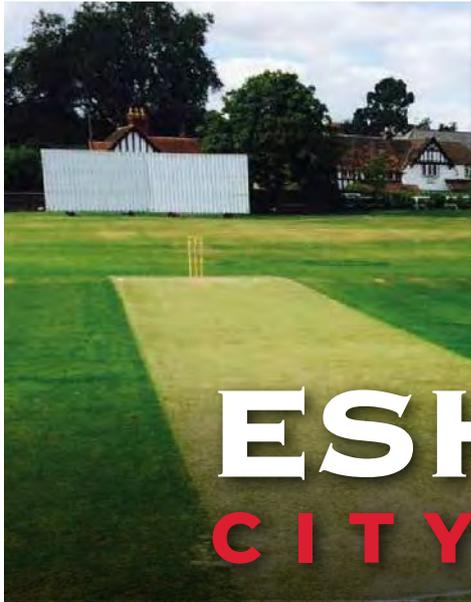
The above focuses on the 2025 season. As highlighted earlier in this report, since the end of the season, the club has transitioned to being both a company and a registered charity. The Charity Commission rightly emphasises the importance of safeguarding and the duty on charity trustees for the protection of beneficiaries, staff, volunteers and others encountering a charity. Our safeguarding approach going forward will take account of the [Commission's guidance](#) alongside the guidance from the ECB and Surrey Cricket referred to above.

As safeguarding expectations across cricket continue to evolve, Esher CC remains committed to embedding safeguarding into everyday club culture, not just through policies, but through behaviour, communication and shared responsibility.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would simply like to talk something through, please feel free to get in touch with the [safeguarding team](#).

Together, let's continue to make Esher Cricket Club a safe and welcoming place for everyone. 🏏💙

**Rachel Narinesingh**



# ESHER CC

## CITY LUNCH 9

**Friday 24 April 2026, 12–4.30pm**  
Quaglino's, 16 Bury Street, London SW1Y 6AJ

Dress: Smart/casual. Seats for lunch will be taken at 12.30pm

Join us for an afternoon of entertainment and fundraising with the No.1 host and auctioneer **Jonny Gould** and **Jonathan Agnew**.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Tickets: £100 per person**

Includes complimentary drinks reception, three-course lunch, speaker & auctioneer. This is an All-Club event and all members and their friends are welcome.

To book tickets contact:  
**geoffrey.ellis1@gmail.com**



## **1<sup>st</sup> XI report and averages**

**Played 18 | Won 6 | Lost 8 | Drawn 1 | No Result 3 |**

### **League position 8th**

We ended the 2024 season talking about how to improve on our 4th-place finish. The message was clear - consistency as a team, turning up week after week as a set and motivated 11.

At the end of 2025, after four captains and 28 players representing the 1s, it's fair to say we didn't totally put that into practice despite huge individual efforts! From the outset, this inconsistency alongside significant injuries, made this season one of our most challenging. The goal soon became survival and speaking honestly, we rarely put in a complete team performance. Too often, we as senior players didn't stand up when needed, especially with the bat. We never quite had the same side week after week. This wasn't helped when before the season started, one of our most reliable bowlers Joe Lavender managed to put himself out for half the season by rolling his ankle while celebrating a wicket at nets!

I would note that in the long-term seasons like this can shape a team. It was evident early on that the one thing we had to do was stay up, and although we made life as hard for ourselves as possible, thanks to some brilliance, plenty of grit and a slice of luck, we pulled off the great escape to keep our Premier League status.

There were still plenty of standout moments. With the bat, Teague Wylie, David Brent and Nic Smit all produced important innings, while Don Butchart showed he could win games with both bat and ball, stepping up superbly at number six. With the ball, BT led the attack with passion and energy, in the absence of his partner in crime, Joe Lavender. Freddie H reminded us of his destructive best at Dulwich, producing a devastating spell of spin in a must-win game. We also had success beyond the 1st XI. Justin Broad showed every one of his class, scoring his debut professional hundred and leading from the front in the T20 semi-final at Edgbaston. And younger players continued to shine, with Alex French and Ollie Hunt making their Surrey debuts in the One Day Cup, while Alex Chambers announced himself with a competitive, high-class 90 in a huge chase that summed up his fighting spirit and potential as an exciting all-rounder.

The season also had moments where we simply dug deep together. Against East Molesey, one of the toughest opponents you'll meet, we were up against a strong bowling unit and quickly realised that if we couldn't win, we had to fight tooth and nail for the draw. Don showed his adaptability by batting with patience and then Freddie came in to play one of the most important knocks of our season. He fought the devil on his shoulder and proved he could dig in when it mattered most, showing he's a man full of grit and not just power. Those hard-earned points proved significant in the end.

For much of the season, our problem was setting up games with the bat. Too often the bowlers were left with little to work with, no matter how hard they tried. Then came Wimbledon away. Always a tough game, but one we relish and have found success in the last few years. That week, we made a conscious decision to change our approach with the bat. Ollie Hunt worked tirelessly through a tricky powerplay, Smit and Chambers consolidated, Freddie and Brent then cashed in with the destructive finishing we know they're capable of. It was old-school cricket: graft early, flourish late. For what felt like the first time all year we gave ourselves a platform, and the bowlers responded in kind. Ben and Joe were relentless with the new ball, and Chambers, Freddie and Don backed them up brilliantly. Everything clicked across all departments. A hard-fought win, but one that showed we had the quality to match anyone, even the team that would end up winning the league.

The following week at Reigate, missing five from that famous win, we inevitably struggled. But it opened the door for youngsters to shine. Tom Chandler gave everything in the field and looked composed with the bat. Adam Helwick impressed at the top, building on his strong 2nd XI season. And Fergus De Mestre showed why he's such an exciting prospect at a very young age.

We battled all the way to the end. Against relegation rivals Sunbury, the game could have gone either way even after they amassed a brilliant score over 300. After the weather intervened, both sides were left needing a final day win to survive. Sunbury fell short against Reigate, which meant the door was ajar. In that last game, another talented young player, Ollie Mortlock, produced a crucial spell of bowling and the runout of the season. And fittingly, it was Ben Townsend who took the winning wicket to seal survival. His celebration, dropping to his knees in sheer relief and passion, captured exactly what it meant to him, the boys and to the Club.

One thing I do want to stress is how much this group gave to the cause. Results didn't always reflect the effort, but the commitment in the middle never wavered. What makes the difference is knowing the whole Club is behind us. At times it was disappointing to hear comments made about players behind closed doors, especially when I could see the effort put in on the field. Criticism without a purpose or a useful message doesn't help, encouragement and unity does. If we stick together as players, parents, coaches and supporters, we'll only get stronger and have more fun.

And finally, this year reminded us of what really matters. We lost someone very special in Lek, who was dearly loved by the whole group. The respect shown by Clubs across Surrey cricket underlined just how widely she was valued. She will be deeply missed, but always remembered, and we'll be thinking of her when we come together again in 2026.

So yes, 2025 was tough and we have lots to improve on. But it was also a season of character, fight, and glimpses of an incredibly bright future. With so many youngsters stepping up and the squad desperate to put things right, there's plenty to be excited about for next Summer.



### Player of the season: Ben Townsend

This year's Player of the Season goes to one of the hardest working cricketers I've ever played with. Ben demands nothing but the best from himself and his passion for the game is unmatched. At times that passion can boil over, but it's exactly what drives him to run in hard every over and give everything to win. As a captain, there's nothing better than having a bowler disappointed at being taken off because they want more, that hunger defines Ben. His performances throughout the season were outstanding, but none more so than his final wicket, charging in one last time to secure our place in the Premier League. Ben never misses training, using even wash outs as a chance to improve. He's central to our team (both as a bowler and as a character) and this award is a fitting recognition for someone who gave absolutely everything all season.

### 1st XI batting averages 2025

#### Batting - Qualification 4 matches

Name	Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Runs	High Score	Average
Alex Chambers	12	9	1	349	96	43.63
David Brent	15	13	2	471	90	42.82
Teague Wyllie	11	11	1	424	116	42.40
Don Butchart	13	12	2	384	63	38.40
Nicholas Smit	16	15	2	490	93	37.69
Oliver Hunt	8	8	1	169	52	24.14
Freddie Harrison	15	12	1	257	54	23.36
Will Tavare	11	9	0	139	41	15.44
Rob Honeybul	14	9	3	78	17	13.00
Craig Meschede	8	7	0	89	27	12.71
Ben Townsend	17	13	6	78	17	11.14
Joe Lavender	6	2	0	22	14	11.00
George Baldwin	7	6	0	51	20	8.50
Max Wallis	7	7	0	54	29	7.51
Jack Fletcher	4	2	1	1	1	1.00
Dan Taylor	4	2	1	1	1	1.00

#### Also played

3 matches	Bill Meacock		
2 matches	Kunal Mishra	Anosh Malik	Nathan Roberts
	Justin Broad		
1 match	Ali Birkby	Darren Helwick	Adam Helwick
	Tom Chandler	Dan Taylor	Ollie Mortlock
	Joe De La Fuente	Fergus De Mestre	Andrew McCallum

### 1st XI bowling averages 2025

#### Qualification 5 wickets

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Ben Townsend	160.0	17	660	24	27.50
Don Butchart	131.3	7	620	19	32.63
Freddie Harrison	121.1	11	570	16	35.63
David Brent	106.3	5	502	12	41.83
Joe Lavender	58.4	8	210	11	19.09
Alex Chambers	62.0	9	303	10	30.30

## **2<sup>nd</sup> XI report and averages**

**Played 18 | Won 10 | Lost 7 | No Result 1 |**

### **League position 3rd**

The 2nd XI had a fantastic season in 2025, finishing 'best of the rest' in 3rd place in what we predicted would be the highest standard of cricket the 2nd XI had played in. This came following the restructuring of the Surrey Championship leagues which placed us into Division 3 West consisting of some familiar foes and five 1st XI sides! The lads took the challenge in their stride, facing overseas ex-professional cricketers and travelling to grounds we have never played at, as we managed to win 6 out of the 10 games against the 1st teams. This proved to be integral to our success and fantastic experience for some of the younger members of the team.

The season started off with a bang against Guildford with a thriller that went down to the wire. Looking to not brood on our past experiences at Woodbridge Road, Ali Birkby lost the toss on a flat deck, and we were stuck in the field. After consistent and tight bowling from Tom Brown and Joe de la Fuente, and some heroic fielding from Matt Macpherson (yes you read that right!) we contained Guildford to 290 (129 less runs than when we last visited this ground). After a difficult start at 70/3 after 15 overs, Ali Birkby and Darren Helwick steadied the ship putting on a 150 partnership. Darren departed for a well-made 55 off 72 and was replaced by Matt Macpherson who made an important quick fire 21. However, the star of the show was Ali Birkby who made 144 not out off 132 deliveries scoring the winning runs with just two balls to spare. A great day for all involved and exactly the start we were looking for.

We were slightly up and down at the start of the season. Following a big win at Guildford, we had a tight loss to Ashted, despite great knocks from Nathan Roberts and Ali Birkby, thrashed Chertsey 1st XI by 10 wickets and then came convincingly second against East Molesey and Leatherhead. This has been the trend with the 2nd XI over the past few years, however this time we took the positive from each game and built a strong core group.

The core group consisted of several young guns who thrived in their new roles in the 2nd XI. Priyesh Patel and Adam Helwick played the most 2nd XI games out of anyone this year. Adam (U16) scored 428 runs across the season opening the batting against tricky and experienced bowlers' week in, week out. He raised the bat three times this season playing for the 2nd XI with the highlight being his 91 at New Road against Farnham 1st XI. Not only did Adam shine with the bat, but he also kept wicket for most of the games and showed terrific skill standing up to Joe de La Fuente and Dan Taylor. His performances this year didn't go unnoticed as Adam was called up to make his 1st XI debut in August. Priyesh (U16) "bucket hands" Patel played a huge role with both bat and ball. Batting at eight or nine each week Priyesh accumulated runs effectively and at pivotal times of the season. He made a fantastic 53\* off just 46 balls in a close affair with Sunbury including a 50 partnership with Kei Lalor where Priyesh made 27 off just 16 balls. With the ball, Priyesh shined throughout the season as he spun a web around the opposition on multiple occasions. He was Man of the Match against East Molesey where he bowled 10 overs on the bounce taking 4-36 with three maidens and changed the game. He also batted superbly on a difficult pitch to keep us in the game making 31 off 59 balls. I would like to congratulate both Adam and Priyesh, along with all the other youngsters who played, for their fantastic attitudes throughout the season – we couldn't have done it without you!

Did I mention East Molesey? After being comfortably beaten at home at the start of the season, we headed to Graburn Way in August seeking vengeance. We arrived at a sub-par pitch with a strong side and were not sure which way it might go. East Molesey decided to have a bat. The bowlers bowled tight as the ball jagged and seamed all over the place. Dan Taylor and the aforementioned Priyesh Patel bowled superbly in a pair, keeping it tight in the all-important middle overs. We bowled East Molesey out for a chaseable 184. We lost some early wickets and found ourselves 70-5 in the 23rd over. In came Joe De La Fuente and Priyesh Patel who with nerves of steel put on 77 runs for the 6th wicket getting us right back into the game. A few wickets later and we require 6 runs off the last over

with just Dan Taylor left in the sheds. Kunal Mishra and Jack Fletcher found themselves at the crease with a job to do. Kunal remained calm, whilst Jack acted like he was calm to Kunal. After knocking it around for 5 balls we needed 2 runs off the last ball and Jack managed to hoick one over mid-wicket for a boundary. East Molesey is a tough place to go and is the first time the 2nd XI has won there in Dan Taylor and Mark Hopkinson's long memory. Days like this make all the hard work worth it!

Our batting performances throughout the season were what really sealed the deal on our success. Three centuries were scored two by Darren Helwick and one by Ali Birkby. Darren proved key to a number of wins this year and was the backbone of our batting line-up. This man is hard as nails. Through most of the season his hamstring was black and blue but that didn't stop him making 50s and 100s with ease. The bowlers also performed well throughout the season despite there being no 5-fors this year. Joe de La Fuente and Dan Taylor were the pick of the punch with Joe averaging 16.30 and Dan averaging 17.73. Dan also managed to take 3/1 against Chertsey early on in the season. The bowlers will be looking to one-up it in 2026 and make more 5-fors than the batters make 100s!

I would like to thank my other captains Ali Birkby and Joe de La Fuente for their work across the season. It was a joint effort and worked out well as we all dealt with busy summers. I would like to give a huge thank you to Mark (Doc) Holliday for scoring all year-round and providing us with statistics throughout the season, not only on our team but the opposition too. Thank you too all the players and parents who were involved with the 2nd XI this season. Everyone was fully committed every week and made this my most enjoyable year senior cricket I have experienced. Finally, thank you to Vince Chandler and the rest of the selection committee. It is not an easy task organising 5 or 6 matches every week and without their hard work it would not be possible.

I hope you all have an enjoyable winter and bring on 2026!



## **2nd XI player of the season: Adam Helwick & Darren Helwick**

Our 2025 player of the season was voted for by the 2nd XI players and resulted in a tie. To avoid any family feuds, we decided it was only right that both Adam and Darren Helwick won the award this year. Darren Helwick made 535 runs this year in just 13 innings at an average of 48.64. He made two 50s and two 100s and finished as the 8th highest run scorer in the league. Adam Helwick 393 runs across 14 innings at an average of 30.23. He opened the batting with maturity beyond his age and kept brilliantly throughout the season. Adam was awarded with his 1st XI debut this year and made 22 opening the batting against a high-quality Reigate Priory side. Congratulations to both and very well deserved!

## **2nd XI batting averages 2025**

### Qualification 4 matches

Name	Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Runs	High Score	Average
Ali Birkby	8	8	3	400	144*	80.00
Darren Helwick	14	13	2	535	131	48.64
Jack Fletcher	11	4	3	43	28*	43.00
Will Hamilton	4	4	0	168	83	42.00
Ollie Hamilton	5	3	1	71	65*	35.50
Nathan Roberts	7	6	0	206	89	34.33
Kei Lalor	4	2	1	34	21	34.00
Tim Clews	8	8	1	221	63	31.57
Adam Helwick	15	14	1	393	91	30.23
Priyesh Patel	14	8	4	115	53*	28.75
Tom Chandler	11	9	1	225	58*	28.13
Joe De La Fuente	12	8	3	131	42	26.20
Anosh Malik	6	6	0	160	83	25.00
Jack Park	4	3	1	50	29	25.00
Mark Hopkinson	13	12	0	283	76	23.58
Matt Macpherson	7	6	0	125	63	20.83
George Baldwin	7	7	2	102	36*	20.40
Dan Taylor	10	3	2	9	5*	9.00
Tom Brown	8	4	2	16	8*	8.00
Kunal Mishra	9	7	2	35	14	7.00

### Also played

3 matches	Ollie Mortlock	Austin Wilman	
2 matches	Charlie Green	Max Wallis	Robbie Ensor
1 match	Rob Honeybul	Orson Jones	Tom Pitt
	Max Simpson	Shiv Patel	Angus Barrett

## 2nd XI bowling averages 2025

### Qualification 5 wickets

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Joe De La Fuente	88.0	10	326	20	16.30
Dan Taylor	77.1	18	266	15	17.73
Jack Fletcher	73.3	3	422	12	35.17
Tom Brown	55.2	3	370	10	37.00
Priyesh Patel	74.2	6	399	9	44.33
Kei Lalor	29.1	6	119	8	14.88
Ollie Hamilton	33	0	196	8	24.50
Jack Park	21.3	1	122	7	17.43
George Baldwin	40.5	2	267	7	38.14
Kunal Mishra	48	4	225	7	32.14
Fergus De Mestre	32.5	2	118	6	19.67

## 3<sup>rd</sup> XI report and averages

**Played 18 | Won 12 | Lost 4 | No Result 2 |**

**\*\*Promoted as runners up\*\***

The 3rd XI enjoyed a superb 2025 campaign, securing promotion and finishing just one win shy of the league title.

The season began shakily, with narrow defeats to Sunbury and Shepperton, both of which were lost in the final five overs. However, the side showed outstanding resilience to bounce back and win the next seven matches in a row. This run of form underlined the strength of Esher's adult cricket and the depth of talent throughout the club.

### Season Highlights

The 3rd XI provided a vital springboard for players to showcase their ability and push for higher honours. Will Hamilton led the way with the bat, averaging 56 and earning a call-up to the 2nd XI. A core group of experienced players anchored the side, guiding younger talent and maintaining high standards throughout the campaign.

The turning point came with a statement win over Ham & Petersham 1st XI: Will Hamilton (54) and Tim Clews (55) built a defensible total before Jack Park tore through the opposition with 5-17, kick-starting the promotion charge.

### Other standout moments included:

Walton Thriller: Charlie Winder's rapid 52, a stunning run-out from Marly Gould, and three key wickets sealed a last-over win.

Ollie Hamilton Hat-Trick: A match-winning spell against Staines & Laleham 2nd XI that flipped a low-scoring contest on its head.

Sunbury Revenge: Max Chambers, on debut, claimed 4-19 as Sunbury were bowled out for 101, the perfect response after the early-season defeat.

Home Walton Win: Charlie Green (36) and Max Simpson (36) shared a crucial partnership, backed by a clinical bowling display led by Shiv Patel (3-19).

### The Title Race

By mid-season, Esher were firmly in the hunt for the title. A narrow defeat to Ham & Petersham 1st XI meant there was no margin for error, but the side responded brilliantly. Will Hamilton's imperious 89 and Austin Willman's fluent 61 powered a comfortable win over Oxshott 2nd XI, before emphatic victories against Walton-on-Thames and Balham & Tooting kept the promotion charge alive.

It all came down to a final, winner-takes-all clash with Malden Wanderers. On a pitch where runs are usually plentiful, Esher fought hard to post 183, thanks to Andrew McCallum (52) and Angus Barrett (49). Despite a spirited effort in the field, Wanderers chased the target with three overs to spare, clinching the title. Undeterred, Esher bounced back in style, sealing second place and promotion with a commanding win over Staines & Laleham, setting the stage for an exciting 2026 campaign at a higher level.

### Standout Performances

#### Batting Highlights:

- Will Hamilton – 108\* vs Shepperton 2XI, 89 vs Oxshott 2XI
- Mark Hopkinson – elegant 98\* on a tricky surface vs Balham & Tooting 1XI
- Orson Jones – 90\* in a rain-curtailed match against Oxshott 2XI
- Austin Willman – 80 vs Shepperton 2XI
- Max Chambers – match-defining 76\* vs Staines & Laleham 2XI

### **Bowling Highlights:**

- Kunal Mishra – sensational match-winning 7-9 vs Walton-on-Thames 3XI and 4-13, including a stunning caught-and-bowled, against Shepperton 2XI
- Jack Park – 5-17 vs Ham & Petersham 1XI
- Tom Burnett – 4-6 vs Balham & Tooting 1XI
- Ollie Hamilton – 4-8 vs Ham & Petersham 1XI

### **3rd XI player of the season: Max Simpson**

Max Simpson is deservedly named the 2025 3rd XI Player of the Season for his all-round contributions that underpinned Esher's promotion.

With the ball, Max's relentless accuracy and ability to build pressure made him a constant threat, often creating breakthroughs that others capitalised on. But it was his performances with the bat that truly defined his season. Regularly arriving at 7 or 8, Max rescued innings under pressure, forging crucial lower-order partnerships that turned tight contests into victories.

His standout moment came in the crucial clash against Walton, where his composed 36 in a tense chase steadied the innings and swung momentum decisively in Esher's favour.

Max's calmness under pressure, consistency, and knack for delivering when it mattered most made him not just a reliable contributor but a genuine match-winner; a key figure in a season that saw Esher 3rd XI takes a deserved step up to the next level.



### 3rd XI batting averages 2025

#### Qualification 4 matches

Name	Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Runs	High Score	Average
Will Hamilton	6	6	1	280	108*	56.00
Charlie Green	5	5	1	146	50*	36.50
Max Chambers	7	5	1	135	76*	33.75
Austin Wilman	7	7	0	232	80	33.14
Orson Jones	8	8	2	167	90*	27.83
Max Simpson	14	11	4	186	36	26.57
Angus Barrett	14	12	2	309	55	25.75
Ollie Hamilton	4	4	1	77	30*	25.67
Zach Perkins	6	6	0	110	39	18.33
Chris Parrish	10	4	2	36	21*	18.00
Charlie Winder	8	7	0	117	52	16.71
Max Dunn	6	3	1	32	24	16.00
Jaydon Forword	5	5	0	70	25	14.00
Jack Park	8	7	1	74	32	12.33
Robbie Ensor	6	4	1	35	29	11.67
Kunal Mishra	5	3	0	18	18	6.00
Shiv Patel	10	4	2	10	3	5.00
Kunsh Khanna	4	3	0	15	9	4.67
Tom Burnett	5	2	0	0	0	0.00

Also played.

3 matches	Chris Harvey	Tom Hooke	Tim Clews
2 matches	Jonathan Barrett	Priyesh Patel	Josh Da Vall
	Matt Macpherson	Tom Brown	Joe Moss
	Ben Frendo	Nick Woollhead	Marley Gould
1 match	Joe Inch	Craig Williams	Ayan Sohail
	Max Rawlinson	Max Rawlinson	William Heslop
	Christian Nicolaou	Alex Mason	Fergus De Mestre
	Shaun Davis	Andrew McCallum	Mark Hopkinson
	Pratik Patel	Tom McClean	Alex Scrinì

### 3rd XI bowling averages 2025

Qualification 5 wickets

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Kunal Mishra	41.5	9	85	16	5.31
Shiv Patel	58	12	224	13	17.23
Jack Park	54.4	4	185	12	15.42
Chris Parrish	48	4	201	12	16.75
Max Simpson	78.1	8	319	12	26.58
Robbie Ensor	37	6	143	9	15.89
Tom Burnett	36.4	5	112	8	14.00
Ollie Hamilton	16.5	2	62	8	7.75
Marley Gould	15.1	1	47	6	7.83
Charlie Winder	20.4	2	77	5	15.4

## **4<sup>th</sup> XI report and averages**

### **Division 10 Central of the Surrey Cricket Championship**

**Played 18 | Won 11 | Lost 5 | No Result 2 |**

**\*\*Promoted as runners up\*\***

Promotion was secured, as runners up, on the final Saturday of the season. However, 4 games out we were top of the league with the league championship in our own hands but a couple of poor performances against Sunbury and Hampton Hill resulted in the need to win the final game.

It was a season of two halves; we won 9 out of the first 11 games with one abandoned. We were top of the league and looking comfortable. We then lost 3 of the next 5 again one abandoned but thanks to other teams not taking advantage we went into the final game with promotion in our own hands.

Over the season we used 55 players which made any continuity hard, but is obviously, to an extent, the nature of 4<sup>th</sup> team cricket and of course enabled many of our young cricketers to experience adult league cricket alongside those of us of more mature years.

When we were poor it was our generally batting that let us down with little application shown on some difficult wickets. The top run scorer was Craig Williams who seemed, until the last game of the season (70 setting up the game along with Zak Perkins), incapable of scoring less than 20 and more than 45 but 323 runs at 32.32 is a fine return at the top of the order. Other highlights included 106 for Jayden Forward against Whiteley Village, 92 for Zack Perkins (Whiteley Village) and 83 for Will Heslop (Whiteley Village) and in the first game of the season Henry Witten and Alex Mason rolling back the years with a partnership of 106 to win the game at Stoke D'Abernon. Seven other players scored fifties.

Our bowling was generally very good but on occasion the inability to finish off the oppo lower order cost us dearly. The leading wicket taker was Shailendra Singh, 20 wickets at an average of 10.70. This included 6-24 (including a hat trick) against Whiteley Village. No other bowler took a five for. Odran William played 8 games, was consistently hostile and unlucky to only take 13 wickets at 24.92. Chris Harvey took 14 at 19.21 and Tom Burnett 13 at 17.77.

For a 4<sup>th</sup> XI our catching was generally excellent if we exclude the Hampton Hill game in the penultimate game of the season when it was frankly pretty dreadful. Ground fielding was average not helped by some difficult outfielders, not least home at Imber Court.

A big thank you to regulars Alex Mason, Craig Williams, Chris Harvey and Shailendra Singh for help on the day including umpiring, scoring, keeping Imber Court tidy and general management of the day.

### **Player of the season: Craig Williams**

My player of the season goes to an almost ever present, new member this year, who not only has scored runs at the top of the order but also was a core member of the team regulars. As earlier 323 runs at 32.30 at the top of the order is a fine return, he was a great support during the season not only for his cricket knowledge but also providing much needed consistency in team make up.

## 4th XI batting averages 2025

Qualification 4 matches

Name	Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Runs	High Score	Average
Robbie Ensor	4	3	2	52	30	52.00
Jayden Forward	4	4	0	174	106	43.50
Kunsh Khanna	4	4	0	168	70	42.00
Will Heslop	4	4	0	152	83	38.00
Tom Hooke	4	4	1	100	50*	33.33
Craig Williams	11	11	1	323	70	32.30
Zach Perkins	7	7	0	189	92	27.00
Charlie Pitts	4	3	1	42	23*	21.00
Alex Mason	14	13	3	197	61*	19.70
John Woolhead	16	13	3	187	45	18.70
Tim Lenton	5	3	2	17	11	17.00
Spencer McHarg	4	3	0	45	24	15.00
Shailendra Singh	10	7	2	69	27*	13.80
Odran Williams	8	5	2	36	18*	12.00
Joe Gilhooly	5	4	1	20	12	6.67
Marley Gould	4	1	0	3	3	3.00
Chris Harvey	10	4	1	6	3	2.00
Tom Burnett	8	1	1	0	0*	-

Also played

3 matches	Chris Parrish	Joe Goodsman	David Crook
	Nick Woollhead	James Boon	Shiv Patel
2 matches	Max Dunn	Josh Da Vall	Tom Lenton
	Sachin Patel	Fraser Bache	Max Chambers
	Jon Sturges	Jack Joyce	Pratik Patel
	Taarank Mehta	Josh Kavia	Orson Jones
1 match	Armaan Naviwala	Kush Patel	Joe Pullinger
	Rohan Kavia	Shaun Davis	Joe Moss
	Chris Burton	Dilan Guganeswaran	Sam Pyecroft
	Henry Witten		Will Hamilton

## 4th XI bowling averages 2026

Qualification 5 Wickets

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Shailendra Singh	63.1	14	214	20	10.70
Chris Harvey	70.2	8	269	14	19.21
Tom Burnett	51	5	231	13	17.77
Odran Williams	54	9	177	13	24.92
James Boon	21	3	77	9	8.56
Tom Hooke	20.5	0	85	6	14.17
Robbie Ensor	24	1	119	6	19.83
Armaan Naviwala	8	1	31	5	6.20
Max Chambers	12	4	20	5	4.00



## 5<sup>th</sup> XI report and averages

**Played 18 | Won 10 | Lost 5 | No Result 3|**

**\*\*Promoted as 3<sup>rd</sup> place team\*\***

2025 was another successful season for Esher 5s, once again providing a pathway for talented junior cricketers to experience senior league cricket. Also providing the opportunity to entice more experienced gentlemen back to the allures of the game. The 2025 campaign ended in a well-deserved promotion into a higher division for the second successive year, ensuring greater challenge and demanding even higher standards in 2026.

As ever, it was a season of 2 halves, with the front 9 matches serving up a decidedly mixed bag of results before we won 8 of our last 10 games, the 2 other results on account of cancellation and abandonment. The abandoned result came in our penultimate fixture requiring us to achieve a win from our last match which we thankfully delivered, largely due to a Pullinger father/son 100-run opening partnership. This match, at Kempton CC, was not without drama as we collapsed from 102-1 to 165 all out, before Arjun Tahiliani (3-29) and Rahul De Silva (5-27) retrieved the day amidst chaotic scenes towards the end of the game!

The other stand out match in 2025 has to be our away fixture at Woking & Horsell, where we found ourselves at 12 for 5 within 10 minutes of the start having succumbed to a hat-trick from the oppo's u13 opening bowler. Cometh the hour, cometh the men in Ben Frendo and Joe Goodsmen who diligently and conscientiously rescued us with a 160-run 6th wicket stand [is this an Esher 6th wicket partnership record??]. Goodsmen ending on 85 (including 9 fours and 2 sixes) and Frendo carrying his bat unbeaten on 76 tells you not everything about the state of the pitch that day, where only one other managed double figures. The day belonged to Goodsmen who finished with 3-8 bowling figures whilst also impacting the game (and the concentration of certain batters) from short leg.

Several match winning knocks also need to be called out, all of which contributed to our league promotion. Ben Frendo's 115 vs Old Pauline (averaging 85.25), Joe Pullinger's 100 vs Long Ditton (averaging 59), Andy McCallum's 95\* vs East Molesey (returning to cricket), Kei Lalor's 90 vs Long Ditton and Thomas Hooke's 83 vs Woking & Horsell.

Our 2025 season also saw promising league cricket debuts for u14 Rannvj Tomar (7 wkts), u12 Dylan Narinesingh (5 wkts), u14 Tarank Mehta (4 wkts) and Armaan Naviwala (3 wkts). U14 Fraser Bache again proved to be our most consistent young bowler (12 wkts). We look forward to seeing more of these young men next season.

A special thanks must also be given to Sylwia Jencz who is very much part of the team as our regular scorer at both home and away fixtures and the team is always appreciative of her support that allows the players to simply focus on the game.

The breadth of young talent at Esher CC is simply incredible and we will need to continue to nurture and develop our junior cricketers within the ranks of our more experienced heads in 2026 if we are to continue our run of success and make it three back-to-back promotions.

We are always on the lookout for new players to strengthen our ranks so if you are keen to return to cricket or maybe even get a game alongside your son/daughter at some point next year then please do get in touch to become part of a competitive but encouraging lower league team. There will never be a shortage of laughs, comradery and even the occasional spot of match winning drama!

### **5th XI player of the season: Tim Lenton**

Tim Lenton deservedly won the 2025 Esher 5th XI player of the year award.

Tim is a dependable and reliable clubman who always provides encouragement and support for our younger players. He is a fixture at mid-off where the ball will be sent straight over to him so he can work furiously to keep it in its best condition for our bowlers. He is a captain's dream, always willing to take responsibility whether it be umpiring duties or bowling through his overs in a single spell from one end. Despite being one of the nicest guys you will meet off the pitch, Tim showed his fiercely competitive edge this season when standing up for our younger players on one fractious afternoon. Ask him about that day when you see him at the bar, you can always rely upon him to be there on Saturday evening after the game!



### **5th XI batting averages 2025**

#### **Qualification 4 matches**

Name	Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Runs	High Score	Average
Ben Frendo	6	6	2	341	115	85.25
Joe Goodsmen	6	5	1	136	85	34.00
Jon Sturges	6	6	2	118	53	29.50
Kei Lalor	4	4	0	115	90	28.75
Fraser Bache	12	11	0	207	80	18.82
Josh Da Vall	6	6	0	91	54	15.17
Chris Burton	4	4	0	56	41	14.00
Shaun Davis	8	7	0	85	34	12.14
James Siveyer	7	6	1	49	28	9.80
Dave Mistry	4	3	0	29	14	9.67
Dylan Narinesingh	6	6	0	52	17	8.67
Tim Lenton	6	3	2	6	4	6.00
Gareth Narinesingh	11	6	1	20	7	4.00
Rahul De Silva	5	3	1	4	2	2.00

3 matches	Aayat Amir Naviwala	Charlie Pitts	Arjun Tahilani
	Armaan Naviwala	Alistair Widdop	Shailendra Singh
	Sachin Patel	Joe Pullinger	Neil McCallum
2 matches	Will Heslop	Christian Nicolaou	Paul Hawkins
	Sam Hawkins	Rannvj Tomar	Rohan De Silva
	Joe Inch	Viraj Pillai	Arun Narinesingh
	Arthavit Anoop	Ben Hughes	Byron Miller
	Barney Ashton	Taarank Mehta	Richard Brimblecombe
	James Boon	Dan Dickenson	Spencer McHarg
1 match	Tom Lenton	Andrew McCallum	Oscar Stringer
	Aariv Johar	Harshil Patel	Agam Dutt
	Jack Townsend	Thomas Reed	Richard French
	Sam Pycroft	Christopher Crowley	Will Heslop
	Adil Abdul-Khaliq	Max Dunn	David Crook
	Rory Pullinger	Dan Pullinger	Craig Williams
	Fin Maclenan	Tom Hooke	Pratik Patel

### 5th XI bowling averages 2025

#### Qualification 5 wickets

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Rahul De Silva	35	2	162	13	12.46
Joe Goodsman	37	10	97	12	8.08
Fraser Bache	50.3	12	184	12	25.25
Tim Lenton	30.5	7	110	9	12.22
Rannvj Tomar	15	1	63	7	9.00
Charlie Pitts	23	4	72	7	10.29
Jon Sturges	29.5	6	108	7	15.43
Dylan Narinesingh	27	2	116	5	23.20

## 6th XI report

The 6<sup>th</sup> XI only managed to play 4 friendly matches this season, due to combination of insufficient player availability and also some cancellations due to wet weather. As always, the 6<sup>th</sup> XI aims to introduce youngsters to adult cricket, guided by some experienced adult players. A similar theme to previous years arose this year, in that we didn't have many adults available, so the team was very heavily weighted with youngsters. We managed to win 3 of the 4 matches played this year. Highlights of the matches:

Malden Wanderers – A sobering loss to start with. On the bowling front, Ethan Saunders took 2 wickets, and Rian Patel and Ali Rawlinson scored 20's.

Grayshott – A good win, with Tom Lenton top scoring with 63 on a rare Esher match whist on uni holidays. Wickets were shared by Barney Rawlinson (including 2 in 2 balls, Max Ashton, Aariv Johar, Heath Bradbury and Ali Rawlinson.

Dorking – Another good win against a talented youthful team, with fantastic knocks by Ali Rawlinson (60), Arjun Tahiliani (59) and Barney Ashton (41\*). Barney Rawlinson was the pick of the bowlers with 3 wickets and was a constant threat, and 2 wickets for Armaan Naviwala with his leg spinners. A special mention to Ali Rawlinson, whose enthusiasm (and humour) in the field was infectious, and second to none!

Sutton – A final victory of the season. A quickfire 47 from Josh Da Vall set the tone with the bat, with Sam Pyecroft also scoring 47, and Barney Rawlinson chipping in with 26. Zac Milton took 3 wickets and Ali Rawlinson taking 2.

The Rawlinson father and son combination provided a number of our highlights this season!

A final note of thanks to the parents who helped out again this season, both scoring and umpiring – your assistance is always appreciated. Hopefully, we'll recruit some more Dads in 2026 to join in our Back-to-Cricket initiative! See you all in 2026!

## **Women's Report**

2025 Season welcomed our Women's Section at Esher Cricket Club with great enthusiasm and wider group participation. It was fantastic to welcome new ladies to the club, catch up with the 2024 team and play some great cricket. The progression through the season was a testament to the dedication by all.

We played a number of softball games throughout the season demonstrating improvement by all and some great batting, hugely improved bowling and fielding leading to victories along the way.

Each and every team member greatly improved through the focussed training sessions managed and led by Subi Ghosh, who not only was inspirational in his training but also went out of his way to attend our matches and provided great support and encouragement. We wish him all the best on his new adventure in Dubai - we will certainly miss him!

Our ladies team comprised of: Sue Da Vall, Aruni Wijeratne, Deepti Mittal, Anu Iyer, Roza Domi, Aliya Jasrai, Andie Foley, Sarah Alexander, Caz Blight, Pooja Shanthraj, Maryam Karim, Erika Sangestani and Nafiseh Emamy

As we progressed through our fixtures, we saw a real turnaround in the results as we witnessed improvements in batting, fielding and bowling! Awesome catches by Andie Foley and Roza Domi, consistent wickets taken by Anu Iyer, Deepti Mittal, Caz Blight and Pooja Shanthraj and great batting by Aruni Wijeratne, Aliya Jasrai, Erika Sangestani, Nafiseh Emamy, Sarah Alexander and Maryam Karim.

All visiting teams commented on the well set out the grounds and how fantastic the afternoon tea was - huge thanks to Duncan, Lek and the team for making this happen. We were all incredibly saddened by the sudden loss of Lek as the season ended, she remains in our thoughts and cherished memories.

We look forward to 2026 Season and let's continue to encourage women of any age to try cricket out or to pick it up again and be part of our very social group - no experience or equipment is needed. I will be hosting a pre-season get together so please do share my details with any ladies that would like to join: [sue.davall@gmail.com](mailto:sue.davall@gmail.com)

We are proud to represent Esher Cricket Club and look forward to our continued growth in the 2026 season and beyond!

### **Sue Da Vall**





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## **Esher CC Boys 2025 Season Report**

### **Under 9s**

Esher U9 Cricket Season 2025: Setting New Standards

#### **Player Development**

The 2025 season marked a significant leap in the development of our U9 cricketers. Building on strong foundational skills, each player made impressive strides in their technique, tactical awareness, and overall confidence. The step up in ability, especially in batting, bowling, and fielding consistency, was visible in both training and competitive fixtures. The group's work ethic and willingness to support each other were key factors in maintaining high standards throughout the season.

#### **Transition to Tier 1 Hardball**

This season was a milestone as the entire U9 squad transitioned to tier 1 hardball cricket. Taking on this challenge, the boys demonstrated both bravery and adaptability, responding superbly to the increased pace and demands of hardball play. Their ability to handle the intensity of matches and their maturity in embracing this level of competition are testament to both their progress as individuals and the collective strength of the squad.

#### **Eagles: Playing Up at U10 Tier 1 Level**

A special mention must go to the Eagles team, who not only mastered U9 hardball cricket but also played up an age group in the demanding U10 tier 1 league. Competing against older and more experienced sides, the players held their own and often exceeded expectations. The exposure to higher-level cricket fostered rapid improvement in their game sense, resilience, and technical ability, further highlighting the depth of emerging talent across the age group.

#### **Looking Forward**

Next year, the focus will be to continue to develop the boys and help them become better players through training and competitive fixtures. This will include a focus on more games of U10 tier 1 "you're out you're out" cricket in addition to still playing fixtures through tier 2, where less pressure will help the boys develop their batting skills without fear of dismissal!

The achievements of this season reflect an environment of hard work, support, and ambition. With continued development and the experience gained across all levels—including playing up against older opposition—the Esher U9 cricketers are well-placed for ongoing progress and success as they move forward in their cricketing journeys.

## Under 10s

### 2025 Season Report

The 2025 season has been a fantastic year for our U10 boys, filled with great performances, teamwork, and plenty of smiles along the way. First and foremost, a huge thank you to all the boys for their hard work, commitment, and enthusiasm throughout the season. Week after week, they showed up ready to play, to learn, and to support each other — a real credit to themselves and the club.

A special thanks must also go to all the parents for their continued support — from getting the boys to matches and training sessions, to volunteering for umpiring and scoring duties. Your help truly makes everything possible and is a vital part of what makes our cricket community so strong.

This year, we were delighted to have over 55 boys representing the club across Tier 1 and Tier 2 teams — a fantastic number that shows the strength and depth of the age group. Even more impressively, 10+ of our players were selected for the U10 Surrey Pathway Programme, and we are thrilled that all of them have been accepted into the U11 Pathway for next year, and we're pleased to welcome additional players who have also earned their places. This is a huge achievement and a testament to their talent and dedication.

This year, the U10s enjoyed an incredibly successful season, bringing home three major titles and a Tournament win:

- Surrey Central Region Cup Winners
- Tier 1 Sunday Central Region Winners
- Tier 2 Central Region Winners
- Esher Early summer U10 Tournament (runners-up)
- Esher Late summer U10 Tournament (winners)



Throughout the season, we witnessed countless memorable performances and statistics that highlighted the boys' development. From match-winning innings to crucial wickets at pivotal moments, each player contributed to our collective success in their own unique way. There were plenty of standout performances throughout the season — some memorable batting displays, sharp bowling spells, and brilliant fielding efforts — all contributing to what has been one of the most successful seasons in recent years.

## **Top Performers**

### **Batting (Most runs):**

- Akhil Pillai (25 games, 337 runs)
- Harry Sabel (22 games, 310 runs)
- Tristan Perivolaris (21 games, 285 runs)
- Laurence Cooke (17 games, 257)

### **Bowling (most wickets):**

- Harry Sabel (41 overs, 24 wickets)
- Zayd Akhtar (38 overs, 15 wickets)
- Akhil Pillai (42 overs, 15 wickets)
- Mustafa Sheharyar (38 overs, 14 wickets).

None of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of our club management and coaching staff. Their countless hours of planning, training sessions, and mentorship have created not just talented cricketers but well-rounded young individuals. This success extends beyond our age group, as evidenced by the achievements across all junior sections of the club.

We must also acknowledge our wonderful kitchen and bar staff, whose hospitality always keep our players and families well fed and watered — especially on those long match/ tournament days. A very special mention goes to Lek, who sadly passed away this year. Lek was a much-loved member of our club family and a wonderful supporter of the boys, always ready with their favourite food and a big smile. She will be greatly missed by everyone.

As we wrap up a memorable 2025 season, we look ahead to 2026, we do so with great optimism and excitement. With this talented group of players progressing to Under 11s, and the strong foundation we've built this year, we anticipate another outstanding season ahead.

Well done, U10s — Thank you all for making 2025 such a memorable year.

## **U10 AGMs**

### **Shery, Greg and Viraj**



## Under 11s

Another successful, albeit challenging, season for the age group. The loss of Lekky was a heartbreaking end to the summer and we will miss her terribly. On the pitch there was plenty to be positive about with another great season of development for a 60-boy squad.

### **Tier 1:**

In the three tier 1 leagues we participated in this season we ended with a record of P30 - W17 - L12 - C1. Tier 1 cricket can be a challenge at times, given the size of the squad. Players don't get the opportunity to build up any continuity with other players as the teams change so regularly to ensure equal opportunity. A 56% win ratio is a really good effort all things considered and shows the depth of talent there is in the squad.

We won the T1 Sunday central division, winning 9 of the 10 games. An 8-match winning run meant we wrapped up the league at Stoke D'Abernon (nice...) with a game to spare.

We finished 5th in the T1 Sunday South West division, with a record of P-10 W-3 L-6 C-1. This was a tougher league due mainly to the increased travelling involved. Blackheath away for a 9:30 start on a Sunday morning takes commitment, so thanks to all the parents who stepped up for these games.

We finished 4th in the T1 North West division, winning 5 and losing 5 of the games. But the story of this league campaign was the "Miracle of Ripley Court School", where the final 2 wickets put on 94 runs to win a game from absolutely nowhere. Charlie Johns with 57 not out and the innings of the season (and possibly a few other seasons).

The Miracle boys! (left to right: Seb, Theo, Raveesh, Felix, Ollie W, CJ, Milo, Robbie, Ollie A. Kneeling: Max P)



## **Tier 2:**

Our Tier 2 side had a great record of 6 wins and 2 losses, only losing out on the title to an East Molesey side who won all 8 of their games. Lots of the squad played a combination of tier 1 and tier 2 cricket and its great to see them move up into the tier 1 sides, enjoy their cricket and do well. We were defending our league title from last year and our Dragons T2 side has now won 15 out of 18 games over that period, a top effort!

## **U11 Eagles:**

Our U11 Eagles team finished 3rd in the Under 12 T1 Central league, with a record of W3 – L4. These Eagles games are always a challenge against physically bigger and stronger players in the year above but winning 3 games was a very decent return having played some very good cricket at times.

## **U11 Surrey Cup:**

Following on from our regional cup win in 2024, we got the chance to test ourselves against the whole of Surrey this year. Following a bye in round 1 and then two relatively routine wins away at Walton & Stoke D'Abernon , we overcame a strong Guildford side in the quarter final.

The semi-final against Blackheath was a highlight, at New Road on the main square. After setting a challenging total our bowlers kept Blackheath at arm's length for most of the innings.

The final against Wimbledon was a cagier affair. A good score was posted, and our bowlers finding the knack of taking a wicket just when the opposition looked to have got themselves back in the game. A 32-run victory probably sounds less competitive than it felt at the time. A brilliant end to what had been a traumatic week for the club.

5 Esher U11 cricketers were selected for the Surrey CCC County Age Group matches against Middlesex, at the end of the season, added to nine other boys representing Surrey on the performance pathway. Charlie Thompson, Noah Hopkinson, Rory Frost-Chesters, Ryan Arora and Sajan Sahota playing CAG, and Arjun Munshi, Isaac Kwei, Joseph Crowley, Matthew Andrews, Nayan Desai, Ollie Ashton, Rafferty Guest, Toby Morgan & Xander Milton playing pathway cricket. A great achievement for them.

## *Esher CC CAG squad*

*(left to right: Charlie, Rory, Ryan, Sajan, Noah & Captain Toby from Teddington CC)*



Finally, I know most of you will join me in saying a few thank you's. To Duncan and Lek who worked tirelessly throughout the season, every season! Brendon Johns who took on large parts of my admin pile over the season. His help was invaluable in reducing the workload. Megha Desai also played a key role in taking on the running of the U8 age group, that was lurching a bit at the start of the season. Without this help it would have been a far longer season. And to Sohail for all the coaching and guidance he provides everyone at Esher, not just this age group. We are lucky to have him.

To all the parents who umpired, scored, provided refreshments or even just bought me a pint...it was all greatly appreciated by me and the squad.



## **Under 12s**

### LEAGUE SUMMARY

The age group entered an ambitious 6 league entries for the season – 4 Sunday and 2 midweek. Through the season we collectively played 52 out of 54 scheduled league games, winning 30 and losing 22.

Our Sunday T2 sides both finished mid-table, with the Dragons winning four, losing six and ending 4/6 in a v close league. The Phoenix finished 3/6 winning five and losing 5. These sides often saw boys playing twice in a day to get the games on, and were often supplemented by U11s and U10s, as well as a few of our stronger girls – a very welcome contribution.

Our midweek Dragons entered a T1 midweek league for the first time, with the intent of stretching some of our stronger T2 regulars and it certainly did provide some stretch.

Our two T1 Sunday sides went well, with a wide range of boys playing in both the Griffins and Eagles. The Griffins were thwarted by the weather in the away game v Teddington, finishing W5, L2, A1, ending second on H2H with Teddington. The Eagles on the other hand had a perfect season, P8, W8 to top the league.

The midweek Eagles playing in the U13 league were a highlight of the season; winning 7, losing 3 and topping the table after winning two must win games at the end to clinch the title. That 21 different boys played in the side and didn't look out of place a year up is a real credit to the depth we have in the age group.

### CUP SUMMARY

Our cup run took us all the way to the final where we came close in a tight game with Reigate Priory. It was quite a run, seeing off some strong teams on the way – including a Malden Wanderers side who would have been worthy finalists and who beat us in a friendly, Thames Ditton who beat us in the league and Spencer who are always strong with plenty of performance players to call on.

Again 17 boys playing in the cup run is a testament to our depth and reflects the challenge we had in selecting the line up each round.

### TOURNAMENTS

We again hosted two 8 a-side-tournaments at the club, with the highlight being the last ever one for the age group at New Road to wrap up the season which included some special moments. The Dragons put up an amazing fight to firstly set what Duncan tells me was an all age group record score of 109 runs v Merstham, then went on to beat Spencer only to miss out on 2nd place and the semis by 2 runs, and top spot in the group by 5 runs. The Griffins managed to top the group and beat Teddington and Spencer on the way to winning the event.

### PERFORMANCE CRICKET

We have a remarkable number of boys who have been playing performance cricket this season, supplemented by even more who have previously and could very well still be doing so. Freddie Carswell and Samuel Callaghan went on to be selected for a number of CAG games against other counties. Well done to the two of them.

### THANK YOU

Getting all these games on through the season is a full-on team effort – from the umpiring, scoring, match managing and provision of refreshments the whole parent body has made it happen. Thank you to all those who helped, and especially those who have done a disproportionately high number of games.

Particular thanks go to Yuki Dennis (who has supported the age group admin and comms with opposition with remarkable efficiency) and Mervin Muller (who managed the two Dragons sides and the Phoenix side this season).

#### AWARDS

At our end of season awards the winners were:

T1 Managers' Player of the Season – Dylan Narinesingh

T2 Managers' Player of the Season – Alexander Lewis

T1 Players' Player of the Season – Samuel Callaghan

T2 Players' Player of the Season – Logan Pole

#### Paul Hawkins



## Under 13s

A slightly belated end of season wrap up! Firstly, thank you for all the help from so many of you this season, with special mention to James for again managing the Dragons superbly. It was another busy, cricket filled summer, with 58 league matches across 3 midweek leagues and 3 Sunday leagues, alongside a cup run through to the semi-final, a few friendlies and a late summer tournament. Not sure how cricket managers survived in a world before Spond!

So how did we do? No league victories this season, but also no relegations, which is commendable given the full step up from tier 3 to tier 2 for our Dragons. Some excellent bowling performances, but still some work to do on our batting and fielding. In the tier 1 Sunday league (probably the toughest one for this age group in Surrey) we finished equal top on points with Sutton and Woking & Horsell, only denied the title based on wickets taken. The standout tier 1 performances included 1) a victory away at Spencer (the Surrey cup champions) in the final match of the season 2) an early season win vs Sutton (the ultimate tier 1 league winners) and 3) bowling Dulwich out for 55 at Dulwich. And in tier 2 highlights included 1) a 9 wicket win vs Stoke D in the final match of the league 2) a 5 run victory vs Pyrford having been narrowly beaten in the away fixture and 3) a 49-run win vs Wandgas.

Players of the season - they all did brilliantly, but some special mentions as follows:

### Bowling

Alexander Haynes - his fast, accurate away swing bowling proved too good for most of our opponents this year. When not taking wickets himself, his accuracy at one end helped us create opportunities at the other

Finley Morrison - took 23 wickets at an average of 10 with his leg spin, often providing the breakthrough at key times in an innings

### Batting

Anton Frendo - showed great discipline at the crease, scoring over 500 runs in the season, including three 50s

Kush Patel - averaging 25 and a match winning innings to beat the county champions, Spencer, in the last game of the season - love it!

### Fielding

Henry Kingsnorth - put his body on the line, whether behind the stumps or in the outfield

Dan Pullinger - stopped everything that came his way in the covers, saving runs in every game he played

Maxi Smith - played in lots of games for the Phoenix and Dragons this season and did excellently with the gloves whenever called upon

### All rounders

Kailan Sivakumaran - some good middle order runs and superb bowling, ending the season with 27 wickets to his name

Oscar Stringer - developing into an excellent cricketer with both bat and ball and a real team man, always available to play in any team, including a debut for the men's 5th XI

And finally, whilst we take our cricket seriously at Esher, the loss of our beloved Lek really does put things into perspective. Lek will be missed by us all and across the club, her kindness, generosity and special smile will not be forgotten.

## **Under 14s**

The 2025 season was another highly successful year for the 43 players in the Under-14 age group. The squad achieved an impressive record of 40 wins from 53 matches across five league entries, securing two league titles — the Midweek Tier 1 League and the Midweek Tier 2 League.

A total of 27 players participated in 10 or more matches, reflecting the excellent level of engagement and the depth of playing opportunities available throughout the season. With the majority of the group having represented ECC for several years, team cohesion and friendships have continued to strengthen.

Several players also progressed into adult cricket, making valuable contributions across the 3rd, 4th, and 5th XI teams.

At representative level, the club was once again well represented within the Surrey Performance Group. Congratulations are extended to Harry Harding, Marley Gould, James Siveyer, Tom Hooke, Barney Ashton, Ollie Sangster, and Sam Hawkins, with particular recognition to Sam for his selection in CAG fixtures.

There were valuable contributions from all players throughout the season; however, the end-of-season awards particularly recognised the outstanding performances of Byron Miller (42 wickets) and Taarank Mehta (37 wickets), who were named Managers' Players of the Year, and Tom Hooke who received the Players Player award, amassing an impressive 808 runs, including a remarkable unbeaten 131 from just 68 balls. Special congratulations are extended to these three players for their exceptional achievements

Overall, it was an excellent season that demonstrated both the quality and depth of talent within this age group.

Many thanks and congratulations once again to all the boys involved and for the amazing parental support, yet again.

## **Under 15s**

Once again, we were at full stretch entering 4 leagues with 26 active players, we knew we were going to need some support from the younger age groups who were fantastic throughout the season, resulting in 37 league fixtures being played, 3 cup games, 5 friendlies and 6 tournaments entered... no shortage of cricket for the lads. We used 63 players during the season, from U10 upwards, including a very willing Horsley & Send player who kindly stepped in last minute!

Sunday T1 League – 3<sup>rd</sup>

Midweek T1 League – 4<sup>th</sup>

Sunday T2 League – 4<sup>th</sup>

Midweek T2 – 5<sup>th</sup>

### **Cup**

The cup run started off with the most incredible display of power hitting in youth cricket I have ever witnessed at Guildford away. Esher won the toss and chose to bat; Zach and Kunsh got us off to a flyer 33 off 22 balls and 39 off 19 balls respectively. Ollie was next in, smashing 52 off 15 balls including seven 6's. A highlight was watching Paul looking for the ball 3 times on the BP garage forecourt over the fence and across the road.... Sammy T was decidedly slow hitting his 52 off 19 balls including six 6's. Ben F proved there are many ways to score runs with various scoops and paddles closing out the innings with 42 off 19 balls. Esher posted the highest score in Surrey U15 cup history 283-6 in 20 overs and bowled Guildford out for 44, Josh taking 4-10 and Arj T 3-10.

Next up were Horsley & Send at home, which later became known as Sammy T's game. Esher posted 202-5, Orson J 51, Sammy nailing another 39 off 16 balls and claiming 5-21, Esher cruised to victory to set up a Semi-Final against Cranleigh.

Everything that could go wrong, did go wrong. Esher had Cranleigh 68-5 after 10 but allowed them to get to a competitive 139-8 off their 20 overs. We bowled 20 wides in the innings, which ultimately cost us the game. In reply, Esher stuttered to 125-8 and another cup run that ended with us not fulfilling our potential.

I have thoroughly enjoyed looking after the boys across the last 10 years and hope that many of them continue to enjoy their cricket. I look forward to sharing the field with some of them in the coming years but fear they may all be too good next summer! Thank you for all of the parental support over the years, we couldn't do it without you. Thank you to Ali C for being all things Spond and to Duncan for all his support.

### **Stats**

Kunsh Khanna 113\*, 65, 54

Will Heslop 81, 55, 53

Ben Frendo 62, 53, 50

Armaan Naviwala 60\*

Ollie M 52

Ahdritdev 81\*

Orson Jones 76, 56, 51

Will Carswell 50, 50

Sammy T 52

### **Leading run scorers – T1**

Ben Frendo 388

Kunsh Khanna 356

Orson Jones 301

### **Leading run scorers – T2**

Armaan Naviwala 180

Will Carswell 178

Will Boon 157

**Top Average** - Will Heslop 154!!!, Arjun Sahota 98, Orson Jones 50

**Top Strike Rate** - Ollie Mortlock 185, Sammy T 154, Kunsh Khanna 140

**Most 6's** - Kunsh & Sammy T 14, Orson 9, Ollie 7

**Most 4's** - Ben F 58, Will H 39, Orson 31

### **Leading Wicket Takers**

Sammy T 14

Arjun T 12

Jack Reid 11

**Fivefers** – Sammy T 5-21, Kunsh Khanna 5-9

**Best Economy** – Sammy T 4.57, Arjun S 4.76

**Best Strike Rate** – Barney 12, Arjun T 12.08, Will B 14

**Most Catches** – Max C and Jack R 7



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## **Esher Boys U17 Griffins Report 2025**

What a season it's been for our mighty U17s! A squad so full of energy, banter, and cricketing brilliance that even the opposition parents secretly wished their boys were part of the Esher pack. We were blessed with an awesome Coach, Ben Townsend, who was consistently stern but fair... and managed to have some quality banter with our u17 lads.

The boys played nine matches this season - winning eight of them (losing the only match on the last ball of the innings - character building stuff). Throughout the season the lads were unstoppable. Every single player made vital contributions - runs, wickets, catches, run-outs, and a few heroic dives that achieved nothing other than grass stains and sympathy from the scorer, Doc Watson. The bowlers terrorised batters all season (especially our quality spinners), the fielders threw themselves around making BT proud, and the batters... well, this was some of the most entertaining batting that I've seen during my time at Esher, especially some of the bombs at East Molesey.

The team spirit was outstanding, a great bunch of lads who backed each other all the way. Whether it was friendly banter, welcoming new players, celebrating boundaries and teammates achievements they did it together.

This is a quality side, and I was chuffed that we had several u17s coming back to play (who all contributed with bat and ball), the majority of u16 players who are an exceptional age group and some of our class u15s combining to form this formidable force. Winning the Plate Competition was fun and our Esher lads enjoyed celebrating another success. This season was built on teamwork, grit, and an impressive ability to turn minor chaos into major results with a 'never-say-die' attitude.

To sum up: 9 games, 8 wins, countless laughs, and memories to end off an exceptional season. The future looks bright, the friendships even brighter, and as for next season... watch out, because this lot aren't done yet. I look forward to watching how this group of young men transition to our adult teams to help our club achieve even more success.

Well done, lads and special thanks to BT, Doc and Duncan P - you've done the club proud!

Esher Boys u17 Griffins - won the u17 Tier 1 Plate

Most destructive batter - Spencer M with Man-of-the-Match performance in the Final and consistent strike rate of 194

Best Bowler - Priyesh P with best bowling of 4/26

Surrey County Representation - Adam H; Ben F; Fergus DM

## U19s Cricket 2025

Last years' comfortable victory in the final at Normandy established this group as 'potentially' the strongest all round u19s team we have had at the club and the most complete team out of the five teams who have recently won the Trophy. It is a notoriously difficult cup to win as you only have to lose a group game or not have the right availability on any given night, and you are out! The success has been infectious which has fuelled the incredible commitment of the group throughout the season!

There was understandably an expectation that we would win, as at the start of this new season we had literally the whole squad available again with the addition of some sensational younger players coming through - the aim of this team is performance based and to win, but also create an environment where all our best young talent enjoy playing with each other at this level before combining to play together with adults and other younger adults who have recently gone through this team - to have Ben Townsend, Freddie Harrison and Charlie Winder coaching and mentoring this team further cements that pathway and is another reason for the perfect atmosphere of enjoyment and success.

The group games were fairly straightforward actually this year with the team not really being challenged until the Spencer match away, but a magnificent opening spell in this match by Ollie Hamilton and Orson Jones took out their top order of serious players for no runs - this was backed up by superb bowling and fielding and meant they only crept to just north of a 100 - the batting wobbled against good bowling, but skipper Alex Chambers batted sensibly to see us home with relative ease!

The semi-final against Guildford was also fairly straight forward after an early wobble with the batting, William Hamilton, Alex Chambers and Ollie Mortlock showed their class again to take us to a total Guildford were not going to get near with the bowling attack we had out - Alex Chambers and Fergus De Mestre as an opening attack at club u19 level in a T20 is a serious attack and when it is backed up by Ollie Hamilton, Preyesh Patel and George Baldwin it gives you an idea of the strength in depth to the point where two of our brilliant young u15s ( Orson Jones & Max Chambers) who had contributed so much in previous games, did not really get a bowl.

We found out about this stage that the final was going to be elevated to take place at the Oval - a great move by Surrey and recognition of how important they see this competition. The bad news was that it would have to be played on September 22nd without two of our strongest players - Ollie Hunt and Alex Chambers would have already departed to Australia and South Africa respectively to play club cricket in their gap year. We had also mid-season lost Max Wallis from last years' final team - Max was such a massive part of this squad, not just as a brilliant young cricketer, but as an absolutely first rate young man who epitomised putting the team first and always contributing his best without ego- we all wish him the very best at Sutton and hope that one day he returns!

At no point did I think that losing Ollie, Alex & Max would put us in any trouble what so ever- not having three great players like that simply created opportunities for the likes of Will Hamilton, Adam Helwick, Ollie Mortlock, Orson Jones, Fergus De Mestre and Max Chambers to take centre stage and there was never going to be any doubt that they were good enough - all those players have at least 4 years left in this competition and it was great to see them not only star in the final.

It was a memorable performance and a special occasion which hopefully the boys enjoyed and will remember for a long time. Tremendous bowling by everyone on the day, electric boundary fielding and every catch taken really epitomised their energy work rate and professional- it is easy to get to a final and choke or let the occasion get the better of you, but this young team were calm and focused and single minded in their quest to deliver a fifth trophy in 6 years for Esher u19s. The high-class batting of Adam Helwick and William Hamilton (who scored a brilliant half century) at the top of the order made our chase comfortable with the team winning with 5 overs to spare! It was fitting that William was joined at the crease by first his brother Ollie who bowled superbly, but then Ollie Mortlock

who is a special talent and bowed sensationally! A special mention must go to George Baldwin and Kei Lator. George travelled all the way back from the USA to play on an overnight flight and lead the side brilliantly - a huge commitment appreciated by everyone and also to Kei who got the train back from Exeter University to play, both really helping to gel the team with their experience- great club men and completely selfless on the day!

Looking forward to next year, my hope is simply to keep getting better, setting new challenges & welcoming younger excellent players into the team whilst enjoying the environment with the same level of commitment and enthusiasm - the rest will take care of itself! Congratulations to all the boys and a huge thank you to Charlie, Fred and Ben for coaching the boys and to the parents for all their great energy and support throughout the campaign!

**Glenn Harrison**





## Esher CC Girls 2025 Season Report

We hope you and your daughters enjoyed the cricket at Esher this season. All tournaments and leagues have now been completed, and we thought you might like to know that this year has been **our most successful ever** with several age groups winning their league or appearing in cup finals for the first time.

The **U5s and U6s** training was completely changed this year, with all the girls in the two-year groups training together, separate from the boys, like every other age group. The sessions, led by the wonderful Subi, were a great success, with attendance numbers going up each week! Thank you to all the parents who helped with these sessions. We are really looking forward to next year, and please tell all of your daughter's friends to come along too!

The **U7 and U8s** merged to play in several games, often winning comfortably thanks to the tireless leadership of Alex Morgan. While they didn't win their U8 Smash-it A league, there were some fabulous performances, and the group shows great potential for next year. Special thanks to all the parents in this group for helping to recruit more players - it made a big difference to the group.

The **U9s** was the biggest junior girls' group by far, with over 20 girls in the squad. Alana managed the teams and led the Dragons and Griffins to 2nd and 3rd place in the Smash-it West league. We were only pipped to first place because we had to concede a game, so all the signs suggest that this group should start winning things next year!

The **U10** group is the big transition year in cricket at Esher, with the girls switching from soft to hard ball cricket. The current group of U10s had no problem with the change and (remarkably) came second in the U10-U11 Tier 2 Central league. The **U11** group did even better by winning their Tier 2 North West league — which we think is the first league the girls' section has ever won! Both groups show amazing promise, and many thanks to James, Rachel, and Leigh for looking after everyone.

Our greatest success, however, was the **U12 girls**, who won their Tier 1A league - this is the first time we have ever won a tier 1 league in any age group. A truly amazing result which deserves huge praise to all involved - massive thanks must go to Kelly who led the team to victory.

The success almost continued in the older age groups: The **U13s and U14s** came second by the tiniest of margins in their Tier 1 West league and Tier 2 West leagues, respectively. These performances demonstrate both the astonishing quality of players in these teams and the commitment of the parents who give up so much of their time to organize the games. Many thanks to Vicky, Cameron, and Matt.

Matt also nearly led a mixed team of **U13/14/15s** to victory in the U15 Hundred final at the end of the season. His team performed superbly and looked certain to win at one point before just running out of steam at the end.

Cricket for the **U16s** and above gets a bit more complicated, with GCSE and A-level exams making team selection difficult. However, by combining the U15-U18 girls (plus some superb U13s and U14s), we have been able to enter the Surrey Women's Division 2 league along with the **Surrey Women's League Cup**. The team has played some fabulous games, the pinnacle of which was an amazing victory against Wimbledon's women's 1st team — a 'proper' women's team consisting of many twenty-something players versus our teenagers — in the semi-final of the cup. Sadly, the final against Reigate was rained off last weekend. The game has been rescheduled for the start of next season. Hopefully, we will be able to begin the year with a trophy!

We had hoped to organise an awards day for all the teams and players, but sadly we just couldn't find a date that worked. Instead, I thought I would mention a few of the many amazing performances this year - apologies if I have left out a performance that wasn't recorded on play cricket!

- Without question, the greatest bowling (ever, in the history of cricket!) was Martha Garrett who got 7 (yes, seven) wickets in two overs for no runs in an U10 **BOYS** pairs match. Apparently, the opposition were stunned into silence. Rachel Helwick also managed to get 5 wickets in a game, while Violet Davatzis managed to take 5 wickets for 10 runs in a game against Weybridge, and so bettered her previous best performance of 5 for13 (also against Weybridge!). Ella Schroder gets the award for the most wickets (20) in the season.
- Kaylee Muller takes the prize for the most runs (326) scored in the season including 52 runs against Ashtead. Raphie White deserves a special award for biggest impact in a game, scoring 15 runs from 4 balls in a super over and so winning us the bronze medal in the Esher U17 tournament. Three of the senior players scored 60 not out in one or more matches, while Grace Coleman scored 52 not out in an under 12 game and Arabella Choudhry scored 53 not out in a U13 game. Congratulations to all of these fabulous players.

Now that the season has finished, you may be surprised to hear that we are already planning for next year. We have plans for more winter nets training, details of which will be sent out soon. We also have to decide which leagues to enter for next season, and we intend to get better at planning when and where the fixtures happen — for example, we want to avoid any more matches in Dulwich for the U7/U8s (madness), and we also want to reduce the number of fixture overlaps (e.g., when the U13s and U14s play on the same day/time), as these reduce our ability to fulfil both fixtures. If you would like to help with this role, please let us know. We also need to find U6, U7, and U8 Age Group Managers so that these groups can play matches next year.

Thank you to all of you for your support during the year. The club only exists because of its members, and you have all been tremendously supportive. I would also like to thank Angus and all of the other coaches who have helped during the season - they have made a massive impact on the girls and our success during the season, and we hope that they will all return next year. Most importantly, I would like to thank the Age Group Managers, all of whom spend many, many hours making sure matches happen and supporting individual players through various challenges. None of us receive any payment or financial incentive to help with the club, so if you have a chance, please do drop them a line to say thank you too.

Finally, we really hope to see you all next season. Please come back and please try to recruit your daughter's friends, and their friends to the club. After many years of hard work, we are beginning to see the rewards. And while it is lovely to win things, our main goal is still to get as many girls as possible playing and enjoying cricket.

**Sid Simmons**



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## Girls U12 Season Report 2025

What a fantastic season it's been for our Esher Girls U12 team! From the very first match to the final ball of the season, the girls have been nothing short of outstanding. Their energy, enthusiasm and infectious smiles lit up every game and training session, even on the cloudiest days!

This group has shown exceptional team spirit (in both tiers), always supporting one another both on and off the field. Whether celebrating a boundary, chasing down a ball, or cheering from the sidelines, their sense of togetherness has been inspiring. Every player gave their absolute best each week, and it's been wonderful to see the progress and confidence that's come from that commitment.

This season was all about sharing opportunities and making sure everyone had the chance to bat, bowl and field in key moments. That approach has helped the girls develop their all-round skills and will no doubt pay dividends as they look ahead to next year's cup run, where the team's massive potential is sure to shine even brighter. (It was still a solid season where the girls finished mid-table, while playing to give teammates opportunities rather than focusing on the result).

A huge thank you goes to Rachel Garrett, Harshil Patel, Matt Price, and Paul Redwood for their incredible efforts throughout the season. Their dedication, encouragement and good humour have been the driving force behind this team's success and enjoyment of the game.

The future for Esher Girls cricket is looking very bright and with this talented, spirited, and joyful group, next season promises to be even more exciting. I hope the girls enjoy their Winter, play plenty of sport (slotting in some cricket) and that they are ready for a big year next season!!

🏏 Well done girls you've done Esher proud!!

Esher Girls u12

Best allrounder Rachel H

Best Batter Lucie T

Best Bowler Shriya P

Special 'shout-outs' go to Genevieve H who was the most improved player, Lucy P for commitment over the Winter and Summer that translated into superb performances with bat and ball during the season and Eleanor S and Charlotte B for their exceptional commitment to the club!

Surrey County Representation Martha G; Rachel H

## **Surrey Championship fixtures 2026**

### **First XI - Premier Division**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opposition</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Fixture type</b>	<b>Start time</b>
26 April 2026	Beckenham	Home	40 overs Nat Cup	TBC
9 May 2026	Ashtead	Away	50 Overs	12 noon
16 May 2026	Banstead	Home	50 overs	12 noon
23 May 2026	East Molesey	Home	50 Overs	12 noon
30 May 2026	Sutton	Away	50 overs	11am
6 June 2026	Normandy	Home	Timed	11am
13 June 2026	Reigate Priory	Away	Timed	11am
20 June 2026	Spencer	Home	Timed	11am
27 June 2026	Wimbledon	Away	Timed	11am
4 July 2026	Guildford	Home	Timed	11am
11 July 2026	Ashtead	Home	Timed	11am
18 July 2026	Banstead	Away	Timed	11am
25 July 2026	East Molesey	Away	Timed	11am
1 August 2026	Sutton	Home	Timed	11am
8 August 2026	Normandy	Away	50 Overs	12 noon
15 August 2026	Reigate Priory	Home	50 Overs	12 noon
22 August 2026	Spencer	Away	50 Overs	12 noon
29 August 2026	Wimbledon	Home	50 Overs	12 noon
5 September 2026	Guildford	Away	50 Overs	12 noon

### **Second XI – Division 3 West**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opposition</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Fixture type</b>	<b>Start time</b>
9 May 2026	Stoke D'Abernon	Home	50 Overs	12 noon
16 May 2026	Ashtead	Away	50 Overs	12 noon
23 May 2026	Dorking	Away	50 overs	12 noon
30 May 2026	Kempton	Home	50 overs	12 noon
6 June 2026	Epsom	Away	50 overs	12 noon
13 June 2026	Ashford	Home	50 overs	12 noon
20 June 2026	Hampton Wick Royal	Away	50 overs	12 noon
27 June 2026	Sunbury	Home	50 overs	12 noon
4 July 2026	Farnham	Away	50 overs	12 noon
11 July 2026	Stoke D'Abernon	Away	50 overs	12 noon
18 July 2026	Ashtead	Home	50 overs	12 noon
25 July 2026	Dorking	Home	50 overs	12 noon
1 August 2026	Kempton	Away	50 Overs	12 noon
8 August 2026	Epsom	Home	50 Overs	12 noon
15 August 2026	Ashford	Away	50 Overs	12 noon
22 August 2026	Hampton Wick Royal	Home	50 Overs	12 noon
29 August 2026	Sunbury	Away	50 Overs	12 noon
5 September 2026	Farnham	Home	50 Overs	12 noon

### Third XI - Division 7 West

Date	Opposition	Venue	Fixture type	Start time
9 May 2026	Weybridge Vandals	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
16 May 2026	Ashford	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
23 May 2026	Claygate	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
30 May 2026	Farnham	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
6 June 2026	Hoesley & Send	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
13 June 2026	Surrey Warriors	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
20 June 2026	Egham	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
27 June 2026	Sunbury	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
4 July 2026	Kempton	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
11 July 2026	Weybridge Vandals	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
18 July 2026	Ashford	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
25 July 2026	Claygate	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
1 August 2026	Farnham	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
8 August 2026	Hoesley & Send	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
15 August 2026	Surrey Warriors	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
22 August 2026	Egham	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
29 August 2026	Sunbury	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
5 September 2026	Kempton	Home	45 Overs	12 noon

### Fourth XI – Division 9 Central

Date	Opposition	Venue	Fixture type	Start time
9 May 2026	Hampton Wick Royal	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
16 May 2026	Ashford	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
23 May 2026	South London	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
30 May 2026	Esher West End	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
6 June 2026	Epsom	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
13 June 2026	Teddington Town	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
20 June 2026	Staines & Laleham	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
27 June 2026	Croydon Lions	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
4 July 2026	Sheen Park	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
11 July 2026	Hampton Wick Royal	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
18 July 2026	Ashford	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
25 July 2026	South London	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
1 August 2026	Esher West End	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
8 August 2026	Epsom	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
15 August 2026	Teddington Town	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
22 August 2026	Staines & Laleham	Away	45 Overs	12 noon
29 August 2026	Croydon Lions	Home	45 Overs	12 noon
5 September 2026	Sheen Park	Away	45 Overs	12 noon

## Fifth XI – Division 10 West Central

Date	Opposition	Venue	Fixture type	Start time
9 May 2026	Kingstonian	Away	40 Overs	1pm
16 May 2026	Old Hamptonians	Home	40 Overs	1pm
23 May 2026	Weybridge Vandals	Away	40 Overs	1pm
30 May 2026	Egham	Home	40 Overs	1pm
6 June 2026	East Molesey	Away	40 Overs	1pm
13 June 2026	Ashford	Home	40 Overs	1pm
20 June 2026	Thames Ditton	Away	40 Overs	1pm
27 June 2026	Old Tiffinians	Away	40 Overs	1pm
4 July 2026	Hampton Hill	Home	40 Overs	1pm
11 July 2026	Kingstonian	Home	40 Overs	1pm
18 July 2026	Old Hamptonians	Away	40 Overs	1pm
25 July 2026	Weybridge Vandals	Home	40 Overs	1pm
1 August 2026	Egham	Away	40 Overs	1pm
8 August 2026	East Molesey	Home	40 Overs	1pm
15 August 2026	Ashford	Away	40 Overs	1pm
22 August 2026	Thames Ditton	Home	40 Overs	1pm
29 August 2026	Old Tiffinians	Home	40 Overs	12 noon
5 September 2026	Hampton Hill	Away	40 Overs	12 noon

## Other adult fixtures

Date	Opposition	Venue	Fixture type	Start time
11 April 2026	Development XI	New Rd	Friendly	12 noon
12 April 2026	Magellan	New Rd	Friendly	1pm
18 April 2026	TBC	Away	Friendly	12 noon
18 April 2026	TBC	New Rd	Friendly	12 noon
19 April 2026	TBC	New Rd	Friendly	1 pm
25 April 2026	Bedminster	Away	Friendly	12 noon
25 April 2026	Malden Wanderers 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	Home	Friendly	12 noon
25 April 2026	Malden Wanderers 3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	Away	Friendly	12 noon
2 May 2026	Esher 1 <sup>st</sup> XI V Esher 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	New Rd	Friendly	12 noon
2 May 2026	Esher 3 <sup>rd</sup> XI V Esher 4 <sup>th</sup> XI	Imber Court	Friendly	12 noon
14 August 2026	Nomads	New Rd	Friendly	11-30 am

## Seaford Golf Tour 2025

The annual Seaford golf weekend welcomed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Captains Rob Honeybul and Ali Birkby as new tourists and importantly, saw the continued rise of the more youthful players to challenge the President on his 38<sup>th</sup> tour. A hospital trip and an injury resulted in two late changes, but a party of 16 arrived at Seaford – delighted that the weather forecast was showing the rain had moved north to the Dunhill Links in Scotland, but nervous that wind speeds of up to 50mph were forecast.

The resulting golf on Saturday afternoon was a challenge for all (at one point two trolley sets of clubs set sail into a bunker), but Simon Cloke played smartly and putted very well to open up a healthy lead over the long-lost James Harvey and the ever-present Robert Seager. At the other end of the scoreboard, the two debutants and Dan Taylor propped up the table and helped with sales of golf balls in the Pro Shop. Three players were just ahead of them, so the true competition already was the battle to avoid last place.

We were all set fair for an entertaining evening, and the dining table and bar was a return to our more natural habitat. Simon Cloke's form on the course transferred seamlessly to the snooker table with his partner Jim Steven in the old school "winner stays on" rule. In one of the great sporting surprises, the tour organiser clinched the final frame by potting both the blue and the pink – more surprisingly without 30 minutes between the two. There was plentiful reminiscing and – best of all – a quick game of Goldilocks and the Three Bears "Who's been sleeping in my bed?" with Chris Parrish and Dan Taylor performing suitably gruff Daddy Bear impressions.

Clear blue skies and a generous breakfast greeted us on Sunday morning, but the wind still lurked on the Downs and scoring still proved tricky with no one scoring over 30 points. Simon Cloke held on quite comfortably to win by 5 shots from Nick Winder, Robert Seager and James Harvey. As always, another fine weekend with a lot of laughs and, as it turned out, a lot of shots. The elusive full house looks possible next year.



## **Lek Pauline obituary**

*20th November 1978 to 20th August 2025*

Duncan has been overwhelmed by the number of cards and messages expressing sadness at LEK's sudden and untimely death and he would like to thank everyone for their warm and generous support.

It is clear how deeply loved LEK was and hard to believe that she will no longer be the smiling, welcoming, presence at the hatch and heart of Esher Cricket Club.

So many of the cards included words from all members of a family. Reading from just a few:

'A wonderful woman who treated children with warmth, kindness and humour. They adored her, we will always be grateful for all she did to make cricket special.'

'LEK brightened up everyone's day with her wonderful smile and infectious laughter.'

'Our children especially wanted to say how much they thought of LEK.'

'One of the happiest, kindest, most positive people.'

'One of life's genuine souls.'

'The heart of every festival.'

Duncan described LEK as a 'giver'. 'A happy, generous and kind person.'

So, LEK was simply a 'star' perhaps best remembered in one short phrase,

'LEK was a ray of sunshine.'

Duncan is both delighted and overawed by the support that he has received from the Just giving campaign. In such a very short time over 200 contributions have been made to the page set up in LEK's memory, not just from friends in Esher but also other clubs who held LEK in the highest regard.

As one message said:

'LEK will be missed by oppo like us who were privileged to enjoy the 'Pauline' hospitality at Esher.'

So, LEK was special. How did she come to be at the centre of all things Esher Cricket Club?

Wiyada was born in Surin, Thailand on 20th November 1978. Of course, we all know Wiyada as LEK or Lecky.

LEK's family are rice farmers and her mother Petch, brother Phet and his two children are joining us by live stream from a small village, 20km East of Surin. LEK's sister Jenny is also with us in Surin where she lives with her two daughters, one of whom Kimberly, who, some of you may recall, spent some time in Esher, is studying at University in Ireland.

After High School, LEK worked for a US Computer chip company in Korat. She did well and became a line manager.

LEK's production line employees called her 'Big Eye' as she didn't miss much. And having worked with LEK I know exactly what they meant.

LEK's company took management on an annual holiday and on one of these in Wah Hin she met Duncan and her life changed. She soon left her job, married Duncan in Bangkok on US Independence Day 2003 and came to Esher. How lucky we are that she did.

For 20 years LEK was at the nerve centre of everything good that happened at Esher Cricket Club. Duncan told me that she loved the club, the members and really enjoyed working there. It showed!

LEK spent countless hours behind-the-scenes from first thing in the morning to last thing at night ensuring that everything always ran smoothly both on and off the pitch. From serving behind the bar, cleaning, prettifying the ground, re-organising the furniture for the play group, 'Little Sparrows' and organising her team of Thai ladies to cater or run outside events, she never stopped smiling.

LEK's cooking was legendary. Hundreds, no thousands of lunches on festival days, brilliant breakfasts on Sundays, the best cricket teas on the circuit, tantalising Thai banquets on Friday nights and outstanding post-match meals on Saturday evenings which encouraged players to stay or come back to the club and socialise, all helped build a unique atmosphere and huge sense of community.

LEK kept a watchful eye on the children, and they all loved her. She knew them all and was never short of a kind word and often a bonus ice cream or a packet of fruit gums. Their parents loved her too.

But what was she like away from her work at Esher?

LEK was a Buddhist and regularly worshipped at the Temple in Wimbledon. Her faith imbued her sense of caring for all.

LEK's sense of fun was evident in the time she spent with her Thai girlfriends. Duncan told me that she liked to go on trips, staying with groups of friends for several days in Air B&Bs in places like Margate, Bournemouth, Brighton and even Littlehampton.

She loved to go to parties with other friends in different places, such as Surbiton or with 'The Clapham Crew' often visiting all the Thai restaurants in the area.

At Christmas Duncan and LEK would go to Berwick to be with Duncan's family, a winter highlight, often after they had spent two or three months in Thailand at the end of a busy season, relaxing and seeing her family.

It is a particular sadness to Duncan that he and LEK will not be together in a house they had recently bought in Wah Hin. Life is sometimes just not fair.

Outside the cricket season, LEK also worked in local restaurants, most recently the Korean Restaurant Kokoro where she added to her already excellent culinary skills.

There was also another important side to LEK: as well as her huge heart, she had a fierce determination, which was demonstrated admirably when 12 or so years ago Duncan was very ill in intensive care and on life support. His doctors wanted to turn the machine off, but LEK was having none of it, she pleaded with them for one more day. Duncan's reprieve was 24 hours and as the clock wound down, he started to revive with just over an hour to go. It was LEK who knew her man well enough to know that he was fighting and that kept Duncan alive.

So back to LEK's home for 20 years, Esher Cricket Club.

LEK's passing has had a deep effect on young and old. Many of the young boys and girls who adored her have not experienced death before. It has been hard for them to comprehend how something like this could happen to one so young and so full of life.

I can say this with certainty. LEK would want each one of us to be positive, to make sure that part of her legacy is that we learn from the way she lived her life.

To work hard, to be as good as we can at what we do, to have a smile on our face and to take an interest in other people.

It is only fitting that on Saturday LEK was awarded posthumously the club's most prestigious Sam Ryder Trophy, given to a person who has contributed to the life of the club far beyond the norm. LEK certainly did that, again and again.

LEK was a wonderful person, and she will be sorely missed in so many ways.

From her Buddhist faith, LEK believed that her spirit would continue after death and may be reborn. Should that be the case, wherever that may be the community will be blessed.

We love you LEK.

May you rest in Peace.

## **Sal Lalani obituary**

*Salim "Sal" M. Lalani*

*February 9, 1945—July 13, 2025*

Salim (Sal) M. Lalani passed away at home after a courageous battle and months of hospital stays and treatments for heart failure. He was born in Nairobi, Kenya, the fourth of six children.

Growing up on the equator at nearly 6000 feet provided ample opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. It also offered opportunities to learn and engage with a multiracial and diverse community. He completed his primary and high school education in Nairobi before proceeding to university in the United Kingdom. He graduated magna cum laude from Swansea University in Wales with an honours degree in economics. He was active in college hockey, cricket and debate teams.

Upon graduation, he was offered a scholarship to pursue graduate studies in the United States at the University of Chicago, where he had the good fortune to be exposed to some eight current and future Nobel laureates in economics.

After graduating with an MBA, he pursued a career in finance, joining Bank of America's management program and being assigned to the rapidly growing international division in San Francisco. There, he met Carol Glenn, a Montana native and an officer in the Investment Securities Division. Two plus years later, they were married in 1972.

Over the next several years, Sal assumed increasingly greater responsibilities in credit, commercial, and investment banking in Singapore, Malaysia, San Francisco, the Philippines, New York, Hong Kong, and London. He and Carol, who worked in banking, enjoyed all the various experiences they shared.

After nearly 16 years, his lingering entrepreneurial urge led him to establish his own investment banking boutique, Sandown Capital Corporation, in London, England, in 1987. It remained very successful until his retirement some 30 years later. With family imperatives necessitating a move to Bozeman, he commuted to London for nearly 16 years to run the business until his retirement.

During his banking and financial career, Sal developed a reputation as the "go-to" guy for complex multinational, multi-currency undertakings.

Marking its centenary in 2020, Swansea University named 100 alumni throughout its 100-year history as the most inspiring. He was proud to be included in that list.

Over the years, he developed a passion for philanthropy and sports. Together with his wife Carol, they helped establish the Shane Lalani Center for the Arts in Livingston, the Shane Pavilion at Story Mill Park in Bozeman, the Shane Lalani Birthing Center at Livingston Memorial Hospital, and many areas at the Bozeman Hospital--all in memory of their beloved son who succumbed to Type 1 diabetes at age 24.

Sal and Carol had a passion for human rights around the world, helping to fund underprivileged students, particularly women who were restricted or denied access to education

## Officers of the Club 2026

<b>President</b>	Andrew Bernard		
<b>Past President</b>	Jonathan Robinson		
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	John Bentley	Kevin Chester	
	Geoff Ellis	Tony Shilson	
	Robert Lowe	Julian Winder	
	Peter Wilson		
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Aileen Woollhead		
<b>Management Committee</b>			
Chairman	Dan Taylor	<a href="mailto:daniel.r.taylor@dhl.com">daniel.r.taylor@dhl.com</a>	07583 668591
Treasurer	Craig Williams	<a href="mailto:craig.williams92@hotmail.co.uk">craig.williams92@hotmail.co.uk</a>	07528 963858
Secretary	Neil McCallum	<a href="mailto:secretary.eshercc@gmail.com">secretary.eshercc@gmail.com</a>	07771 604044
Safeguarding Officer	Rachel Narinesingh	<a href="mailto:rachel_delataste@hotmail.co.uk">rachel_delataste@hotmail.co.uk</a>	07872 319065
Chairman of Grounds & Capital Projects Comm.	John Woollhead	<a href="mailto:johnwoollhead61@gmail.com">johnwoollhead61@gmail.com</a>	07836 248848
General Manager and Director of Coaching	Duncan Pauline	<a href="mailto:duncan.pauline@gmail.com">duncan.pauline@gmail.com</a>	07905 915560 Club 01372462814
Chairman of Adult Cricket	Vince Chandler	<a href="mailto:vachandler@btinternet.com">vachandler@btinternet.com</a>	07802 313476
Director of Boys Cricket	Mark Hopkinson	<a href="mailto:M_hoppy@hotmail.com">M_hoppy@hotmail.com</a>	07900 805755
Director of Ladies Cricket	Sue Da Vall	<a href="mailto:sue.davall@gmail.com">sue.davall@gmail.com</a>	
Director of Girls Cricket	Matt Price	<a href="mailto:matt.price6677@gmail.com">matt.price6677@gmail.com</a>	
Players Representative & Social Media	Angus Barrett	<a href="mailto:angus@barrettmail.co.uk">angus@barrettmail.co.uk</a>	07720 207716
<b>Other Key Roles</b>			
Chairman of Youth Cricket	Glenn Harrison	<a href="mailto:um5@stpaulsschool.org.uk">um5@stpaulsschool.org.uk</a>	07954 990893
Fixtures & Membership Secretary	Alisa French	<a href="mailto:esherccfixtures@gmail.com">esherccfixtures@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:esherccmembership@gmail.com">esherccmembership@gmail.com</a>	
Assistant Treasurer	Viraj Pillai	<a href="mailto:viraj1805@googlemail.com">viraj1805@googlemail.com</a>	
<b>Adult Team Captains</b>			
1st XI Captain	David Brent	<a href="mailto:davidbrentcoaching@gmail.com">davidbrentcoaching@gmail.com</a>	07983281913
2nd XI Captain	Joe de la Fuente	<a href="mailto:josephfuente@hotmail.com">josephfuente@hotmail.com</a>	07920557235
3rd XI Captain	Angus Barrett	<a href="mailto:angus@barrettmail.co.uk">angus@barrettmail.co.uk</a>	07720207716
4th XI Captain	John Woollhead	<a href="mailto:johnwoollhead61@gmail.com">johnwoollhead61@gmail.com</a>	07836 248848
5th XI Captain	Gareth Narinesingh	<a href="mailto:garethnarinesingh@hotmail.com">garethnarinesingh@hotmail.com</a>	07804 639 138
6th XI Captain	Tim Lenton	<a href="mailto:timlenton@gmail.com">timlenton@gmail.com</a>	07917 732073

## **Esher Cricket Club Limited--Notice of Annual General Meeting 2026**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Esher Cricket Club Limited (ECC) will be held on Thursday 9 April 2026 at 7-30pm in the Clubhouse, 47 New Road, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9NU.

The following resolutions will be proposed:

1. To elect each of Vince Chandler, Dan Taylor, and John Woollhead as executive directors of ECC (see Note 1(a)).
2. To elect the following as non-executive directors of ECC (see Note 1(b)):
  - a. Geoff Ellis, for a term of appointment expiring at the second AGM to take place after this AGM.
  - b. Nick Page, for a term of appointment expiring at the third AGM to take place after this AGM; and
  - c. David Crook, for a term of appointment expiring at the fourth third AGM to take place after this AGM.
3. To approve the Officers of the Club continuing in their respective roles (see Note 2)
4. To authorise the Board of Directors to appoint an Independent Examiner of the Accounts for ECC for the period ending 30 September 2026.

Notes:

- 1) The existing Board of Directors of ECC can be found on page 78 of this report. To explain the reason the resolutions are framed as they are:
  - a. The executive directors (i.e. those who are also members of the Club's management committee) all retire automatically from office at each AGM under ECC's articles of association and are eligible to be re-elected.
  - b. The non-executive directors (i.e. those who are not also members of the Club's management committee) have all retired voluntarily in order to offer themselves for re-election.
- 2) The Officers of the Club for this purpose are the individuals holding the offices of Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Safeguarding Officer), as shown on page 78 of this report.

### **Other Information**

- The accounts for the period ended on 30 September 2025 for Esher Cricket Club Legacy Unincorporated Association ("Legacy Club"), in other words the club in its previous form as an unincorporated association, have been approved by the officers of the Legacy Club and can be found on pages 21 to 24 of this report.

## **Esher Cricket Club Limited**

### **Board of Directors**

Vince Chandler	Executive Director
Dan Taylor	Executive Director
John Woollhead	Executive Director
Geoff Ellis	Non-Executive Director
Nick Page	Non-Executive Director
David Crook	Non-Executive Director

### **Officers of Esher Cricket Club**

Dan Taylor	Chairman
Neil McCallum	Hon. Secretary
Craig Williams	Hon. Treasurer
Rachel Narinesingh	Safeguarding Officer

*Max Simpson receiving his player of the year award from skipper, Angus Barrett.*

