

## Great Shelford Cricket Club – report for 2022 Parish meeting

The cricket club had a good year at all levels in 2021. We ran the England & Wales Cricket Board's All Stars and Dynamos programmes for children from age 5 to 11 and welcomed well over a hundred boys and girls to the weekly sessions on the Rec. After a long time with little opportunity for organized sport because of the pandemic, and with most of the children having spent long periods unable to even go to school, the opportunity was welcomed by parents and children alike. It was great to see such a hive of activity on the Rec, and to observe the progress the children made in developing their skills, as well as their evident enjoyment. Thanks go to Julia Creed for all the initial planning as well as the organization of the sessions where she was assisted by volunteer coaches and parents, as well as a number of the club's teenage members.

The club's junior section was run at a smaller scale than in the previous few years, but a more appropriate one for a village club of our size. We ran teams at Under 11 and Under 13, while our Under 14s combined with Sawston & Babraham CC as neither club had enough players to run a team on their own. The Under 11 and Under 13 teams each finished joint top of their respective leagues, an impressive result as a number of the players had never previously played hardball cricket.

Our senior team had a very successful season, finishing on top of Division 4 West of the CCA Junior League, but only after particularly hard-fought matches against the other leading team, Fulbourn. Having secured the top position several club records fell in a batting bonanza in the final match of the season against a weakened Girton team, including Jeff Wilson's double century. A very welcome feature of the season was the contribution of several of our younger players, notably Theo Ball's leg breaks and googlies. The stand-out memory of the season was provided by two of our youngsters, Josh Creed and Theo Ball who somehow put together a last wicket partnership of over 50 in a low scoring match to beat Telugu. Neither winners nor losers could really believe what happened.

Several opposition teams made favourable comments on the quality of our pitches on the Rec, for which thanks go to the hard work of our groundsman Paul Ellum.

We are looking forward to a successful 2022 season at all levels.

Peter Ede

Chair, Great Shelford CC