



ESSEX XI
V
CHENIES & LATIMER C.C.



A cricket match in aid of Brian Hardie's Benefit to be played at Chenies Ground, Chenies Village, on Saturday 24th September 1983 at 1.00 p.m.

The Essex XI will include most of the county first team.

Admission by programme only:-

	Prior to game	At gate
Adults	£1.00	£1.25
Under 16's	50p	60p
Under 8's		Free

Free car parking

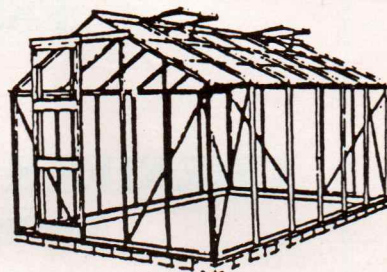
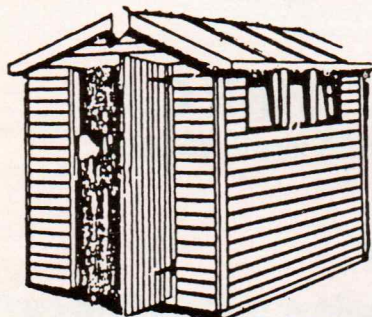
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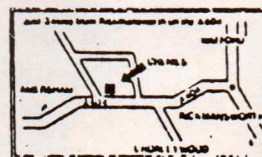
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Welcome Essex . . . Good luck Brian.

We are pleased to entertain Essex County Cricket Club at Chenies, especially Brian Hardie in his benefit year. Keith Fletcher, Brian's county captain, writes in the Benefit Brochure (*on sale at the ground*): "The Brian Hardies of the county circuit deserve bumper benefits. They devote the first fifteen to twenty years of their working lives to cricket with little financial reward, and it is hoped Brian's loyalty is duly rewarded". We welcome the opportunity of contributing to Brian Hardie's benefit and also the chance to give local cricket enthusiasts the opportunity of seeing a first class county side, something of a rarity on the borders of 2 minor counties!

I would like to place on record the Club's thanks, not only to Essex CCC but to all the Club members who have worked so hard to make this game possible. I hope their efforts are rewarded with a successful and enjoyable day for both Brian and spectators alike.

Derrick Mead,
Chairman, Chenies and Latimer C.C.

Many thanks to Allsports for donating the match ball.

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A brief history of

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1878 - 1983

The first mention of the Cricket that can be traced is related in writings describing a flower show held in 1879 where "ladies dressed in crinolines wandered with their gentlemen past the Cricket Field". From this the date of 1878 has been accepted as the start of a Cricket Club in Latimer. It is therefore generally accepted that Latimer Cricket Club was senior in years to Chenies Cricket Club.

Records are held by the club in the form of Minutes which start on December 3rd 1898. Unfortunately earlier Minute books have been lost but records for Chenies Cricket Club as it was then up to the present day provide very interesting reading. There appeared to be a certain amount of rivalry between the two clubs up to amalgamation — in the red corner Lord Chesham president of Latimer and in the green corner the Russell family from the Duke of Bedford!

In 1909 the proposal was made to amalgamate the two clubs with the Latimer Cricket Club having a balance in hand of £1.6.1d and Chenies £2.13.3d.

The amalgamation took place and that is how it has remained to the present day. The Chenies and Latimer Cricket Club was born and the President was Lord Chesham with



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the Duchess of Bedford, Lady Chesham, Lady Ela Russell and Mr Russell as Patrons. The club thrived up to the 1914-18 war and on January 16th 1919 the club was reformed. The club colours were to be Amber and Blue. The cricket field was to be in the Pightle (a field alongside Chenies Church).

In 1926 the subscriptions were fixed at 5 shillings per person and 2/6d for any member under 18 and the first sub committee was formed for team selection. The 2nd world war interrupted play for 5 years and there was understandably such a poor attendance in 1941 that the club was close to disappearance. However with a spirit that only cricketers can muster it survived and moved to its present site. In the 1950's with the help of Mr A.E. Life, Mr F.H. Partington and Mr H. Clayton new members were brought in. In the early 1960's the ground was purchased and the club went from strength to strength. For over 80 years the Bedford Arms had been the meeting place for committees but with the new pavilion built and extended and a bar installed the Club became their own masters.

In 1978 the Club celebrated its centenary with a match against the M.C.C. and in the same year a game was played against a Gloucestershire XI in aid of David Shepherd and Jack Davey's benefit. Mike Procter entertained a crowd of over 1,000 spectators with a magnificent century. In 1980 rain caused a similar fixture against a Surrey XI to be cancelled.

Today sees Chenies and Latimer Cricket Club still retaining many of the traditions of club cricket. The members maintain their own ground and pavilion, the wives and girl friends (albeit no longer in crinolines) provide delightful homemade teas, steady use of the bar generates a steady income, the youngsters are coached by experienced or former players, the cricket is friendly but serious and, above all, a matter for enjoyment.



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BRIAN HARDIE — A BRIEF CAREER HISTORY



Brian Ross Hardie was born at Stenhousemuir on January 14th, 1950. He made his first class debut for Scotland against Ireland in 1970 and soon the Stenhousemuir chief coach, a former Essex secretary, was instrumental in Brian playing three trial games for Essex in 1972.

His chance to make his first team debut came the following season as a result of three injuries and a test call depleting the county side. He stayed in the side and made 1,168 runs in his first full season during which he was capped.

Following an excellent season — 1522 runs — in 1975, Brian suffered a couple of barren seasons during which he acquired a reputation for stodginess. However, an inspired piece of captaincy by Keith Fletcher salvaged Brian's career; Keith moved him from his regular place as opening batsman to number five and promoted Graham Gooch to Brian's old position. Not only did Brian refind his former confidence and fluency but Graham Gooch proceeded to show that he was an England opener and now one of the best in the world. Since then Brian has become one of the most dependable members of the side as evidenced by his 1982 performance of 1432 runs with only one hundred but no fewer than nine fifties.

It is not only as a batsman that he's proved himself a vital member of the side, but also as a close-catcher in the suicidal bat-pad position where he's pulled off many fine catches, none more so than in the championship year of 1979 when he held 30 catches.

Brian Hardie's career statistics

Compiled by LESLIE NEWNHAM

FIRST CLASS MATCHES : BATTING AND FIELDING

season	matches	inns.	n.o.	runs	h.s.	average	100s	50s	0s	ct.
1970	1	1	1	36	36*	—	0	0	0	0
1971	2	4	0	73	28	18.25	0	0	0	1
1972	1	2	0	49	49	24.50	0	0	1	2
1973	11	21	1	483	80	24.15	0	0	1	2
1974	21	36	2	1168	133	34.35	2	5	5	16
1975	22	42	7	1522	162	43.48	2	8	1	19
1976	18	32	3	399	61*	13.75	0	2	8	20
1977	16	27	3	661	118*	27.54	1	3	1	12
1978	23	33	7	1044	109	40.15	1	6	1	27
1979	23	34	5	1170	146*	40.34	3	5	2	30
1980	24	36	4	1084	95	33.87	0	6	2	21
1981	23	39	4	1339	129	38.25	3	7	4	17
1982	24	39	5	1432	161	42.11	1	9	0	15
Total	209	346	42	10460	162	34.40	13	54	26	184



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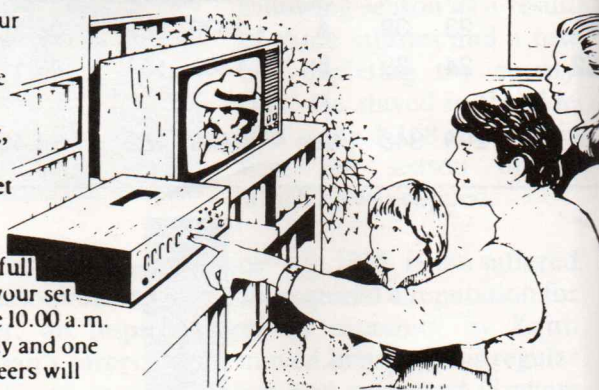
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1977	Runners up, John Player League
1978	Runners up, Schweppes County Championship
1979	Schweppes County Champions Benson & Hedges Cup Winners
1980	Benson & Hedges Cup Finalists
1981	John Player League Champions
1983	Benson & Hedges Cup Finalists

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PEN PORTRAITS OF THE ESSEX PLAYERS

by Brian Hardie

DAVID ACFIELD — Born Chelmsford. Debut 1966/Cap 1970. Off spin bowler whose consistency has brought him over 800 wickets and to the verge of international honours. David may be our No. 11 but he has frustrated many a bowling attack while batsmen at the other end have scored many useful runs. Only 2 players in the country, both who have played much longer than David, have accumulated more not outs. David has represented his country at fencing many times, including 2 Olympic games.

DAVID EAST — Born Clapton. Debut 1981/Cap 1982. Wicket keeper whose agility inspires the rest of the side. He has the distinction of being one of the very few wicket keepers to have won a man of the match award purely for his excellent performance behind the stumps. He is also proving himself as a useful batsman, whether as night watchman or in the middle order.

RAY EAST — Born Manningtree. Debut 1965/Cap 1967. Ray has taken over 1,000 wickets with his well flighted left arm spinners. He has played in test trials, taken a hat-trick in one of them, but has unfortunately never been selected for full international honours. He is a steady batsman having scored one hundred and over 20 fifties in his 7000 runs. His ability to see the lighter and funnier side of situations has amused many and made him popular with cricket followers everywhere.

KEITH FLETCHER — Born Worcester. Debut 1962/Cap 1963. His record shows what a great servant he has been to county and country. Captain of Essex since 1974, 59 test matches, including a tour to India as captain, 34,000 runs in his career, with around 60 hundreds and he can bowl a very tidy leg spinner when required. Keith is an excellent close to the wicket fielder in any position, and he has taken nearly 600 catches, which is a lot more than any current player, excluding wicket keepers of course.

NEIL FOSTER — Born Colchester. Debut 1980/Uncapped. In 1981 when it looked as though Essex had found a young quick bowler of real potential in Neil, he suffered a back injury that looked as though it may end his career before it had begun. However, with a major operation and a few artificial bits, Neil is back bowling as well as ever this season and was made twelfth man for England in the Oval test.

continued . . .

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GRAHAM GOOCH — Born Leytonstone. Debut 1973/Cap 1975. He has been the Vice-Captain of Essex for the last 2 years. Until he was given a 3 year test ban, he had played 42 times for England and had proved himself to be one of the best and most exciting opening batsmen in the world. In his career Graham has scored over 30 hundreds and notched up 15,000 runs. He has started to bowl a lot more with excellent results, especially in one day cricket. His 198 n.o. against Sussex in the B & H Cup at Hove last year stands as a record score for any batsman in a one day match in England.

JOHN LEVER — Born Stepney. Debut 1967/Cap 1970. Has taken over 1,200 wickets with his left arm fast medium bowling. He had played 20 times for England and had done 12th man duties for them even more times before his 3 year ban. John was always an automatic choice for tours because of his fitness as well as his talent. As a batsman he can boast that he played the back handed sweep long before Ian Botham tried it.

ALAN LILLEY — Born Ilford. Debut 1978/Uncapped. Alan made a magnificent hundred in his first match, against Notts at Trent Bridge. He is a hard hitting batsman and excellent fielder, and he would probably have found it easy to get a regular place in most other counties by now with the talent he possesses.

KEN McEWAN — Born Bedford, South Africa. Debut in South Africa 1972/Debut for Essex 1974/Cap 1974. Ken has been Essex's most prolific run scorer, not by many, in the last 10 years. He is an elegant batsman, and has scored around 50 hundreds in his 18,000 runs. He has the knack of not having to run too many while at the wicket. He is looking to improve on the 3 wickets he has taken in his career.

KEITH PONT — Born Wanstead. Debut 1970/Cap 1976. Keith has always been a useful all rounder, especially in one day matches. He has matured into a very solid No. 5 batsman without losing his hard hitting qualities. His 6,000 runs in first class cricket is not a true reflection on his usefulness to the side.

DEREK PRINGLE — Born Nairobi, Kenya. Debut 1978/Cap 1982. Derek has played 4 test matches in his short career. This has been his first full season with Essex because of his studies at Cambridge University. He is an all rounder of outstanding quality, his height making his bowling very awkward to face.

continued...

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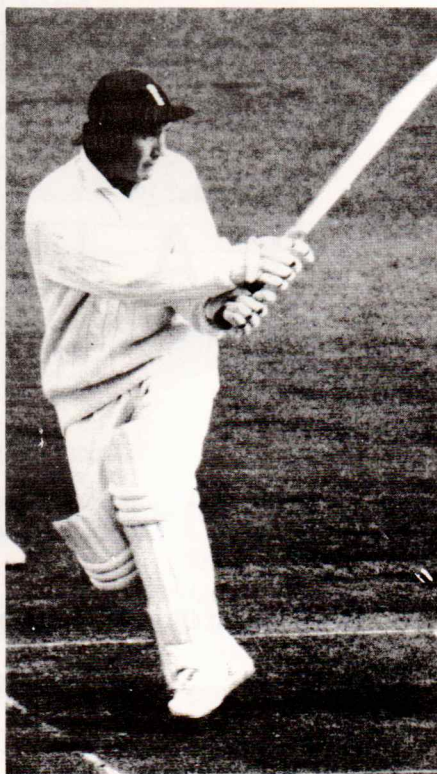
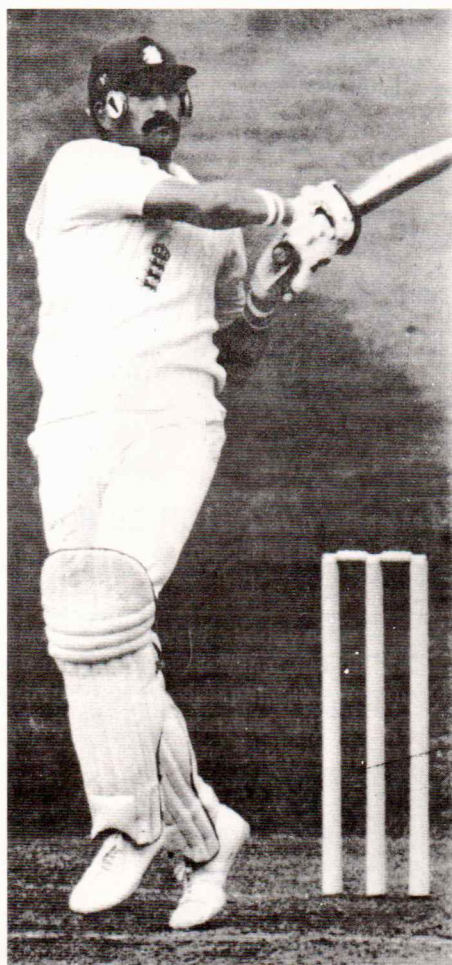
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For the first time in Essex's history, three players appeared in a Test Match together, Keith Fletcher (the Captain), Graham Gooch and John Lever all played against India at Bangalore in December 1981.

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STUART TURNER — Born Chester. Debut 1965/Cap 1970. Stuart throughout his career has been the workhorse of the Essex side, usually getting the job of bowling most of his overs when the wickets were unreceptive. His 800 wickets and 9,000 runs are a tribute to his talent and dedication. Stuart holds the record of being the first Englishman, only Keith Boyce beat him, to take 100 wickets and score 1,000 runs in the John Player League. He has now more than doubled that feat.

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