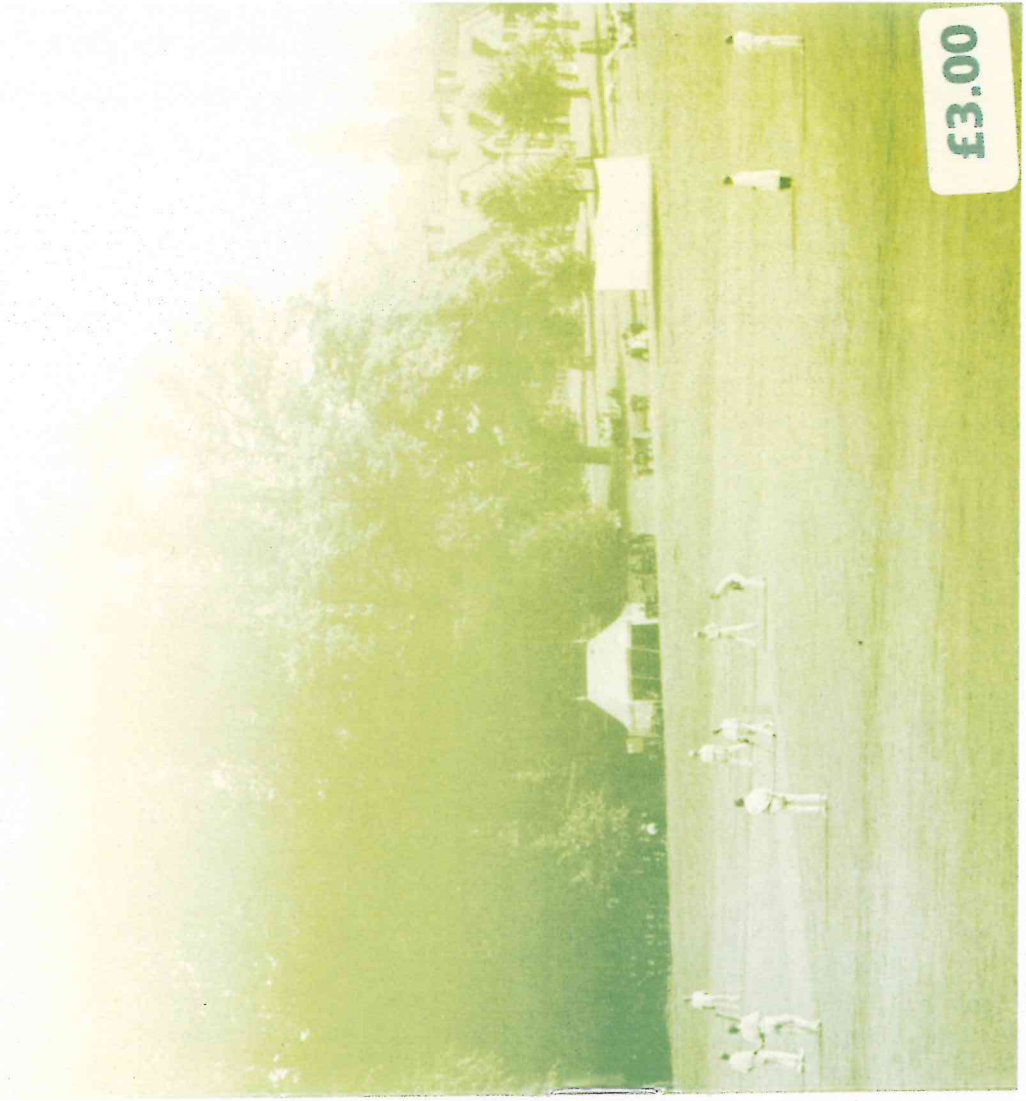


# PENARTH CRICKET CLUB

**150 YEARS**

1851-2001



£3.00

## Penarth Cricket Club 1851-2001

It is difficult to ascertain the exact birth date of the Penarth Cricket Club. Some knowledgeable people in the world of cricket state that Penarth C.C. played in the Cowbridge Bridgend locality in 1847/1850, but it is safe to assume that 1850/1851 is a calculated choice. Hence 150 years to 2001.

The next major question is where did Penarth play their cricket? Where was the ground, a wicket and pavilion? Undoubtedly, something was available for the sporting people of Penarth. A report contained in a local newspaper dated 29th July, 1864 said:

“Penarth v Roath Cricket match - A cricket match took place on Wednesday between Penarth and Roath clubs on Llandough Moors. The match was a drawn one. The parties were obliged to part earlier than they intended as the tide which was very high, took possession of their ground. The playing was excellent.”

On the basis that Penarth C.C. played in the Penarth locality, applying a little common sense, it is probable that this was the home of Penarth C.C. in preference to that of Roath Park.

In conjunction with Penarth R.F.C., Penarth C.C. played cricket from 1880 to 1892 on an area of ground on which All Saints Church is now sited. The ground surrounded on one side by trees, possibly Rogersmore Wood, where the homes in Salisbury Avenue are now situated. This ground was requisitioned and in 1892 Penarth R.F. C. and Penarth C.C. moved to a playing area behind Victoria School, where the Masonic Hall is now situated. Located on the ground was a stand and cricket pavilion. The land was part of the Plymouth Estates as was that previously mentioned, and remained the home of the cricket club until 1924.

Members of the Penarth Council, the rugby club and cricket club met on 23rd January, 1923 to discuss and consider the new home of the clubs (Appendix 1).

The ground was officially opened by the Dowager Countess of Plymouth in 1924

The cricket club members built a pavilion at a cost of £300. The maintenance of the ground, wicket and pavilion was the responsibility of a groundsman and coach employed by the club.

Unfortunately, the pavilion was damaged by fire in 1926 and rebuilt in 1926/1927.

The second World War intervened and after 1945 the maintenance and ownership of the pavilion and ground became the responsibility of the Penarth Urban District Council.

Preparation of the wicket was still under the auspices of the cricket club until a later date.

In the 1950's the pavilion was extended. Two new changing rooms were added, fitted with showers. What a change from washing feet and hands, etc., in hot water poured from a kettle in a zinc bath in the middle of the changing room floor. Hygiene unsurpassed!!

During the years 1945-1959 teas were provided by the ladies in the space existing between the changing rooms. Very homely, very comfy, but hard work on the ladies!! In 1959/1960 season the provision of teas moved, together with the ladies to the Athletic Club. A long walk for the players, but good exercise. Currently, the same procedure exists.

The Athletic Club was opened by Brigadier Glyn Hughes in November, 1959. For the first time a licensed bar was available in the Athletic Field. It was hoped that this facility would provide additional moneys for all the sections, rugby, cricket and hockey.

Unfortunately, the cricket pavilion, which as previously mentioned, was built in 1926, and extended during the 1950's, was burnt down by vandals in 1996. Since then various changing facilities have been made available by the Vale of Glamorgan Council until a new pavilion, with the great assistance of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Sportlot, will be opened this year 2001.

Penarth Cricket Club, during its history has enjoyed prominence in its recreational activities. In the 1850's 'friendly' matches were played against teams as far apart as Bridgend and Abergavenny. Unfortunately, records have not been found which could identify all the clubs that visited Penarth and those Penarth visited. Friendly matches were always preferred to league matches. In August, 1925 the club received an invitation to join the Southern Section of the South Wales and Mon Leagues. Penarth representatives attended a meeting in Cardiff. The club rejected the offer. In July 1926 a further request was received asking Penarth Cricket Club to join the Northern section of the South Wales and Mon League. Again this was rejected. Whether for better or worse, 'friendly' matches as far as Penarth was concerned were the best option.

How many clubs can boast that three sides were put into the field on a Saturday afternoon as far back as 1922? At the time there must have been an influx of sporting people into the locality. Alas times change and in 1927/28, the recession years, money and players were in short supply.

During this period of time, a Penarth Wednesday Cricket Club was very active and made many requests to use the Penarth pavilion which according to records was always granted. In 1925 Penarth Wednesdays were asked to throw in their lot with Penarth

Cricket Club. Unfortunately, records available do not record the outcome. As mentioned 'friendly' cricket was the theme and one of the great rivals at the time (early thirties) was Cowbridge. A copy of a typical report is attached, dated 12th July, 1934 (Appendix 11). The following clubs were listed in the fixture list of 1933. Abercarn, Barry, Bridgend, Cardiff, Cowbridge, Lydney, Pontypridd, St. Fagans and Whitchurch Heath (Appendix 111).

Subsequent to the second World War 1939-1945 'friendly' matches similar to those prior to 1939 continued. The 1st XI fixture list then included Abergavenny, Chepstow, Panteg and Usk, but omitted Cardiff and St. Fagans, then playing in an arena spread further afield, however, contact was not lost and Sunday matches were arranged.

1964 saw the inauguration of the Single Wicket Tournament. An event which has been enjoyed ever since and occurs at the end of the season, predominantly on a Sunday. Cricketers of Penarth Cricket Club putting their wits and abilities against one another. Shortly after the inception of this event, in 1968 a 'family' match was conceived - the ladies against the husbands of Penarth Cricket Club. This has continued until the present day in one form or another, and undoubtedly has become a permanent fixture on the club's calendar.

In 1966, the cricket sphere of operation changed from friendly to league cricket and the Welsh Clubs Cricket Conference was formed and league cricket commenced in 1968. New clubs appeared on the lists and the following comprised the Conference - Barry, Bridgend, Cowbridge, Ebbw Vale, Malpas, Penarth, Pontymister, Pontypridd, Tondur and Whitchurch Heath.

In 1978 the Conference was enlarged; clubs from the Morgannwg and Gwent League joined to form three divisions of thirty clubs. Typical fixture list (Appendix IV).

Discussions are the merits and demerits of league cricket with promotion and relegation will continue for years. Clubs attitudes change, but uppermost in all cricketers minds must be the need to improve cricketing standards, even as a recreational game, whilst maintaining sportsmanship at all times. Some clubs became disgruntled, standards were dropping and there was need for change; hence in 1989 the formation of the Welsh Counties Cricket Alliance.

A breakaway of teams from the Gwent Cricket League and the Conference resulted. The new league, the Alliance, consisted of the following, Barry, Bridgend, Croesyceiliog, Ebbw Vale, Llanarth, Newbridge, Newport Fugitives, Penarth, Pontypridd, Sudbrook and Tondur. Radyr joined the Alliance two years later.

All clubs were endeavouring to introduce youngsters into the game of cricket, haphazardly some say, but there was need to organise and co-ordinate and administer the young talent available. Penarth Cricket Club were to the forefront of this exercise in

this part of Wales and junior leagues were formed in 1982/83 and currently Penarth provide this type of cricket for U 11's, U 13's and U 15's. Long may it continue.

In the latter part of the twentieth century English cricket was in the doldrums and there was thought to be a need to overhaul the International Cricket scene. This was undertaken by the England and Wales Cricket Board and unfortunately in a lot of ways changed the recreational game.

A lot of discussion has taken place and will continue to do so as to why weekend cricket should affect the International arena. That is as it may be, but due to the brochure published by the England and Wales Cricket Board 'Raising the Standards', there was a complete change in the cricket picture.

The formation of Premier Leagues was the prime factor and became a possibility in South East Wales. The Alliance League joined with Welsh teams from the Western Counties, i.e. Cardiff, St. Fagans and Newport, teams from the Three Counties League, Panteg, Usk, Abergavenny, Malpas, Chepstow and teams from the Conference Llanwern, Hoover, Penturch, Cross Keys, Dinas Powis, Ponthir, Cefn Fforest, Pontymister, Porth, Ton Pentre and Hopkinstown to form the East Wales Cricket League. Therefore, Penarth Cricket Club, on entering the twenty first century are part of this new league and possibly will, in the very near future, be one of the Premier League sides, renewing after sixty years, 1st XI fixtures against Cardiff and St. Fagans.

## League Cricket - Honours Gained

### Welsh Club Cricket Conference

**Division 1 1st XI**  
Winners - 1979, 1980  
Winners Knock Out Cup, 1979  
Winners Arthur Patterson Cup, 1979

**Division 2 1st XI**  
Winners - 1984

**Division 2 2nd XI**  
Winners - 1984, 2000

### Club of the Year-1984

Welsh Counties Cricket Alliance  
Division 1 1st XI 3rd XI  
Winners - 1994  
Winners - 1996

### Charles Griffiths Youth Competition

U 13's - Winners 1992  
U 15's - Winners 1996

### East Wales Cricket League

Division 2 3rd XI  
Winners - 2000

23rd January, 1923

Conference between a committee of the Council and representatives of the Penarth Cricket and Football Clubs.

Present:

Councillor S. Thomas in the Chair

Wm. Jones, c. Deverall, F. N. Morgan

Messrs. J.C. Philips, Austin Green

Messrs. Malcolm Vyvyan and

F.F. Felix Thomas

Councillor Walter Hallett, the Surveyor and Mr. J. G. Llewellyn were also present.

It was recommended that the plan for the lay-out of the ground should provide a racing-track with banked corners around the Field, a Caretaker's Cottage, shower-baths and a small gymnasium.

It was, however, recognised that this work could not be carried out at present. The Chairman stated that for many years the senior Cricket and Football Clubs were provided with a well equipped Athletic Field, free of charge, by the Right Hon. The Earl of Plymouth, but which is no longer available, due to exigencies arising out of the Great War. His lordship, in lieu thereof has assigned thirteen acres of freehold land to the Council as an Athletic Field.

It was agreed that the Cricket Club should have first choice of a full size plot for Cricket for the Cricket season but that the plot should be available for winter games for junior clubs, except the Cricket-table, which would be fenced off in the winter. The Cricket Club to erect its own pavilion and provide all other things for its own use. It was further agreed that the Football Club should have first choice of a full size plot for Rugby Football but that the plot should be available for junior clubs for summer games. The Football Club to erect a Grandstand at its own cost, and if it required a screen, erected the full length, of the plot, it should be done at the expense of the Club but should be removed at the end of the Football season.

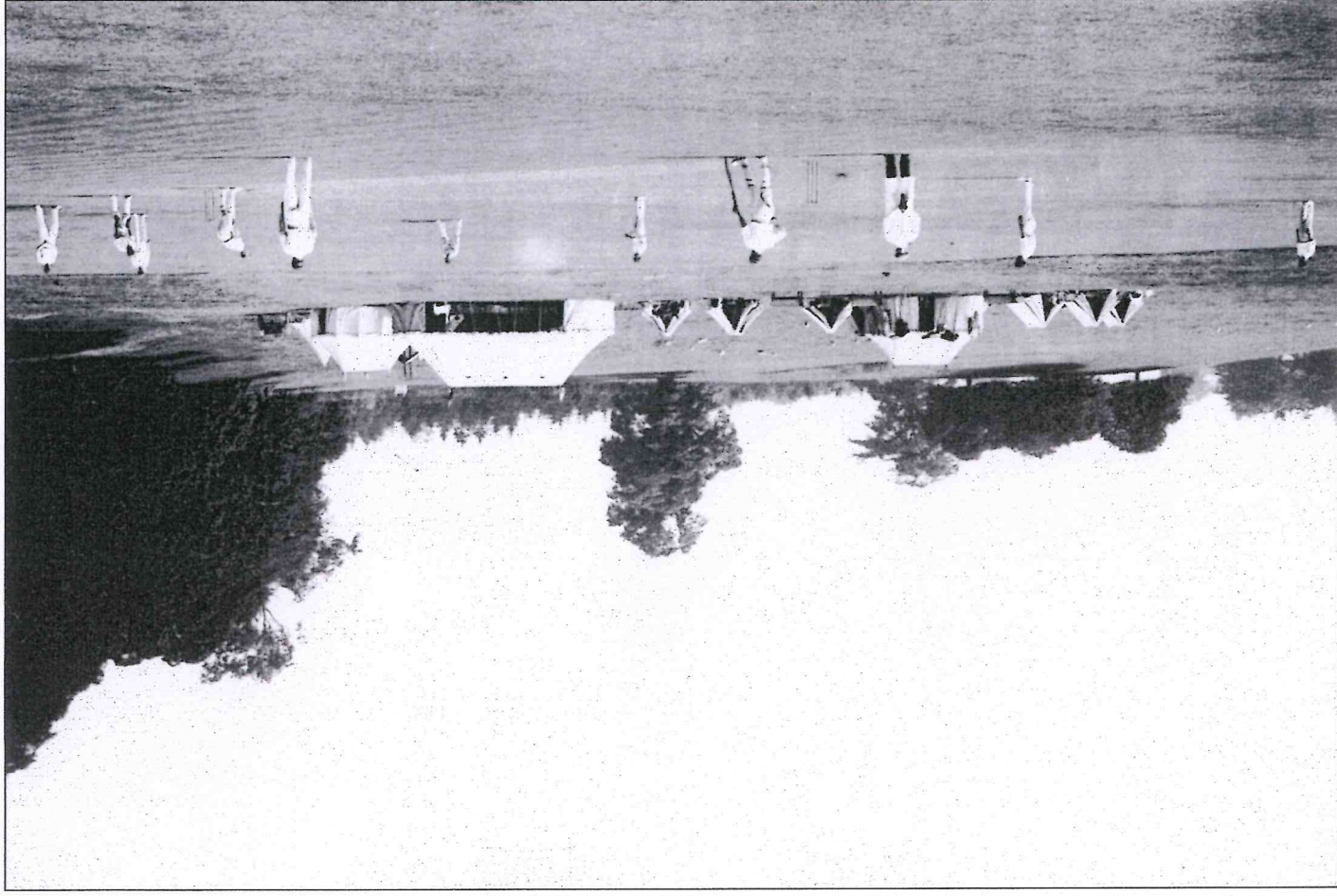
The Club to provide all other things it may require for its own use. Subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Health, it is also recommended that if the Clubs erect the structure and other things as set out herein, a lease of 21 years at a nominal rental shall be granted and that the Clubs have authority to charge entrance money, but only to those plots of land allocated to them.

The two clubs to give an undertaking to do all they can to encourage and to provide for the boys of Penarth to participate in junior games.

Recommended that the Cricket plot in winter and the Rugby plot in summer and the other parts of the field be allocated to the various local athletic clubs of the town, free of charge, at the discretion and direction of the Council.

(Signed) S. THOMAS (Chairman)

10th May, 1923.



Where? Is this 1880-1892

Cricket of the Week

Cowbridge v Penarth

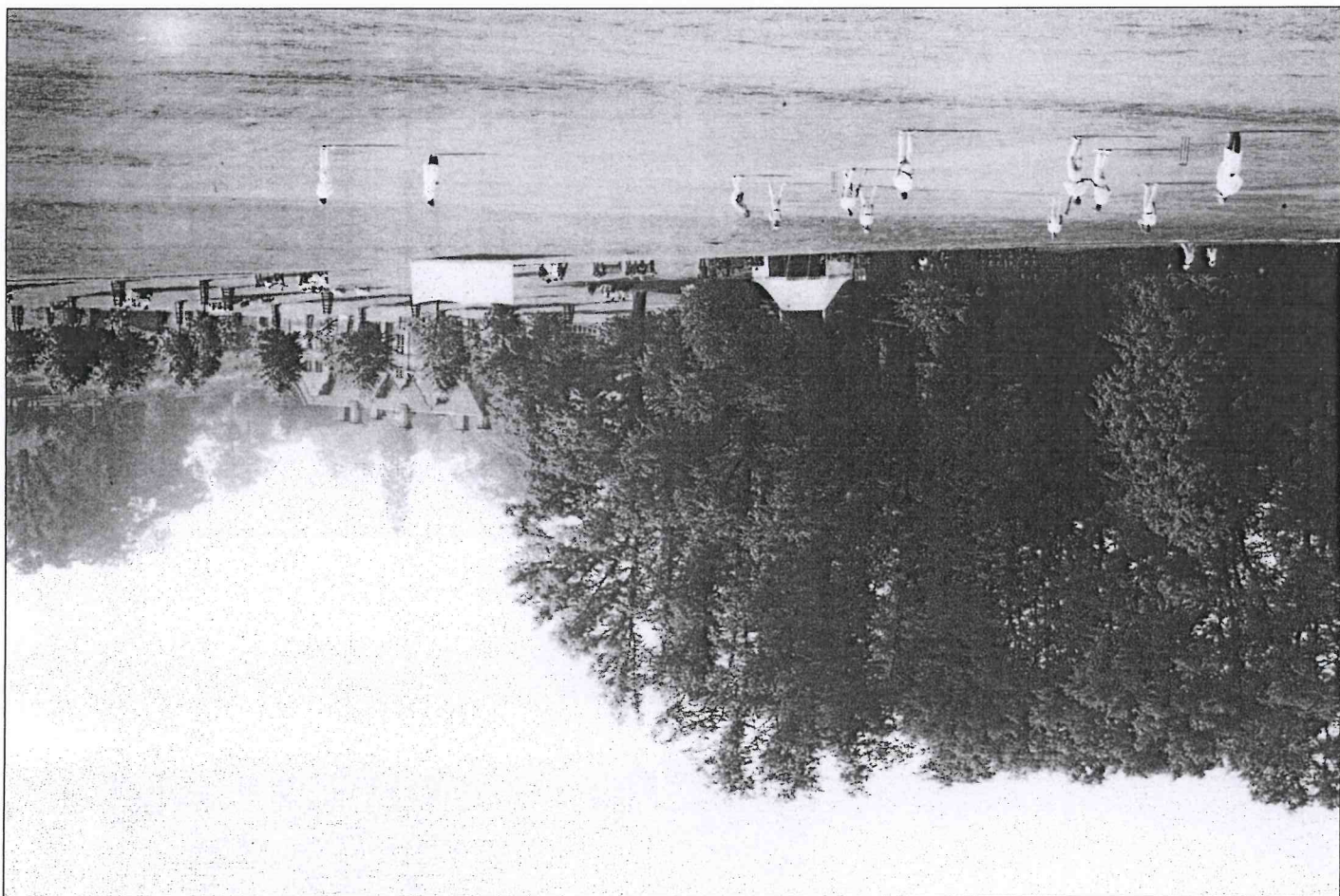
The outstanding feature in this match was a brilliant innings by L. J. Miles. Going in at the fall of the second wicket, Miles stayed until time was called after making 94 not out. He was very unlucky not to reach his century, for after batting so well in a terrific heat he deserved to achieve this distinction. His innings included eleven fours.

With regard to the game, Cowbridge batted first, and after a very good start had been given by L.E.W. Williams and Trevor Preece, who put on 90 for the first wicket, amassed a total of 175. Trevor Jones took four wickets, while L. W. Sandford took three. The latter also took a beautiful catch in the slips to dismiss Dr. Gallagher.

Penarth opened their innings with Jack Cox and R.C.W. Thomas, and with the score at 7 Cox was the victim of a bad decision by the Cowbridge umpire. W.R. Thomas helped R.C. Thomas to add 13 when the latter was bowled after making 18 runs. "W.R." went at 34, and then L.W. Sandford followed up his bowling success by helping Miles to add 88 runs before his very valuable innings ended after he had made 28. This proved to be the last success obtained by Cowbridge, H.H. Davey and Miles playing out time. The former very sportingly gave every opportunity to his partner to face the bowling in an endeavour to reach his century. This however, as previously stated, failed by the narrow margin of six runs. With Penarth's total at 151 for 4, time was called and the game ended in a draw. The weather was extremely hot, and several times during the afternoon drinks were taken to the players, thanks to the ladies committee. It was certainly appreciated and there is no doubt that the "tea committee" is a decided acquisition.

Scores:-

Cowbridge		
L.E.W. Williams	lbw b Sandford	47
T. Preece	b Sandford	57
C.E. Jones	b Sandford	14
N.G. Brown	b Davey	0
C.J. Warren	b W.T. Jones	6
Dr. Gallagher	c Sandford b Williams	12
J. F. Kinsman	c Miles b Jones	16
W. Williams	b Williams	0
E.H. Philips	b Jones	0
W.E. Jenkins	c Miles b Jones	13
E. John	not out	0
Extras		10
<b>Total</b>		<b>175</b>



Penarth.			
J. Cox	lbw b W. Williams	1	
R.C.W. Thomas	b Williams	8	
W.R. Thomas	c Jones b Brown	3	
L.J. Miles	not out	94	
L.W. Sandford	b Williams	28	
H.H. Davey	not out	7	
	Extras	0	
	<b>Total (for 4 wickets)</b>	<b>151</b>	
W.T. Jones, J. G. Jones, F.J.C. Matthews, I. White Thomas and L.C. Williams did not bat.			

#### PENARTH II v COWBRIDGE II

This match was played at Cowbridge on Saturday, when a thrilling game ended in favour of the Penarth side by the narrow margin of one run. All of the excitement came late in the game, however, when faced with not too large a total, Cowbridge set about getting the runs in fairly quick manner. With the fall of the fourth wicket at 57, the position of the game seemed to favour Cowbridge, but three further wickets were lost for the addition of only 17 runs and the chances of winning seemed to favour Penarth. A seventh wicket partnership was responsible for a useful 19 runs, and with one run needed to make the game a draw the home side had two wickets in hand. Then W.T. Thomas clean bowled E.L. Jones, who had been causing some trouble, and amidst such excitement W.S. Lea finished the innings off in like manner. Lea bowled well throughout and captured five wickets for 47 runs, whilst W.T. Thomas, 2 for 19 and R.W. Chapman, 2 for 28, secured the remaining wickets.

And now to revert to the first part of the game. The visitors commenced their innings in a very good manner, Gay and Palfrey putting on 47 runs for the first wicket. The latter was the first to leave, being bowled for 10, while Gay, after seeing two further wickets down, left with the score at 65, his own contribution being 47. The batting proceeded at a slow pace for the Seconds, and only R.W. Chapman of the remaining batsmen got into double figures. His 14 not out proved useful and was responsible for the Penarth score reaching the three-figure mark. Scores:-

<b>PENARTH II</b>			
H. E. Gay	lbw b Lewis	41	
S. M. Palfrey	b David	10	
D. F. Pickford	b Bird b David	1	
F. W. Curtain	b Lewis	8	
R. L. Shayler	c and b Jones	8	
W. T. Thomas	b Burston	6	
H. N. Ross	b. Jones	1	
R. W. Chapman	not out	14	

G. E. Gorman			
G. T. Helyar	c Fletcher b Burston	1	
W. S. Lea	b Jones	0	
	b Jones	0	
	Extras	10	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	

#### COWBRIDGE II

E. D. Lewis	c Gorman b Chapman	13	
R. S. David	b Lea	4	
F. Fletcher	b Lea	16	
A. S. Brown	b Lea	15	
B. S. Bird	b Chapman	4	
M. H. Burston	b Lea	6	
E. Lewis	run out	5	
E. L. Jones	b Thomas	15	
W. Jenkins	b Thomas	16	
D. C. Watts	b Lea	0	
V. Westcott	not out	0	
	Extras	8	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>	

**Penarth Cricket Club**  
**Fixture List - Season 1933**

**First Eleven**

April 29	C.H.S.O.B.	H
May 6	Cowbridge	H
May 13	Abercam	A
May 20	Whitchurch Heath	A
May 27	Abercynon	H
June 3	Y.M.C.A. (Cardiff)	H
June 5	Lydney	A
June 6		
June 10	Whitchurch Heath	H
June 17	Pontypridd	H
June 24	Y.M.C.A. (Cardiff)	H
July 1	Cowbridge	A
July 8	Abercam	H
July 15	Bridgend	H
July 22	Barry	A
July 29	St. Fagans	A
August 5	Abercynon	A
August 7	R.A. Wilson's XI	H
August 8	Miskin (Pontyclun)	A
August 12	Bridgend	A
August 19	Lydney	H
August 26	St. Fagans	H
September 2	Cardiff	H
September 9	Pontypridd	A
September 16	C.H.S.O.B.	A

**Penarth Cricket Club**  
**Fixture List 1980**

(Similar Fixture List of 2nd XI's but venue reversed except where shown)  
 \* - 1st XI only + - 2nd XI only

**Sunday 27th April**

*Division 3*  
 Rogerstone v Dinas Powys\*

**Saturday 3rd May**

*Division 1*  
 Ebbw Vale v Cowbridge  
 Tontu v Pontymister  
 Barry v Whitchurch Heath  
 Pontypridd v Bridgend  
 Penarth v Malpas

*Division 2*

Miskin Manor v Cardiff H.S.O.B.  
 Pontllanfraith v Dowlais  
 Cefn Fforest v Mountain Ash  
 Hoover v Llantwit Fardre  
 Abercynon v Cross Keys

*Division 3*

Rogerstone v Radyr  
 B.A. Harlequins v Old Cantonians  
 BSC Ebbw Vale v Blackwood  
 Guest Keen v Dinas Powys  
 Wenvoe v Abercam

**Sunday 4th May**

*Division 3*  
 BSC Ebbw Vale v Radyr\*





23rd	1st XI	v	Miskin Manor	A	4th	1st XI	v	Malpas	H	
	2nd XI	v	Miskin Manor	H		2nd XI	v	Pentyrch	A	
	3rd XI	v	Abergavenny III	A		3rd XI	v	Pencoed	H	
	4th XI	v	Abergavenny IV	H		4th XI	v	Pencoed	A	
24th	Sun XI	v	Pencoed	A	6th	XI	v	Alton (T)	H	2.00
27th	Wed XI	v	St Fagans	A	8th	Wed XI	v	Over 40's v Vale Colts (H)	H	
30th	1st XI	v	Radyr	H	11th	1st XI	v	Ebbw Vale	H	
	2nd XI	v	Radyr	H		2nd XI	v	Ebbw Vale	A	
	4th XI	v	Bridgend IV	A		3rd XI	v	Brynmaur	A	
						4th XI	v	Brynmaur	H	
<b>July</b>					12th	Sun XI	v	Ton Pentre	H	
1st	Sun XI	v	St Fagans	A	14th	Tues XI	v	Barry Wanderers (T)	H	2.30
	3rd XI	v	Bridgend III	H	18th	1st XI	v	Newport Fugitives	A	
4th	Wed XI	v	Barry	H		2nd XI	v	Newport Fugitives	H	
7th	1st XI	v	Hoovers	H		3rd XI	v	G.E.Nomads	H	
	2nd XI	v	Hoovers	A		4th XI	v	G.E.Nomads	A	
	3rd XI	v	Senghenydd	A	19th	Sun XI	v	Pontymister	H	
	4th XI	v	Senghenydd	H	22nd	Wed XI	v	Hockey XI	H	
<b>8th</b>	<b>1st XI</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Druids</b>	<b>H</b>	25th	1st XI	v	Miskin Manor	H	
<b>9th</b>	<b>1st XI</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Eagles</b>	<b>H</b>		2nd XI	v	Miskin Manor	A	
<b>10th</b>	<b>1st XI</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Nomads (Glam)</b>	<b>H</b>	26th	1st XI	v	St Fagans	H	
<b>11th</b>	<b>1st XI</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>M.C.C.</b>	<b>H</b>	27th	1st XI	v	Pontypridd (F)	A	
<b>12th</b>	<b>1st XI</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Wales Minor Counties</b>	<b>H</b>						
<b>13th</b>	<b>XI's</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Past v Present</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>September</b>					
14th	1st XI	v	Tondu	A	1st	1st XI	v	Radyr	A	
	2nd XI	v	Tondu	H		2nd XI	v	Radyr	A	
	3rd XI	v	St Peters	H	8th	1st XI	v	Whitchurch (F)	A	
	4th XI	v	St Peters	H						
15th	Sun XI	v	Pontymister	A						
21st	1st XI	v	Ponthir	A						
	2nd XI	v	Bridgend	A						
	3rd XI	v	Creigiau	A						
	4th XI	v	Creigiau	H						
22nd	Sun XI	v	Cefn Forest	H						
23rd	1st XI	v	Old Zaverians (T)	H						
25th	Wed XI	v	Whitchurch	H						
28th	1st XI	v	Llanarth	A						
	2nd XI	v	Llanarth	H						
	3rd XI	v	Newport III	H						
	4th XI	v	Newport IV	A						
29th	Sun XI	v	Pontaddulais	H						
<b>August</b>										
1st	Wed XI	v	Old Pens	H						

T=Touring

