

CHRIS HALLS' BITS'N'PIECES

CHRIS THE FUND RAISER

Following on from my brief (Covid +) appearance this week (2 Aug 2022) - 'e were proper poorly everyone, worse than man flu - please find below a couple of lines about raising funds for Olivia (Tony Currie's grand daughter) at Scarborough during the recent dramatic and thrilling Championship match between Yorkshire and Division One league leaders, Surrey C C C

A signed shirt by Alec Stewart, Surrey and England legend, was put up for auction bids on Day 3 of the game with an agreed 50:50 split between the Scarborough Cricket Club and Olivia's cause. The framed shirt was placed on display in the Tea Rooms and several bids were forthcoming.



Alec Stewart (Surrey & England) with our legend, Chris Hall

A final bid of £147 was accepted and shared to the delight of all parties.

The Olivia Fund is ongoing, because of Olivia's condition and her loss of sight as a baby. {Editor's Note: We wish her and the fund all the very best.}

I {Chris} have personally raised over **£1700** for the Fund to date by selling sporting memorabilia and acquiring autographs from leading soccer, cricket and other sportsmen. {Editor's Note: That's our Chris for you.}

Should anyone like to make any kind of contribution , please contact Chris for further details.

GREAT LEGENDS MEET AGAIN

Sir Geoffrey had a couple of book signings during the recent County Championship match held at the Scarborough ground in July 2022 - his new book is called "Being Geoffrey Boycott", an analysis of his performances in his 108 Test Match career.



Sir Geoffrey Boycott signing his book for our legend.

Sir Geoff personally dedicated my {Chris'} copy and we had a great conversation about Derek Randall and Geoff's long term friendship with this unique character who played with and against Geoff on many occasions during their careers. Sir Geoff was engaging, polite and popular with the Yorkshire cricket fans; Ed's note: so was Chris - just saying.

West Bridgford Legion CC Nottm - 75th anniversary match July 2022

This game - which I played in - was sponsored by the Hall Family in the memory of JB Hall, who played in the very first match held on this ground at West Park in 1926 for Sir Julien Cahn's team v Notts.

It is a ground of many proud memories for JB (including 111 not out and his best ever first class bowling performance v Lancashire in 1935).

The bench at the ground - adjacent to the Sir Julien Cahn pavilion - is now dedicated in his name.

Photos include Mary Hall presenting the match ball to officials of WB Legion C C and cutting the anniversary cake at the close of play.



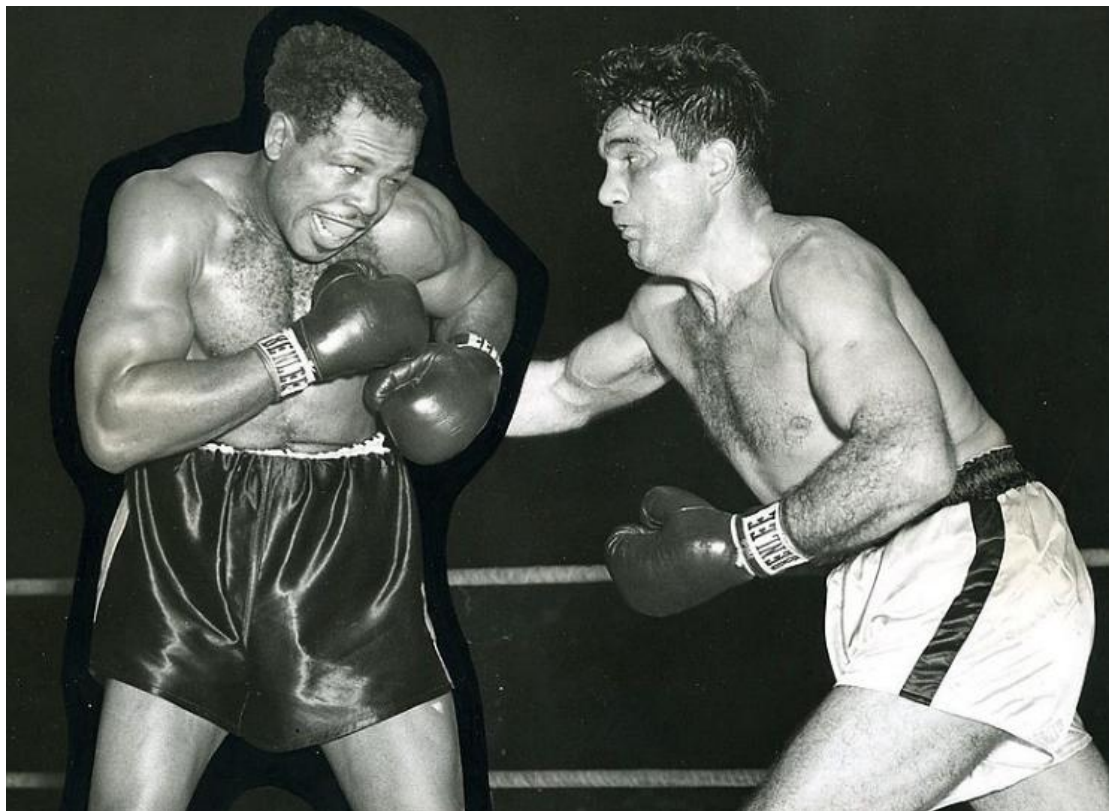
Archie Moore - now what's the question ?

In several of our local zoom meetings, the answer to a boxing question - if as a group we simply don't know - is often guessed as "Archie Moore" - one of the sport's most famous names. In this "Bits'n Pieces" section, I thought we would probably like to know about Archie's amazing career achievements and the reason we think of him as a reasonable answer to any Boxing question !

My research was stimulated when I recently found a vintage VHS recording of Cassius Clay (Ali to be) and his fight with 48 year old Archie Moore amongst my late dad's sporting memorabilia . It is black & white footage of this contest staged in November 1962 and won by a KO by Cassius in the 4th round, as he had predicted {Ed's notes: Chris remarked that this was likely the first of Clay/Ali predictions on a fight's outcome.}

Archie (nicknamed the "Old Mongoose") was born in 1913 - or possibly 1916 - and grew up in poverty in St. Louis with his Uncle and Aunt. He became a Champion boxer with one of the longest professional careers in the history of sport, competing from 1935 until his retirement from the ring in 1963 after 220 fights.

Archie Moore fought at Light Heavyweight and Heavyweight throughout his illustrious career, but it was not until his 162nd contest, aged 36, that he eventually got the opportunity to fight for the Light Heavyweight Championship, when he defeated Joey Maxim in St. Louis in 15 rounds in 1952. Archie defended his title against Maxim on two further occasions (1953 and 1954) , winning both bouts to retain his title.



Moore v Joey Maxim 1952 for the Light Heavyweight Championship

Archie Moore also fought for the Heavy Weight Championship of the World on two occasions - the first in 1952 at Yankee stadium, NY, ended after controversial circumstances in only round 2, when having knocked

down Rocky Marciano for the second and final time in Rocky's entire career, a 'long count' may have saved this famous heavyweight from defeat . Archie eventually lost by a KO in the 9th round. The second occasion in 1956 was for the vacant World Heavyweight Championship when Archie , now aged 42, lost to Floyd Paterson by KO in the 5th at the Chicago Stadium .

Archie Moore, whose career covered four decades of high quality boxing, fought the young and unbeaten Cassius Clay (15 professional career consecutive wins to date) in his penultimate fight in November 1962, aged 48 , in California. Archie had previously trained Clay and was the first big name boxer that Clay had taken on in the ring - Cassius predicted victory in the 4 th and he was clearly too quick for Archie who was now at the end of a wonderful career. Cassius duly won in the 4th by KO - this was only Archie Moore's 23 loss from 219 fights since 1935!



Moore v Cassius Clay 1962

Archie had one more fight which he won by KO in March 1963 before retiring from Boxing with the great record of:

220 fights - won 186 with 132 * by KO - Lost 23

*The most KO's in the history of boxing in his light heavyweight division.

Archie was named by BoxRec in 2020 as the 3rd greatest " pound for pound " boxer of all time. Archie Moore is the only boxer to have fought both Rocky Marciano (1955) and Cassius Clay / Ali (1962). Archie Moore was the longest reigning Light Heavy Weight Champion of all time (1952 to 1963). Archie had the distinction of being the trainer of both Cassius Clay and then later, George Foreman for his fight against Ali in 1974 in Zaire - "the Rumble in the Jungle". In 1976 . Archie was also appointed as the assistant coach to the Nigerian Olympic boxing team and in the early 1990's he worked again for George Foreman

In retirement , Archie Moore received numerous boxing awards and dedications , including becoming an original member of the International Boxing 'Hall of Fame' in Canastota in 1990.

Archie also took up several acting roles in feature films and TV programmes throughout the 1960's and into the early 1970's - most notable being as the runaway slave Jim in "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" (1960) directed by the great Michael Curtiz. Archie also appeared in "the Fortune Cookie" (1966); 'Perry Mason' ; 'Wagon Train' ; "Breakheart Pass " (1975) with Charles Bronson and episode 35 of "Batman" with Adam West & Burt Ward!



Archie Moore in "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" 1960 Dir. Michael Curtiz.

Archie Moore was a passionate humanitarian and from 1957, he ran a non profit organisation which he founded, called " Any Boy Can ", dedicated to helping underprivileged youth in the San Diego region. Students were taught good sportsmanship, respect & confidence.

Archie became a civil rights activist, an important figure in African American causes & a youth leader, his programmes winning numerous awards and recognition at National level.

Archie Moore died in 1998 in his adopted home city of San Diego, probably aged 84

He is ranked the "Number One Light Heavy Weight Champion of all time" by the International Boxing Research Organisation in 2005. The "Ring" magazine ranked Moore Number 4 on its "Best 100 Punchers of all time" listing in 2003 and 14th on its list of the "80 Best Fighters of the Last 80 years".

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So, if you're ever stumped for a boxing answer in a local quiz competition or zoom call , it would probably be a wise decision to say "*ARCHIE MOORE*" - you have a very good chance of being right!

Chris Hall

17/08/2022

IN REMEMBRANCE of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

The first session of the weekly SM Zoom Meeting held on Tuesday 13 September 2022 was devoted to memories attendees had of meeting the Queen or her Royal Family. The initiative was sparked off by Chris Hall who set the ball rolling with his own memories of the "Centennial Test 1977". A recording of the session is accessible at the Zoom Meetings page of the SM Sheffield website. [[CLICK HERE](#)]

SPORTING MEMORIES OF HER LATE MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH 11

THE CENTENARY TEST 1977

With my deepest respect to our late Queen, here is a sporting memory that I recall with great fondness from 1977, a match that I followed with tremendous interest being a former club cricket team mate of Derek Randall, now starting his International career and selected by his Country to play in the Test.

The occasion was the Centenary Test Match in March 1977 at the MCG, Melbourne.

As part of her Majesty's Silver Jubilee celebrations, Queen Elizabeth's official itinerary during her tour of Australia included attending the Centenary Test on the scheduled 5th and final day of the match.

Following the batting failures of both teams in their respective first innings of the game, it looked as if a 5th day may not even happen, until the brilliant innings of 174 by Retford and Nottinghamshire's Derek Randall in England's spirited and remarkable final run chase eventually took the Test deep into the 5th day.

The attached image is of Derek being officially presented to Her Majesty by England's Captain Tony Greig at the tea interval on 17th March 1977, Derek having himself just been dismissed prior to this break (the other England players are Left to Right - John Lever , Essex ; Geoff Miller, Derbyshire and Chris Old, Yorkshire).



The other image of our radiant Queen was taken of Her Majesty greeting the injured Australian batsman, Rick McCosker, who had had his jaw broken in the first Innings by a short delivery from Bob Willis, but who heroically returned in the second innings to partner Rod Marsh and make 25 invaluable runs in a game changing 9th wicket partnership of 54.



For the record, Australia eventually won this unique and dramatic Test by 45 runs and Derek Randall was made the "Man of the Match" for his debut century for England in his debut Test against Australia.

Her Majesty and Prince Philip were later driven around the MCG in a royal purple Rolls Royce and then left Melbourne to continue the Silver Jubilee celebrations .

Chris Hall

Reunion of Nottingham CC Former Players 2022

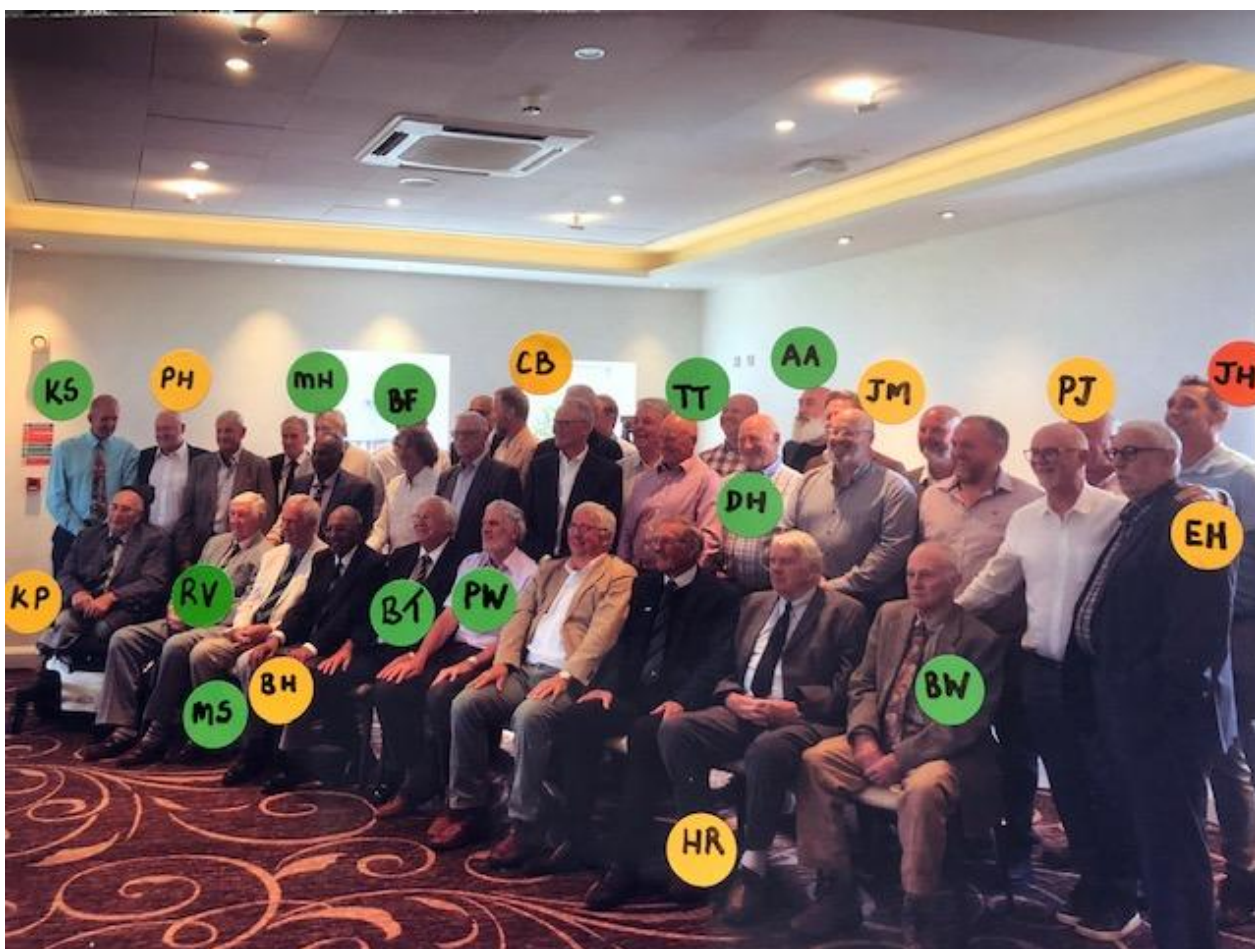
FORMER NOTTINGHAMSHIRE C C C PLAYER'S RE UNION

TRENT BRIDGE 6TH SEPTEMBER 2022

During the second day of the Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire County Championship match at Trent Bridge, the County Club staged their former player's reunion luncheon. After considerable efforts had been made by Nottinghamshire to invite this special group, a wonderful attendance of approx. 50 was achieved as the current Nottinghamshire team dominated play against Leicestershire, finishing the second day on 390 for 7 declared, setting their opponents 498 to win¹.

My late father Michael, as a former first class player with 17 appearances for Notts between 1958 - 1959 and as Notts Second X1 Captain into the 1970's, was a loyal and dedicated attendee at the annual reunions with my mum, Mary. In his latter days, I was honoured to take them both to this function as a proud son and a paying guest. [Eds Note: Doubtless looking for autographs!]













This year, Mary and myself were made very welcome by the Club and enjoyed a cuppa at the tea interval with several friends, former Notts & England players and past teammates & respected opponents from their respective times as professional cricketers in the Bassetlaw League with my dad, brother Nigel and myself. For Mary, this was especially poignant




The "Notts Former Players Team" assembled at the function on Sept 6th 2022








¹ Nottinghamshire duly won their County Championship match against Leicestershire on the third days play by 241 runs . Notts secured 20 points to go 43 points ahead at the top of the table with two matches to come for the County Club.

Those labelled (i.e. "identified") players include BACK ROW L/R:

	<i>KEVIN SAXILBY (aged 63)</i> 300 wickets in 136 First Class games (1978 - 1990), Member of Notts Championship winning teams, opponent of Retford in Bassetlaw League cricket.
	<i>PETER HACKER (70)</i> Fast left arm bowler, former Retford Professional - 3 Bassetlaw League Championship titles, Member of Notts County Championship winning team 1981, 214 First Class wickets in 118 games and current Notts Committee Member.
	<i>MIKE 'PASTY'HARRIS (78)</i> Opening batsman originally Middlesex, joined Notts 1969 - 1982, scoring over 19,000 runs @ 37 with 41 First Class centuries, retired First Class Umpire.
	<i>BRUCE FRENCH (63)</i> 360 First Class matches - all for Notts - and 16 England Tests, Member of Notts Championship winning teams 1981 & 1987.
	<i>CHRIS BROAD (64)</i> 21,000 First Class runs, 26 Tests for England and an Ashes winner in 1986 with three consecutive centuries, currently an ICC Match Official.
	<i>TREVOR TUNCLIFFE (72)</i> Notts all rounder 1973 - 1980, with 2,116 runs H/S 100* and 42 wickets in First Class, former Retford Professional.
	<i>DUSTY HARE MBE (69)</i> former Retford Professional 1979, Notts staff 1971 - '77 and the World Record holder of points scored in a First Class Rugby Union career (7,337) , England Lions tourist.
	<i>ANDY AFFORD (58)</i> , Notts 1984 - 199 , 468 First Class wickets with career best of 6-51 v Lancashire, now a businessman based in Nottingham.
	<i>PAUL JOHNSON (57)</i> former Notts Captain, 21 year Notts career with over 20,000 First Class runs and 10,000 one day runs , 53 centuries, Member of 1987 County Championship team with the most runs scored.
	<i>JOHN MORRIS (58)</i> Derbyshire, Durham, Notts & England (3 Tests) with over 21,000 First Class career runs, wine bar owner; <i>PAUL JOHNSON (57)</i> former Notts Captain , 21 year Notts career with over 20,000 First Class runs and 10,000 one day runs, 53 centuries, Member of 1987 County Championship team with the most runs scored.
	<i>EDDIE HEMMINGS (73)</i> Member of Championship winning teams 1981 & 1987, 16 Tests for England, three Ashes series, 850 wickets for Notts.
	<i>JIM HINDSON (49)</i> Over 100 Career wickets for Notts 1992 - 1998, Retford opponent for Caythorpe C C , currently MD of 'Cricket Archive', Director of the 'Cricketer Magazine' and cricket coach.

Those labelled (i.e. "identified") players include FRONT ROW L/R:

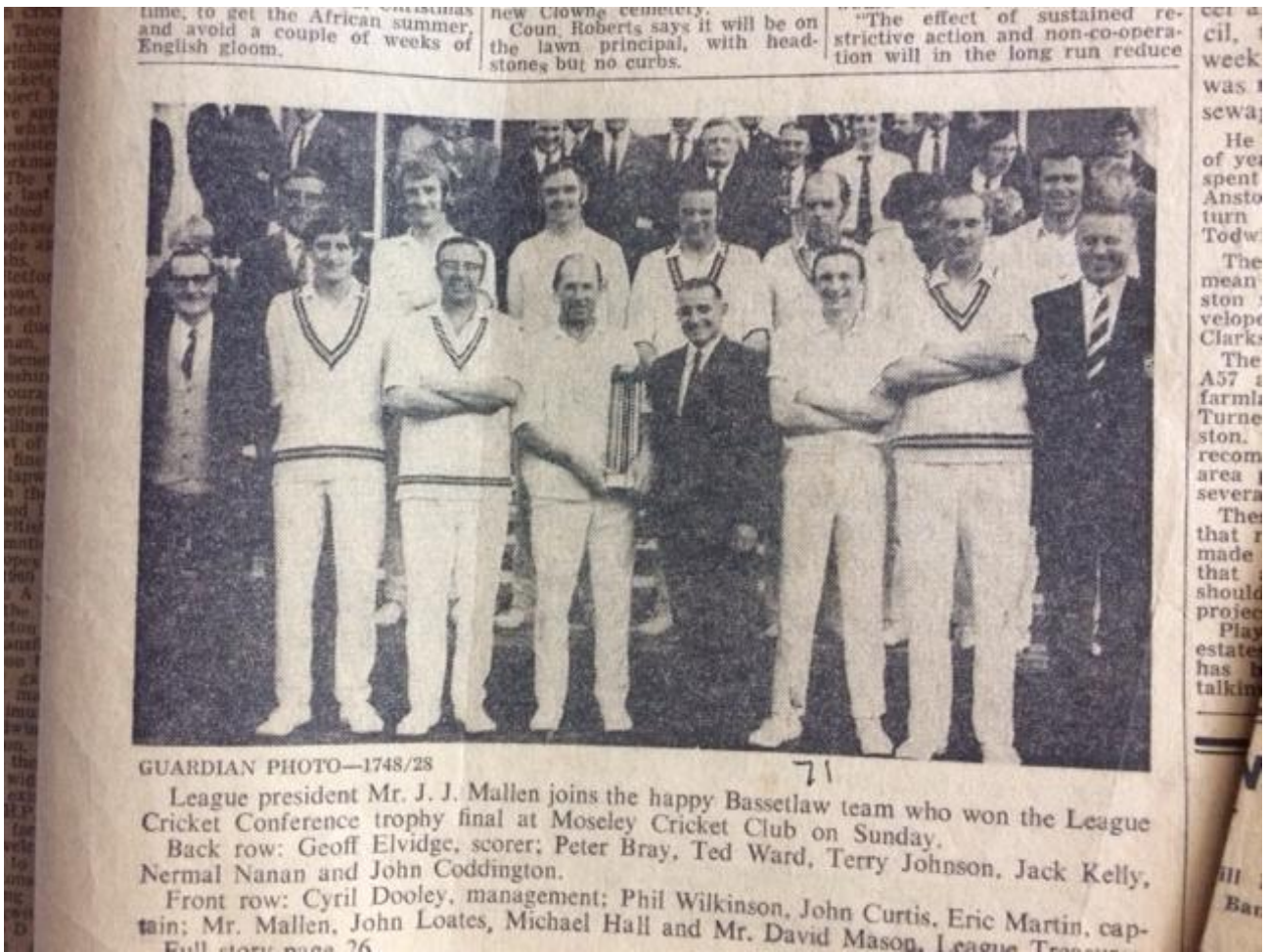
	<i>KEN POOLE (88)</i> Contemporary on the Notts staff of Michael Hall (1955 - 1966) with 26 First Class matches and 51 Second X1 games, near fatal accident & resultant severe handicap in 2014 does not prevent Ken from attending the reunions.
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	ROGER VOWLES (90) . Another contemporary of Mike Hall on the staff, 16 First Class games (1957 - 1961) and later a key administrator for Notts for over a decade.
	MICHAEL SMEDLEY (80) former Captain of Notts, prolific opening batsman (1963 - 1979) with 16,000 runs, 28 centuries in 360 First Class matches, opponent of Retford in the Bassetlaw League for Kiveton Park C C, former President of both the Bassetlaw League and Notts.
	BASHARAT HASSAN (78) 18 year Notts career from 1966 - 1985, scorer of over 14,000 First Class runs with 15 centuries and 306 catches (Notts record), Member of the 1981 Championship winning team and currently President of Notts; a former ECB Umpire.
	BILL TAYLOR (75) former President of Notts (2018 & 2019), 95 First Class matches 1971 - 1977 with 221 wickets and 122 one day matches with 170 wickets.
	PHIL WILKINSON (71) Notts seam bowler (1971 - 1977) who took 175 wickets in his 92 First Class matches, determined opponent of Retford and a member of the Bassetlaw League rep. side with Michael Hall that won the national League Conference Trophy in 1971.
	HAROLD 'DUSTY' RHODES (86) Derbyshire (1953 - 1975) and England fast bowler with over 1000 First Class wickets, played for Notts in one day cricket in 1970 - 1973, 322 First Class career matches, most wickets in England in 1965 season (119 @ 11 av.).
	BOB WHITE (85) premier off spin bowler for Notts (1966 - 1980) with 8,000 runs and 693 First Class wickets, opponent of Retford at Trent Bridge in the Bassetlaw League as Captain of Notts Seconds (1979), a former team mate of Sir Garry Sobers and a retired ECB Umpire.

My humble apologies to all those attending former players that I have not highlighted.



Retford Team - RCC Champions 1976 - includes Michael Hall, Keith Jackson, Peter Hacker and Chris Hall



Bassetlaw League team 1971 with team mates Michael Hall and Phil Wilkinson (Notts C C C)



Dusty playing for Retford v local league rivals Worksop in 1979 (Also Chris' dad, Michael and the late Tim Jones all of RCC)



Chris Catching Up With Dusty Hare At The Notts Reunion 2022

Chris Hall

Nottinghamshire C C C Member

Retford C C Life Member

15/09/2022

Chris Hall's Invitation to Kevin Sharp's House

Guest of KEVIN SHARP at NEW ROAD

WORCESTERSHIRE V MIDDLESEX

For the final County match of the 2022 season at New Road, I was the house guest of the former Yorkshire batsman and coach, Kevin Sharp, a friend of mine since his batting days in the YCCC First X1 during the mid 1980's. I helped Kevin during his successful Benefit Year in 1991 and, whilst not always being able to meet up on a regular basis, we have remained good cricket friends over the years.

This was Kevin's final match in his full time professional coaching career at Worcestershire, where for the last four and half years he has been the much respected Head Coach and Player Development Manager. In his retirement, Kevin (63) will assist his County on an "as required" basis next season and will consider his other opportunities, though not full time .

He has much to offer any aspiring first class batsmen.

The weather at New Road on Day One and Two was cool, dull and often wet and the game - vital for Middlesex to win in their quest for the Divisional Championship over Nottinghamshire - was eventually curtailed and ended in a draw.

(Middlesex were duly promoted in second place and Worcestershire finished in a creditable fourth place position.)

I enjoyed a great time with Kevin watching from the Members and Players enclosure in the "Graeme Hick " pavilion - his experiences of coaching the likes of a young Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow were fascinating - and the current players and Worcestershire supporters respect for him clearly evident wherever we wondered around the picturesque New Road ground.

It was indeed my privilege to be his guest at the conclusion of his full time career in cricket.

Chris Hall

October 7th 2022

P.S. I left New Road, Worcester just after lunch on Day Two and made it to Trent Bridge to see the crucial Nottinghamshire v Durham game, as Notts were establishing a huge first innings score , bonus points and then victory to secure the Championship - but that's another "Bits 'N Pieces" story.

KEVIN SHARP - SOME PLAYING CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Yorkshire 1976 - 1990

ALL FIRST CLASS

195 First Class matches for YCCC * 9,962 Total First Class runs * H/S 181 v Glamorgan 1986

14 First Class Centuries (11 for YCCC) * Career First Class Average 30.8

ALL LIMITED OVERS

*** 199 matches * 4,613 Total limited overs runs in all cricket * H/S 114 with 3 Centuries**

BATTING PARTNERSHIPS

Kevin Sharp's First Class batting partnerships of 100 or more - 33 occasions including

9 with Geoff Boycott and 4 with Martyn Moxon

BENEFIT YEAR AWARDED 1991

£89,770 RAISED DURING HIS YEAR of EVENTS

Benefit Match staged at Retford on 29th September 1991 featuring guest players -

Kevin * Martyn MOXON Capt., YCCC *Actors Chris CHITTELL & Frazer HINES ("Emmerdale")

John HELM (Sports commentator) * Harry GRATION ('Look North') *Arnie SIDEBOTTOM

*Paul JARVIS *Ashley METCALFE *Glynn SNODIN *Ted HEMSLEY *Tony CURRIE

*Martin HODGE (goalkeeper) and C J HALL as Retford team skipper!

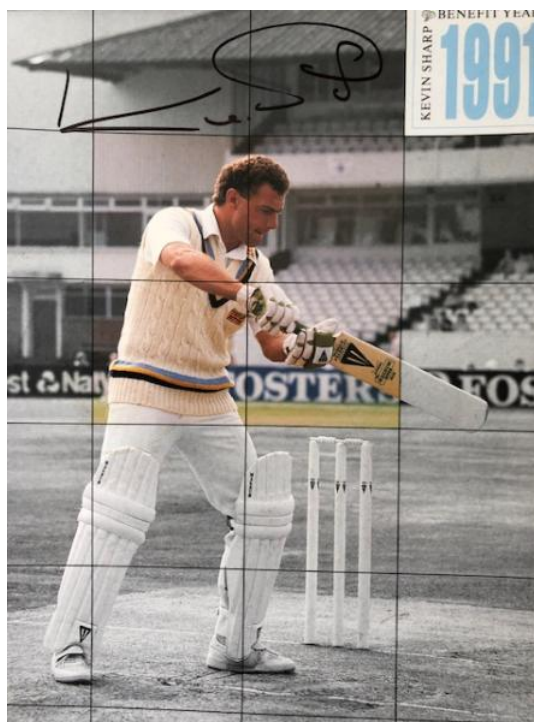
ENGLAND U 19 ,Captain 1978

3 Tests v West Indies (407 runs @ av.102) with H/S 260* at Worcester.

NATIONAL TROPHIES

Member of the Yorkshire C C C Winning teams - 1983 John Player League Champions and

1987 B & H Cup Winners at Lord's.



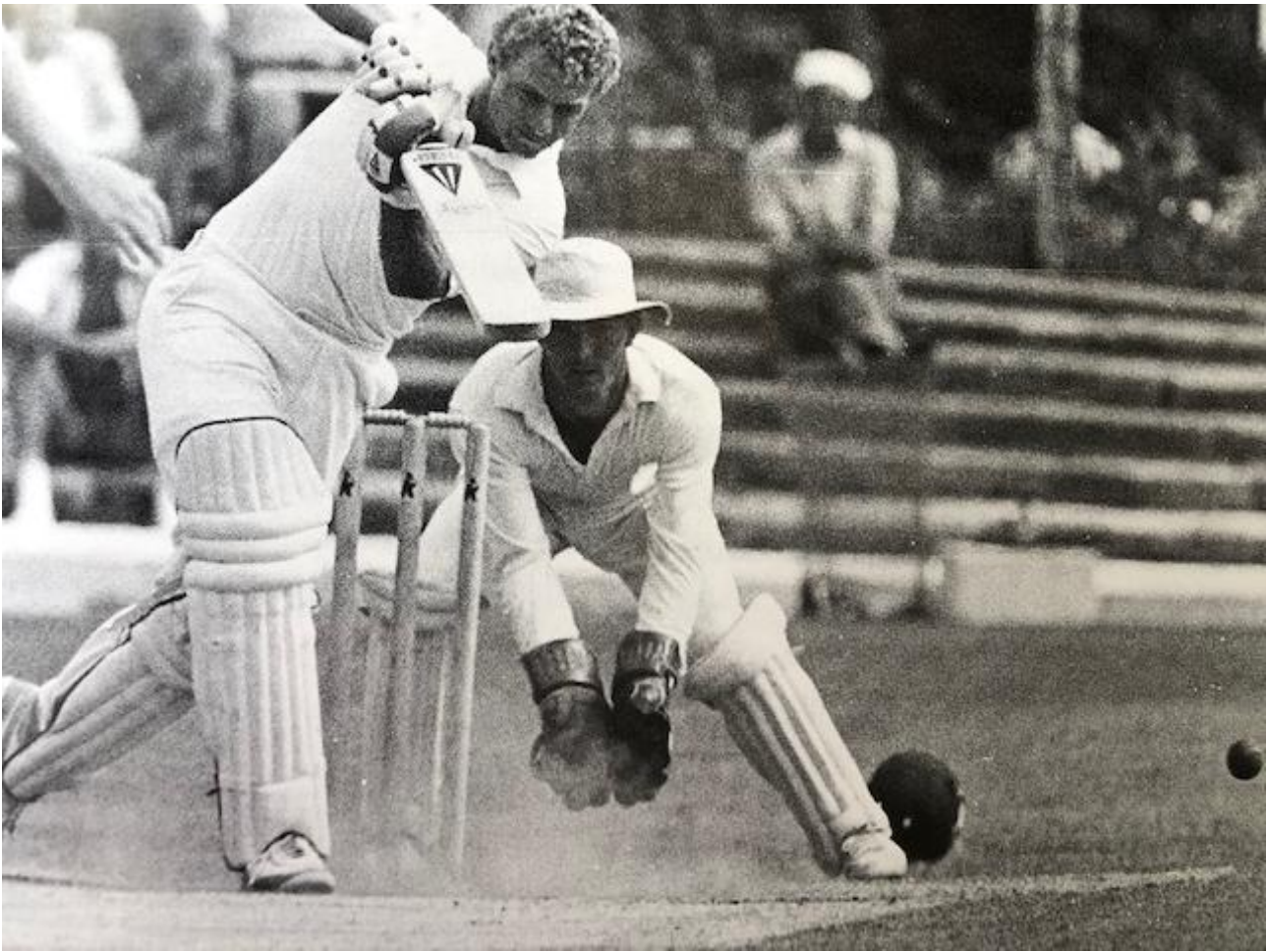
Cover of Kevin's Benefit Brochure 1991 (Autographed of course!)



JOHN PLAYER LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 1983
CUP WINNERS
BENSON & HEDGES CUP WINNERS 1987



The successful Yorkshire teams with Kevin in 1983 & 1987 as a leading left hand batsman



Action shot of Kevin Sharp

"DOWN MEMORY LANE" - PROGRAMMES

"Bits and Pieces" from Chris Hall - Memorable programmes

No. ONE - SUFC V LEYTON ORIENT - Friday April 26 th 1963



Programme black & white and cost 4d

DIVISION ONE Home Match * Floodlights * 21,000 crowd

My first ever United match (7years old) taken by my dad ended in a 2-0 victory

The great Len Badger's home League debut for United

I was "hooked" for Life - Blades finished 10th

I celebrated the 60th Anniversary of attending my first game last Saturday v WBA in the "TC Suite" with Mary.

LEN'QUIZ

A. Which future England centre forward scored for United in this match

.....MICK JONES

(He gained 3 full caps and for United played 147 League games with 63 goals between 1963 and 1967)

B. Len made 458 ... 501 ... or 545 League appearances for United ?

C. Who did Len sign for after leaving the Blades ?

Barnsley ... Rotherham ... or Chesterfield ?

D. Which legendary UNITED Defence did Len break into as a young man

(Hodgy * Coldwell * G Shaw * Richardson * J Shaw & Summers)

"DOWN MEMORY LANE" - PROGRAMMES

"Bits and Pieces" from Chris Hall - Memorable programmes

No. TWO - SUFC V CARDIFF CITY - Tuesday 27 th April 1971



Programme black & white and cost 5d

This match is an everlasting teenage memory (15 years old) and one of United's greatest ever evenings at the Lane.

DIVISION TWO Home match *again under floodlights on a 3 sided ground * 43,000 crowd * TC in midfield ! * Penultimate match against the only rivals for Promotion to the top League

Attended in the Old John Street stand with our family to see a 5-1 victory to almost seal promotion on the night.

This was my first experience of "success" (beat Watford 3-0 the next game to secure runners up spot) as a fanatical fan.

Last Wednesday evening against WBA , I witnessed my 9 th Promotion since 1963.

1971 PROMOTION QUIZ

A. Who was United's Captain on this night **EDDIE COLQUHOUN**

B. Who were Champions of the League in 1970/71? ... **Leicester City**

C. Who were United's goal scorers against Cardiff?

Dearden (2) ; Flynn ; TC ; Reece

D. Who was United's leading scorer in 1970/71? ...

WOODY (15) ; Dearden ; Currie or Reece

"DOWN MEMORY LANE" - PROGRAMMES

"Bits and Pieces" from Chris Hall - Memorable programmes

No. THREE - 2005 ASHES SERIES / 4 TH TEST at Trent Bridge



Programme Full colour and cost £4.00

FINAL DAY Sunday 28th August 2005

Sunshine * Arrival by 9am * Simon Jones Injured * Sell Out crowd * live coverage by the BBC....

Series standing at 1-1 after first three dramatic Tests and England not having won the Ashes since 1986 , Sunday's play was a nerve shredding day of " ifs , buts and maybes"

This day was probably the high point of what has been called " the Greatest ever Test Series" and " Tug of Cricket War. "

England needing just 129 to win , actually looked like losing to the speed of Bret Lee and the leg spin bowling of Shane Warne - but an unlikely partnership between Hoggard (8*) and Giles (7 *) eventually won the game by 3 wickets to go 2-1 up in the Series with one Test to play at the Oval.

ASHES 2005 QUIZ

A. Shane Warne took another 8 wkts., in this Test - how many did he take in the Series

20, 30 or 40 (record) at 19 av.

B. Which England batsmen scored his maiden Ashes Century in this game

Flintoff (106*1st Inns) ; Strauss ; Peitersen or Vaughan.

C. England's fast bowler , Simon Jones took 5 - 44 in the 1st Inns and 18 @ 21 in the Series how many games did he play for his Country after the 4 th Test ?.....

0 (ankle injury) , 10 or 15.

AN EVENING WITH BARRY RICHARDS , CRICKET LEGEND.

LEES HALL GOLF CLUB, SHEFFIELD

29 /06/2023

As members of the "Sheffield Cricket Lover's Society", Peter Burnett and myself attended the June monthly meeting and had the great pleasure of being in the audience to hear the VIP Guest, the legendary South African batsman Barry Richards, give his views on Cricket - past and present issues.

It was an insightful and fascinating evening , with Master of Ceremonies Andy Pack (co-writer of Tony Currie's recent autobiography) interviewing a man with over 28,000 First Class runs and 80 Centuries to his credit and who on many, many occasions just made batting look effortless.

Barry spoke without notes about his glittering career in South Africa, England and Australia (including Packer and World Series Cricket) and shared his views on the current state of the game and his own particular fears for the long term future of Test cricket outside of the "Big 3" (England, Australia and India).

Barry Richard's statistics for South Africa do not do him justice as a genius player, being able to play only one Series against Australia in 1969 before the International ban on SA sport curtailed his own Test Match career. (He did , however, score 508 runs in four Tests @ 72.57 with two Centuries!)

He was "selected" by Sir Don Bradman in his all time world eleven as the opening batsman - an accolade which indicated the regard Barry Richards had in the game at the highest levels.

Barry was eloquent & approachable and provided Peter and myself with a tremendous night's entertainment.

We were both invited by Andy to join the front row of the packed audience to be included in the evenings "team" photograph and found ourselves with both Barry and Don Root, grandfather of England's Joe Root, for a memorable picture. A tremendous and unexpected honour.

I later acquired Barry's much valued autograph in his Autobiography (The Barry Richards Story) and in the Lord's Tavernier's "50 Greatest Cricketers" publication from my own collection. *[Editor's Note: Chris would not have been Chris had he not obtained an autograph.]*

BARRY RICHARDS' BATTING CAREER

All First Class Cricket (1964 - 1983)

28,358 runs @ 54.74 ; 80 Centuries

Excludes "Packer World Series Cricket" and other non First Class games (21 more Centuries)

Career Highest Score 356* for South Australia v Western Australia 1971 , Perth

*This innings, scored against the Western Australia bowling that included Dennis Lillee, featured 325 runs in a single day!

Chris Hall

12 /07/2023

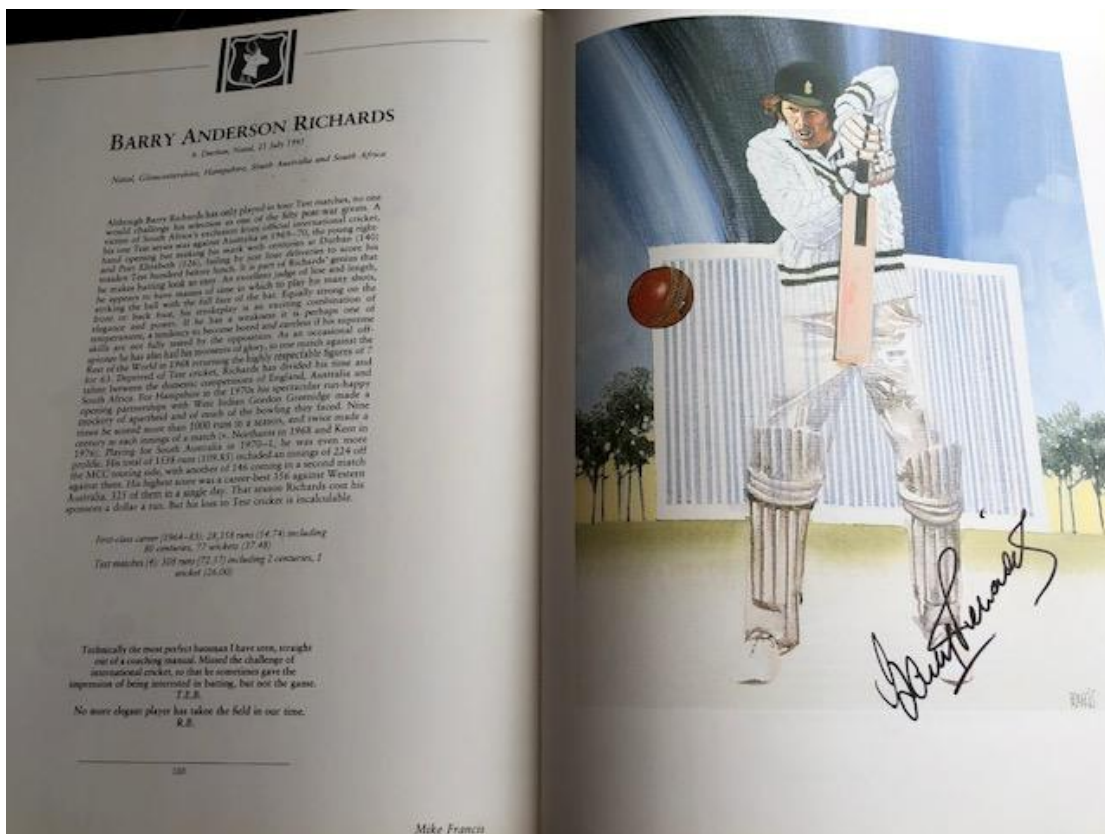
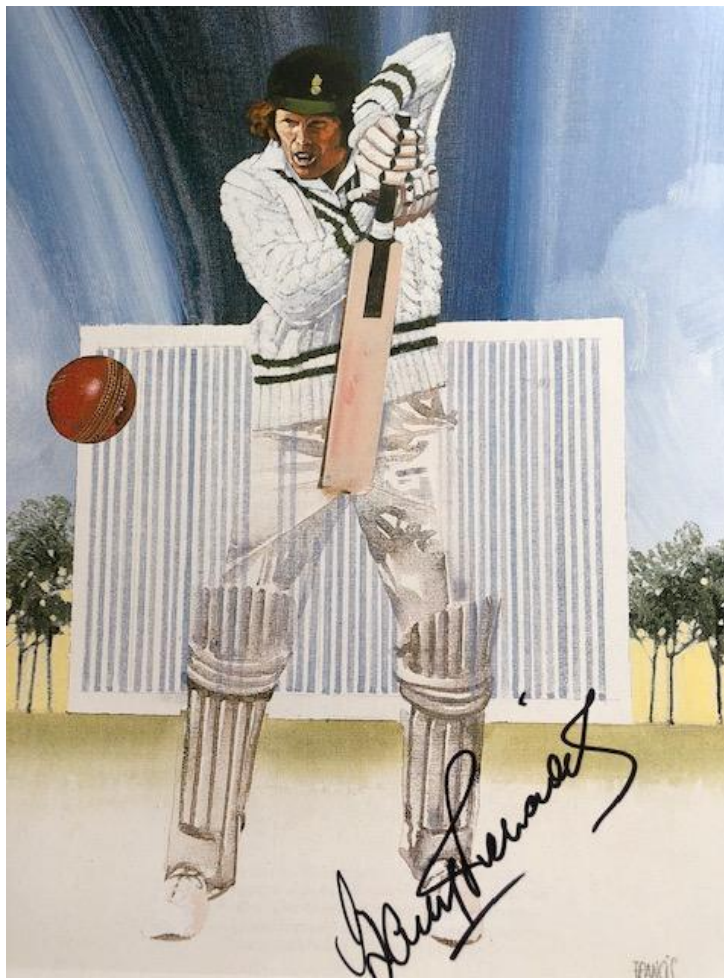
PHOTOS OF A GREAT NIGHT OUT



Our Sporting Memories 'Gruesome Twosome' with Barry Richards, Don Root and a member



Exchanging Sporting Memories - BR & CJ



Job Done! Autographs Secured.

THE EARLY DAYS OF J B HALL , ENGLISH CRICKETER

In my previous presentations² to the "Sheffield Sporting Memories Group", I have detailed the story of my grandfather, JB Hall (known as "JB"), including his long career as a leading League cricketer and administrator, his associations with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club, and his First Class experiences with both Notts and the Sir Julian Cahn's X1 both at home and abroad.

But where did JB's passion and great skill in the game of cricket come from? On Tuesday July 4 this year, I was given the opportunity to discover more about him and his education which included a huge involvement in cricket.

JB and his three Worksop born brothers were all educated at Bloxham School near Banbury and upon learning the fact that, to this day, Bloxham School play in an annual cricket festival against other schools including Worksop College, another place dear to JB in his career, I offered to present a special "Player of the Match" trophy for the fixture in JB's memory.

On the morning of 4th July, I was greeted on my first visit to Bloxham School by Members & Officials of the two teams on the First team ground in front of the school - the very place that JB had graced throughout his teenage education (April 1916 - July 1920). Despite a poor weather forecast, the game commenced with Worksop batting.

During the Lunch interval, we were given a guided tour by the School Archivist and Historian, Simon Batten, who had also prepared numerous photographs of JB in various teams during his time at Bloxham. He also shared the career details of JB's many sporting & educational achievements and those of his brothers - Charles, Curzon and Roland - which were taken from the original hand written school record cards.

A highlight of our tour was of the school's magnificent stain glassed chapel of which JB had the honour of being the first ever appointed School "Sacristan" (Boy in charge of the school's vestments and sacred vessels) in 1920, his final school year at Bloxham.

It was on the sport fields that JB had also excelled, being awarded his house colours in every activity (except swimming!).

According to Simon, JB was the only boy ever to play in the Cricket First XI from arrival as a 13 year old to leaving as a senior pupil.

Amongst JB's achievements included

House Captain 1919 - 20

Prefect 1919- 1920

School Sacristan 1919-20³

² The Video and Script are on the SMSheffield website. Go to <https://www.smsheffield.co.uk/chris-hall.html> Look for John B Hall Zoom Meeting held on 16 June 2020 Pt 2.

³ The first pupil at Bloxham to be bestowed with these responsibilities

Officer Training Corps - rank of Lance Corporal in 1919

First X1 Cricket 1916 - 1920 (Five years continuous selection)

*Debut made on the very first day of the 'Battle of the Somme' opened.

*At 13, JB was reported as being "a very good bowler - should be good in time".

*1920 season 6 - 31 v Bloxham Old Boys and 4-14 v St. Edward's.

*53 wickets in his final School year matches.

*Returned in 1921 for the Bloxham Old Boys and took 9 wickets in the match against the School and also top scored with 62.

*Described in 1920 as "a perfectly natural cricketer".

*Quoted by one of JB's contemporaries as "the best cricketer of his time at Bloxham" and "a very useful fast bowler and also an extremely forcing bat".

First X1 Soccer 1918 - 1919

*School debut - November 1916

Described as a 13 year old as "having good control, centres well, but is unsurprisingly rather small but improving".

Captain of Fives team 1919

*Awarded his Colours in his first year (1916) and winner of the Senior Fives Trophy in 1917

Gymnastics

Awarded his House colours and member of the First X1 team

So I learnt during the day that this is where that passion , skill and "spirit of cricket " was nurtured and developed in a young JB - quite a story !

At the conclusion of the match on July 4 th , I had the honour to address all the assembled players and Officials to explain the close connections between JB , Bloxham School and the Worksop College who he had served as First X1 Cricket Coach throughout the 1950's.

The presentation of the " JB HALL Trophy " , adjudicated by the Umpires of the day, was then made to the Worksop college batsman Charlie Rumistrzewicz for his top score of 55 in his final match for the College.

The 'JB Hall Trophy' will be presented annually in the fixture between Bloxham School and Worksop College and my grandfather's memory will now be perpetuated at two of the establishments that were so fundamental to his love of sport and cricket in particular.

Chris Hall [Eldest Grandson of "JB"]



The Cricket Ground Bloxham School





The School Cricket XI 1917 with JB Left, Middle Row



Bloxham School Gymnastics Sports Team with JB



Bloxham School 1st XI Soccer Team circa 1916



CJ with Worksop College Player of the Match CHARLIE RUMISTRZEWICZ 4 July 2023



Chris and Christine

ON TOUR WITH YCCC IN SCARBOROUGH



**MEETING WITH SIR GEOFFREY AT SCARBOUROUGH
(YORKSHIRE V DURHAM)**



ADAM LYTH , YOURKSHIRE OPENER, 111 V DURHAM



**MY GUESTS FOR THE WEEK - JONATHAN AND MOLLIE STRANGE
IN THE MEMBERS PAVILION (YORKSHIRE V KENT)**



INCLEMENT WEATHER [Command+Click (Apple) or Control+Click (Windows) On Graphic]

STUART BROAD MEETING



Stuart Broad - leaving The Oval after taking the final Australian wicket in the 5th Test to draw the series 2-2 - it was Stuart's last ball in Test cricket (604th Test wicket). Stuart signed this 10x8 after the lunchtime ceremony at Trent Bridge last Friday (27 Sep 23) when the pavilion end was re named in his honour.



images of the pavilion renaming ceremony (27 Sep 23)

KEVIN SINFIELD'S 7-7-7 CHALLENGE

SITREP FROM CHRIS ON THE CHRISTMAS RAFFLE FOR THE SINFIELD MND FUND

Hi Guys

I have today made our Groups donation to MND and the "7 in 7 in 7" Challenge

We have achieved a contribution to the cause of £472 from the "Treasure Hunt" concluded at the SSM Beighton lunch.

This is a brilliant effort by everyone involved and - as you can see from the e mail confirmation below - greatly appreciated by Kevin , his team and the MND Association.

There are a few prizes left to get out to some of the "Treasure Hunt" winners - some of this may be possible at the Beighton meeting on January 10th 2024 - i intend to be there to see the film produced by Glyn and i will bring with myself any prizes that still need a home.

With all my Seasonal Best Wishes to you and your families and looking forward to our next call when i trust we can announce this great result.

Happy New Year !
Chris

RESPONSE FROM THE KEVIN SINFIELD MND TEAM

Hi Chris Hall on behalf of the "Sheffield Sporting Memories Group ",

Thank you so much for your donation to Kevin Sinfield and the team's 7 in 7 in 7 challenge supporting the fight against MND.

Money raised by the 7 in 7 in 7 challenge will be shared between five charities which support people affected by MND and invest in research to bring us closer to effective treatments and a cure for the disease.

- MND Association (41%)
- Leeds Hospitals Charity (41%)
- Darby Rimmer MND Foundation (6%)
- Irish MND Association (6%)
- My Name'5 Doddie Foundation (6%)

Thank you once again for supporting us in this challenge and helping people with MND.

Warm regards

STOP PRESS

As of 10 January 2024, through Chris Hall's initiative, the Sporting Memories (Sheffield) Group has raised:

- £502 in 2022 from the 'Silent Auction';
- £532 in 2023 from the 'Treasure Hunt'.