



# Romiley Cricket Club 2017 Handbook

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## **Chairman's Foreward**

It is my pleasure once again to write a few words of introduction and welcome you to the 2017 season.

Our First XI's success as both Champions and T20 winners in 2016 has taken us to another milestone in the Club's history as we enter the Vivio County League for the very first time. This is indeed an ambition achieved for many of our coaches and players who have been at the Club some time.

To help us on our way we had the coaching help from Colin Grindey and overseas player Andy Humphries who made a huge contribution.

This year we welcome Mohan D'Souza, an all-rounder from the Northcote Club in Melbourne. We wish him every success.

Our Second XI continue in the Fast UK Division A competition, whilst the Thirds play in the Vivio County Sunday East Division 1.

Your captains this year will be Mark Flattley, Tom Roberts and Peter Stuart for the 1st's, 2nd's and 3rd's respectively.

Our juniors acquitted themselves well, and there is no doubt that this section continues to flourish under the guidance of our devoted coaches. In 2017 I am pleased to tell you that an U7 group will be restarted, as will an U18 group.

It is amazing how quickly youngsters respond to coaching and many of them now compete for places in our senior squads. One of them is up and coming off spin bowler James Bashford who is the 2016 winner of the John Leech Trophy for Best Junior Cricketer.

Paul Griffin is the Junior Coordinator and Alison Hooton our CWO and they are always there to answer any of your queries you may have.

Groundsman Andy Holt will be kept very busy this season and he will be concentrating his work on the continual improvement of the outfield and square to comply with the County League's high standards.

Off the field the financial position has been much better thanks to the continuing contribution of Alison and Stuart. They have been brilliant, and I hope you will continue to give them your support.

Our Executive Committee are always busy whatever the weather and attend to the myriad of jobs that our Club needs doing in order to function effectively.

The Social Committee stage a number of social events and BBQ's during the year and I would urge you to support them.

Unfortunately the development of the Member's Bar has been slower than we anticipated, but we are currently looking at new plans with an intention to complete the work in the coming close season. It is also satisfying to know that the Club Trustees are on board for our project.

On a sad note I have to report the passing during the last year of former player and club members Ray Beesley and Carl Peacock, and great supporters Frank Rolph and Joe Boydell.

Finally, I am delighted to welcome C&C insurance and The Italian to our list of sponsors. Their help in keeping us afloat is vital and I would urge all our members to patronise them wherever possible.

Kind Regards,

Mick Rowe

You will see the two new benches around the ground this season. They are a lasting memory of both Frank Rolph and Joe Boydell. They're comfy as well so buy a cold beverage and enjoy the cricket.



## **Club Officers 2017**

President: Nigel Veevers

Chairman: Mick Rowe

*Vice: Andy Holt*

Treasurer: Andy Holt

*Book Keeper: Rick Holt*

Secretary: Rob Booker

*Subscription Secretary: Rick Holt*

Child Welfare Officer: Alison Hooton

Junior Coordinator: Paul Griffin

League Rep: Paul Hooton

1st Team Captain: Mark Flattley

*Vice: Tom Rolph*

2nd Team Captain: Tom Roberts

*Vice : Tim Brookes*

3rd Team Captain: Peter Stuart

*Vice: Oliver Rowe*

Other executive committee members not listed above:

*Sam Astley, Jonny Holt, Dave McNichol, Alison Snape, Stuart Robinson, James Badrock, Paul Flattley, Tim Brown.*

## **Romiley CC Lottery**

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## **Let the Challenge Begin**

*By Martin Leach*

It was fated to happen..... The substantial shadow of Alex Barber bars the way in our first adventure in the Vivio County League. The match at Stockport on April 22 would have been a tough enough baptism for us without the threat of our former hero adding to it. They finished just one place from Division 2 promotion last season and pose a real challenge to Billy Flattley's Cheshire League champions. Seven batters scored above 300 runs, decorated by one century and 14 50s. And three bowlers collected more than 40 wickets each. Barber wasn't among them but he has the X-factor. Italian soccer has long talked of the 'immutable law of the ex', so often do former players return to haunt and hurt their old clubs.

Alex may not be in the first flush of youth after leaving us and accepting a new challenge, but the paceman's pedigree is unquestioned. He was one of our youth development's finest success stories and will never be forgotten around Birch Vale Drive. He took around 350 wickets and scored some 2000 runs over a memorable decade. He led us to Cheshire League Division 3 promotion, was twice named 'players' player' and also acclaimed 'club player of the year.' And if he had set his mind to it, there is no telling where his talent would have taken him. We must be wary, too, of younger brother James who is capable of causing us damage. It looks all set up for a fascinating start, especially with our latest Aussie, Mohan D'Souza, ready to surpass the achievements of last year's hero, Andy Humphries.....

## **1st XI - 2017 Preview**

As most of you now know, everything went to plan for the 1st XI last season. We were crowned UK Fast Division 1 Champions on the last day of the season. Also, there was an added bonus of being crowned UK Fast T20 Champions two weeks earlier as well. So, no pressure this season then!

University commitments wouldn't allow Andy Humphries to return to RCC this year, however our new import Mohan D'Souza will surely fill the void. Mohan arrives from Northcote CC of the Victorian Premier League in Melbourne, boasting an impressive record with both bat and ball. Mohan's introduction to the British season begins with a pre-season trip up to Werneth Low to meet Hyde on April 15th. Bets are being taken to how many jumpers he'll wear!

Also heading back to the UK from down under is our very own James Badrock. James has been playing his debut Oz season for Bentleigh CC n Melbourne, with former RCC import Jeff Keyt AKA Jeff Stelling. Hopefully JB isn't too tired from bowling 'smoke' this winter and is fit and ready for our new start in the CCCL.

Not so little Alex Hooton and James Bashford having been working with the Cheshire performance squad all winter and already look like they'll be giving me selection headaches straight away. Our first league trip of the CCCL is against old D&C rivals Stockport, who have plenty of familiar faces in their ranks.

The lads know that we will have to be switched on in every single game this year and I know we have the ability to match each team in this division. Again, like last season, I urge you all to come down, grab a drink and watch us take on our new challenge this coming 2017 season.

Billy Flattley



## 1st XI Fixtures

22/04/2017	v	Stockport	Away
29/04/2017	v	Northwich	Home
06/05/2017	v	Bredbury	Away
13/05/2017	v	Lindow	Home
20/05/2017	v	Christleton	Away
27/05/2017	v	Brooklands	Home
03/06/2017	v	Barrow	Away
10/06/2017	v	Tattenhall	Home
17/06/2017	v	Alvanley	Home
24/06/2017	v	Cheadle H	Away
01/07/2017	v	Mobberley	Home
08/07/2017	v	Stockport	Home
15/07/2017	v	Northwich	Away
22/07/2017	v	Bredbury	Home
29/07/2017	v	Lindow	Away
05/08/2017	v	Christleton	Home
12/08/2017	v	Brooklands	Away
19/08/2017	v	Barrow	Home
26/08/2017	v	Tattenhall	Away
02/09/2017	v	Alvanley	Away
09/09/2017	v	Cheadle H	Home
16/09/2017	v	Mobberley	Away

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## **2nd XI - 2017 Preview**

Being chosen as the new 2nd XI captain is an exciting prospect for me, marking a new chapter to my cricketing adventure. So far, it has taken me through all junior age groups and spates in all 3 senior sides. These experiences have enabled me to hone both my knowledge and skills towards the game, and now I feel ready to take on a captain's responsibility.

Over the years since joining this cricket league, it is safe to say that the 2nd XI has endured both good and bad times. Experiencing the dizzy heights of being crowned champions of Division C, B and A in consecutive seasons; to most-recently, finishing in the bottom half of the once toppled table.

It is our aim to recreate these past glories and challenge the very best this league has to offer, utilising both the experience of our golden veterans and the youthful exuberance of prospects destined to take over.

I look forward to the upcoming 2017/18 season, eager to impress and hungry for success.

Tom Roberts



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## 2nd XI Fixtures

22/04/2017	v	Woodford	Home
29/04/2017	v	Runcorn	Away
06/05/2017	v	Bredbury	Home
13/05/2017	v	Irby	Away
20/05/2017	v	Christleton	Home
27/05/2017	v	Oakmere	Away
03/06/2017	v	Neston	Home
10/06/2017	v	Lymm	Away
17/06/2017	v	Hale Barns	Away
24/06/2017	v	Haslington	Home
01/07/2017	v	Mobberley	Away
08/07/2017	v	Woodford	Away
15/07/2017	v	Runcorn	Home
22/07/2017	v	Bredbury	Away
29/07/2017	v	Irby	Home
05/08/2017	v	Christleton	Away
12/08/2017	v	Oakmere	Home
19/08/2017	v	Neston	Away
26/08/2017	v	Lymm	Home
02/09/2017	v	Hale Barns	Home
09/09/2017	v	Haslington	Away
16/09/2017	v	Mobberley	Home



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### **3rd XI - 2017 Preview**

A key element of my 2016 manifesto was to deliver silverware and glory to Romiley CC on behalf of our 3rd XI. We finished 5th and I personally take full responsibility for our under achievement. As it happens swinging wildly across the line at every ball, catching one handed and bowling with the wrong arm is not the way to play cricket.

For the 2017 season I will pledge to bring culture and tradition back to Sunday afternoons at Romiley CC. Gone are the days of untucked shirts and dominos for teas. There will be a new era of cucumber sandwiches, a straight bat and winning.

I alluded to my promise of delivering silverware. Although our 3rd XI were not successful in fulfilling this promise, I do believe a key reason of my re-election as 3rd XI captain this year was my vital role as 1st XI, T20, team manager last season. Years of practice on championship manger paid of and together we brought home the title.

This season I have a new left hand man in the shape of, handy man, Olly Rowe. Olly couldn't be more perfect as my vice captain. His knowledge

of everything DIY is bound to come in useful at some point in the season. If only he was around when I put my fist through the ceiling down in Haslington CC's changing room last year.

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to announce that we will be taking a touring side to Malta in April 2018 and I am exceedingly proud to report all 20 spaces in our mountain top executive villa are full, great times ahead.

Peter Stuart



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### 3rd Team Fixtures

07/05/2017	v	Stockport	Home
14/05/2017	v	Brooklands	Away
21/05/2017	v	Heaton M	Home
28/05/2017	v	Cheadle CC	Home
04/06/2017	v	Bowden	Home
11/06/2017	v	Hale Barnes	Home
18/06/2017	v	Urmston	Home
25/06/2017	v	Bredbury	Away
02/07/2017	v	Stockport G	Away
09/07/2017	v	Stockport	Away
16/07/2017	v	Brooklands	Home
23/07/2017	v	Heaton M	Away
30/07/2017	v	Bredbury	Home
06/08/2017	v	Bowden	Away
13/08/2017	v	Hale Barnes	Away
20/08/2017	v	Urmston	Away
27/08/2017	v	Cheadle CC	Away
03/09/2017	v	Stockport G	Home



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## **Groundsman**

We were beaten by the weather at the end of the 2016 season before we were able to give the square the usual layer of top soil. However, we were able to scarify and fertilise as well as filling and seeding all the damaged ends. So we are not in too bad nick going in to 2017.

New sight screens have arrived and will replace the old, very heavy ones at the car park end. All the mowers are serviced and ready to go for another season.

Development plans for the clubhouse will include the relocation of the mower store with the current mower store being utilised as a viewing area for the cricket. Sounds very nice and building work should be underway this winter.

As ever for 2017 we will strive to carry on the work to improve the ground and specifically the square. I plan to top soil the low points around the edges of the square to improve drainage. New metal strips have been ordered the we hope will stem the flow of water across the square on to the prepared wickets and investigation is underway to resolve the blocked drain in front of the net facilities.

So lots going on and with the re-instatement of both the under 7's and under 18's teams there will be even more cricket being played on the ground this year.

I am always looking for any help that people can give, whether it is rolling, cutting the outfield or tidying the edges of the ground for an hour once a month it all helps and gives me more time to work on the square and prepare the wickets.

Lets hope 2017 is a successful and dry season for all!

Andy Holt

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## **Junior Coordinator**

2016 season saw the Juniors compete in U9s, U11 High Peak, U11 Cheshire League, U13 Cheshire, and for the U15, Cheshire and High Peak.

The U9's were coached and organised by Andy Bashford, with help on game nights from various parents. In the coming year Andy steps back to his preferred role in coaching U7 and already has a waiting list of players for his ever popular sessions. The U9s will continue with the return of Richard Pennystan and with a number of promising players, hopes are high for a successful season

The U11 season was heavily affected by rain and occasional shortage of numbers on game nights. The main Cheshire side won one of the games and may have won a couple of the games lost to weather and a late no-show from Bredbury, but the developmental High Peak side suffered all defeats. Despite this, promising players Leo Downes and Freddie Knott have gone forward to the Cheshire advanced program. Most of the U11 side now move onto U13, where several of them have some experience from 2016 already. Joe McNeeney occasionally guested in-between more regular commitments to the U15 and senior sides.

Highlight was a good win at Hyde, with Mobberly also falling victim to an improving side. 2017 will be a learning year for the new Year 7s who will make up the new U13 side, with no potential new Senior qualified players until 2018 at the earliest.

2016 saw the last year of N.McNeeney and Gary Wilde's tenures as coaches, and we thank them for their long service. The U15s had a difficult year results, numbers and weather wise, shorn of some good Year 8s who remained with the U13. In 2017 Adrian Nuttall returns to coaching, and the side, which has seen good results in previous age groups, is increased in number with the return of some of last year's Yr8s. We are hopeful that they can once again be successful, with a number of the players – J.McNeeney, George Wilde, Reece Berlagoski, Aaron Bardsley and Alex Napier having played senior cricket in 2016

In 2017, we see the return of an U18 side under the auspices of Paul Hooton. A number of the aforementioned U15 players will be key in this, along with older heads who are well established at Senior level.

Paul Griffin

## Your Club

I am sure you will agree we are fortunate to have such beautiful facilities. Our ground and pavilion are the envy of many, standing out as one of the best in the Cheshire League. Our club is a hub of the local community for all to enjoy.

However, the upkeep of our facility isn't cheap, so we urge you to respect our facilities and support the club where you can.



Our venue is available for hire all year round. So if you are looking to hold a family party or event, get in touch with Alison (Pavilion Manager).

Tel: 07513 417 984

Email: [info@romileycricketclub.co.uk](mailto:info@romileycricketclub.co.uk)



## **President's Close**

Romiley CC was founded in 1898 to enable the people of Romiley to play and watch cricket. Thanks to the efforts of many people through the years the club is continuing to meet the targets outlined in the Trust Deeds. There have been many ups and downs along the way with the highlight last season being the First XI winning the Cheshire League Div 1. As Champions we are promoted to the Cheshire County League. Our teams continue to be selected from players who have developed through our Junior section .

As the club develops we need more people to help with the running of the club. We will run Junior Cricket from U7 to U18 level. With more girls playing cricket we need help developing a girls team .

The club continues to thrive thanks to the contribution of our Chairman, the executive committee, dedicated coaches and enthusiastic players. We depend upon membership fees and social events to fund the running of the club. We hope you will come along and enjoy the benefits of the club.

Nige Veevers

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