



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Dear Member

The Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday 22nd March 2017 at 7.00 p.m. in **THE GRAEME HICK PAVILION** at the County Ground. Free car parking is available on the ground.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th March 2016
3. President's Address.
4. To receive and approve the Annual Report on behalf of the Board and the Statement of Accounts that accompany this Notice.
5. To elect a President for the forthcoming year. Your Board recommends the election of Norman Gifford MBE.
6. To seek approval by the AGM for the re-election of Mr Stephen Taylor and Mr Fanos Hira as non-executive Additional Directors of the Board for 2016/17 as per Rule 18.5.
7. To confirm the election to the Board from 1st October 2016 of Mr Richard Coles and Ms Meriel Harris for three years as per rule 18.7.
8. To approve changes to the Rules – **see Addendum.**
9. To pass a Vote of Thanks to the Club's Honorary Medical Officer – Mr Andrew Pearce.
10. Further thanks to Henwick Halt Medical Centre in St Johns, the Spire South Bank Hospital and the Bull Ring Dental Practice in St Johns.
11. To receive any other business that the Chairman of the Meeting shall give permission to be raised and discussed (in accordance with rule 22.7)

Yours sincerely

Tom Scott
Chief Executive

01/03/2017



WORCESTERSHIRE

COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016/17

(subject to confirmation at the AGM)

Chairman: Stephen Taylor

Vice Chairman: Tim Curtis

Executive Directors:

Tom Scott (Chief Executive), Steve Rhodes (Director of Cricket),
Jon Graham (Managing Director)

Elected Non-Executive Directors:

Paul Pridgeon, Meriel Harris, Tim Jones, Neal Radford

Additional Non-Executive Directors:

Stephen Taylor, Fanos Hira

Club Auditors

Bishop Fleming



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

NOTES

1. **ADMISSION TO AGM.** Members of the Club whose subscriptions for 2017 have been paid (and also Members whose subscriptions for 2016 have been paid) will be admitted and Members may be asked to produce their 2017 or 2016 Membership card to gain entry to this Meeting.
2. **MINUTES.** In accordance with established custom, copies of the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting are not being sent to Members. The Minutes are available for inspection by Members at the County Ground during normal office hours, on the Club's website at www.wccc.co.uk and also immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting.
3. **FREE CAR PARKING** is available on the ground and the Tom Graveney Lounge bar will be open.

ATTENDANCES OF DIRECTORS AT BOARD MEETINGS BETWEEN OCTOBER 2015 AND SEPTEMBER 2016

	POSSIBLE	ACTUAL
S Taylor (Chairman)	8	8
T Curtis (Vice Chairman)	8	8
Lord King of Lothbury (President)	8	2
Ms M Harris	8	8
P A E Jewell	8	8
N Radford	8	6
P Pridgeon	8	7
T Jones	8	8
F Hira	6	4
D A Leatherdale (Chief Executive)	4	4
S J Rhodes (Director of Cricket)	8	7
C Smith (Finance Director)	6	5
T Scott (Interim CEO)	5	5



WORCESTERSHIRE

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OFFICERS OF THE WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB 2015/16

Patrons:	Viscount Cobham The Rt Rev'd John Inge, Bishop of Worcester The Very Rev'd Peter Atkinson, Dean of Worcester Mr Cecil Duckworth OBE Lord King of Lothbury, KG, GBE, FBA
President:	Lord King of Lothbury
Chairman:	Stephen Taylor
Vice Chairman:	Tim Curtis
Chief Executive:	Tom Scott
Director of Cricket:	Steven Rhodes
Captain:	Daryl Mitchell
Finance Director:	Chris Smith

Honorary Vice Presidents

Roy Booth	John Chadd	John Elliott
David Exall	Duncan Fearnley	Mike Gilhooly
Jack Randall	Peter Seward FCA	Doug Slade
Peter Radburn	Dave Broughall	

Honorary Life Members

Mrs Grace Fuller	Norman Gifford MBE	Graeme Hick MBE,
Phil Neale OBE	Rev'd Michael Vockins OBE	



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ANNUAL REPORT – 2016 SEASON

CHIEF EXECUTIVE INTRODUCTION

I would firstly like to thank all members and spectators for their continued support during what was a very well attended season.

During 2016 the Club has seen some non-cricket personnel changes, I would like to thank Chris Smith (Finance Director), Steve Gibbs (Catering Director) and Hilary Wainwright (Finance) for their long and loyal service to the Club.

I would also like to congratulate Joe Leach on his appointment as Captain and hope you will get behind him and the team for the coming season.

On behalf of everyone involved at WCCC, I would like to thank Daryl Mitchell for his contribution as Captain, he has been and continues to be a fine ambassador for the Club. His tenure as Captain saw him work with a small group of mainly home grown talent which he has helped to nurture.

There has been plenty to talk about regarding the playing staff with Moeen Ali continuing to impress across all formats for the senior England side and the selection of Joe Clarke and Brett D'Oliveira for the Lions. Further England honours at Under 19 level went to George Scrimshaw (Injury prevented him from representing), Josh Tongue, Ben Twohig, Josh Dell, Zen Malik and Oli Westbury. There were also English Schools Under16 call ups for Xavi Clarke and Jack Haynes.

There has been a significant shift in how we approach the utilisation of our commercial space with a view to increasing non cricket income, this remains at the core of our future plans.

Two examples of commercial activity are the opening of 'Foleys' coffee shop in the old 1865 Kenyon Suite in early April, this will provide a facility for the public all year round and exclusively for members and supporters on match days.

We will also see WCCC's own branded Ice Cream unit selling local luxury ice cream both inside and outside the ground.

There are three outdoor concerts planned for this summer which will appeal to all age groups and tastes. These events support our business infrastructure and will generate much needed income throughout 2017/18.

I am optimistic both on and off the field for the year ahead. Costs are firmly under control and with increased commercial activity we should see a much stronger balance sheet in 2018.



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

FIRST TEAM REVIEW OF THE SEASON

Worcestershire will begin a new era in 2017 via a new captain in Joe Leach and after reflecting on a campaign of varied fortunes in first class and white ball cricket last summer.

The County had been promoted and relegated five times in the space of 12 seasons in the County Championship and were greeted with a new scenario of being tagged as one of the pre-season favourites to make an instant return to Division One.

However, the number of promotion slots was reduced during the winter from two to one as part of a restructured competition and early season pace-setters Essex established a position of strength they seldom looked like relinquishing.

With the aid of three victories from their final four matches, Worcestershire managed to notch up six victories - the same number as Essex and a tally that no other team equalled.

They eventually finished in third spot behind Essex and runners-up Kent.

Worcestershire's triumphs - which all came in the final 11 games of the season - were evenly split between their headquarters and on opposition soil.

They came on top over Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Derbyshire at New Road and their trio of away victories were registered against Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Sussex.

Worcestershire were literally playing catch-up from day one of the season with the opening Championship match at New Road versus Kent (10 – 13 April) completely washed out.

The Worcestershire players practiced on the square and outfield 24 hours before the match but heavy and persistent deluges resulted in not a ball being bowled throughout the four days much to the frustration of Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes and his players.

An ECB inquiry deemed there were "no grounds for further action" - a response which delighted the County's then interim CEO Tom Scott.

He said: "We are delighted with the response and findings of the ECB investigation into our game against Kent. We were as disappointed as anyone that the elements conspired against us.

"It was not what we desired from a playing point of view or financially, but the fact of the matter is that on the Friday before the game, the outfield was perfectly playable and the players were also able to practise on the Saturday.

"That we then had substantial amounts of rain over two of the next three days is something over which we had no control."



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"Everyone at Worcestershire County Cricket Club was left frustrated, none more so than the ground staff who had put in Herculean efforts to ensure the ground was fit to play after our two winter floods."

When the players were eventually able to get into action, Worcestershire had to wait until their sixth match - away to Leicestershire - to register their first victory.

There were plenty of memorable games at New Road in the Championship with Worcestershire featuring in two exceptional run chases.

They amassed 366 in 75 overs to defeat Leicestershire after being 73-4 in a game where Joe Clarke was given out lbw for 31 but then, recalled by the umpires, scored a match-winning 123 in a three wicket success.

Clarke scored another hundred and there were two centuries in the game from Daryl Mitchell as Worcestershire reached a 401 target in 79 overs against Northamptonshire - the highest ever total batting last to win at New Road - with six balls and two wickets to spare.

Mitchell had negotiated a last day run chase after the game appeared to be drifting to a draw. He said afterwards: "Amazing wasn't it. Obviously a massive chase. We didn't have a leg to stand on with the negotiations.

"Obviously Northants probably deserved to have the advantage in the chase really. They wanted the 400 off 80 and we thought 'why not, let's have a go, we've got nothing to lose really.

"We needed those points and I thought we played fantastically well and what a chase and what a pitch Tim Packwood and his team produced. To knock 400 off in 79 overs is an incredible effort."

Another winning highlight was bowling Leicestershire out for just 42 in their second innings at the Fischer County Ground at Grace Road with Matt Henry and Joe Leach doing the damage with the ball.

Despite the excellent end to the Championship season, Rhodes will be aware performing more consistently throughout the forthcoming summer is a key area that has to be addressed which Leach was quick to confirm after being appointed captain.

Leach himself, Clarke and keeper Ben Cox were Worcestershire's most consistent performers last summer.

Worcestershire had prided themselves on claiming maximum bowling points for the best part of three seasons but they struggled to bowl teams out last summer. They were seventh highest in terms of bowling bonus points with 35.



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It was clear that the new 'toss' rule had an impact on bowlers around the country with away teams having the right to bowl first and groundsmen erring on the side of caution when producing flatter and often slow-paced pitches, particularly during the first half of the season.

Leach was the exception to the rule for Worcestershire with his excellent performances with the ball throughout the summer and he ended with 65 Championship wickets - the highest tally in Division Two.

This followed on from his 59 the previous year and demonstrated his determination to maintain a high standard right through to the end of September after a late season tail-off in wicket-taking performances in 2015.

Ed Barnard showed promise in his first full season of county cricket with 31 wickets and he had greater responsibility after Jack Shantry and Charlie Morris - with a remodelled action - were unable to repeat their achievements of the previous two campaigns. Their combined wicket tally was 29 - compared to 101 the previous year.

New Zealander Matt Henry had a decent return of 27 wickets from six games but Kyle Abbott, having initially been signed for the second half of the season, was restricted to three Championship appearances before being called away early by South Africa. He has since become a Kolpak player and joined Hampshire on a four year contract.

West Indies paceman Miguel Cummins - the 500th player to represent Worcestershire in the County Championship - showed his potential with 12 wickets in the excellent win over Sussex at Hove in the penultimate match, although by then hopes of being promoted had ended.

Rhodes will hope the signing of Australian all-rounder John Hastings for the majority of 2017 will bolster the potency of the attack and it is hoped he will be available sooner rather than later after undergoing patella surgery in December.

On the batting front, Worcestershire had to contend with the retirement of the vastly experienced Alex Gidman because of the finger injury sustained in fielding practice before the penultimate game of the 2015 campaign.

Tom Fell was also absent from the first half of the campaign before getting the all clear in his double battle against cancer which initially came to light at the end of the previous season.

He eventually returned in mid-June and immediately looked at home despite a lack of senior cricket for the past nine months.

Clarke was the shining beacon in his first full campaign of first team action with 1200 Championship runs and five centuries.



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He showed a confidence and maturity beyond his years and often scored his runs when they were most needed.

It is no wonder that Rhodes feels he has similar "batting nous" to Joe Root.

Openers Mitchell - in his benefit year - and Brett D'Oliveira had contrasting halves to their respective seasons.

D'Oliveira, in his first full season in the role, started superbly and a double hundred against Glamorgan helped earn him an England Lions call-up before tailing off in form from July onwards.

Mitchell struggled in the first phase of the year but came back strongly and managed to pass 1,000 first runs for 2016 and in the process 10,000 first class runs in his career.

The 33-year-old will be hoping he can return to the prolific form of 2014, when only Hampshire's James Vince scored more Division Two runs, now he is able to concentrate solely on his batting after the end of his six year term as captain.

Tom Kohler-Cadmore looked as if his talent was going to flourish but tailed off during the second part of the summer and Ross Whiteley failed to convert several promising starts into the centuries expected of a top six batsman.

It was often left to keeper Ben Cox, Leach and Barnard at seven to nine in the order to rescue several unpromising positions.

Cox enjoyed another excellent season behind the stumps and another consistent season with the bat led to him being described as 'Mr Reliable' by Rhodes.

Rhodes, commenting on the Championship campaign at the end of the season, said: "Is finishing third a case of what might have been? I think so, but when we started the campaign we always knew there were five or six decent sides and with only one team going up, it was always going to be really difficult to get promoted.

"The right result is Essex. They played some very good cricket this year and they played to their potential. Having under-achieved in the past, they played to their potential and blitzed the league.

"We knew there were some areas where potentially we should have picked up a few more points and wins but credit to Essex. They deserved to go up.

"I wanted to be challenging in the top three going into September and we were more or less there so, whilst we haven't got promoted, in many ways the Championship season has not been a train crash.



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"There have been some good victories, some really good performances, both individually and as a team, but we've also had some awkward days where it has cost us wins.

"To me, I'm trying to progress the sides and individuals for the benefit of the club and I think there are quite a lot of individuals who have progressed.

"As a team, we've probably slowly improved. We found some things difficult, bowling sides out is one, and I'm very hopeful John Hastings and another year on for the guys will mean we will be able to take more wickets next year.

"Some of the bowlers have had a few problems but Joe (Leach) has manfully held the attack together. I thought Matt Henry did a great job at the start of the season and his statistics show that he had a good time of it (27 wickets in six matches).

"I also thought Miguel Cummins coming in, and that game at Sussex, has proved he has real potential to be a wicket-taker so the two overseas boys have been excellent.

"Kyle Abbott struggled a little bit and had a little niggle as well, so his stay was probably not as profitable as he would have liked and we would have liked.

"But Ed Barnard and Joe Leach have managed to play all the games and that's a sterling effort these days when they also play a lot of one-day cricket so there have been some really good parts with the ball and also some problems for us trying to get people out on flat wickets.

"The toss rule meant a lot more flat wickets early season and that did prove to be quite difficult for us."

Worcestershire racked up the fourth highest number of batting points in Division Two after a series of impressive scores, chiefly during the first half of the season.

Rhodes said: "I think there were a few common denominators there. You look at Brett D'Oliveira's early season form and it was outstanding and it got him into the Lions squad and to score the amount of runs he did so quickly, we should never forget that.

"It hasn't been as good for Dolly later on in the year but it's not his fault he got his stack of runs at the start and he would have loved to have carried that on, but the stack at the start helped us.

"Joe Clarke has been consistent all year and has been the outstanding batsman of the season as well as contributions from other batters at certain times.

"People do forget we missed Felly (Tom Fell) for half a season - and it was just great to have him back - but we shouldn't also forget some of the work done by the lads who do go in at seven, eight and nine, the likes of Ben Cox.



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"I challenged him a little bit. I wanted him to be a person who when we did have our batting collapses at the top of the order, him coming to the crease was almost the word 'stop'

"He was the 'let's stop this slide' player and he really has managed to do that. Similarly with Joe Leach getting his 600 runs - it's a great effort for someone who spent a lot of time bowling his overs.

"Daryl (Mitchell) did well in the second half of the season and he will be pleased that he has managed to get 1,000 runs with the Oxford knock.

"But the one thing about our batting is Mitch is our experienced player, so we really are desperate for him to churn the runs out all of the time.

"Barry (Ed Barnard) chipped in down there and Matt Henry played really well for us so we've got some good lower order runs as well which is always pleasing because, if we can get our batting top six sorted then we've got the ingredients that are going to help us win games down the order.

"But I am a really big supporter of our young batters. They are up and down and they will be naturally because they are developing players. They haven't found their games yet but to me, when I look at Clarke, Fell, Dolly, Pepsi (Tom Kohler-Cadmore), George Rhodes, even Ross (Whiteley) at 27, all of them can grow with the bat.

"We must try and help nurture them getting to where they can get to and help improve them. At times they have been frustrated, and we have been frustrated by the inconsistency of some of them, but we shouldn't be because, 'can they play?' - the answer is 'yes!'"

In the NatWest T20 Blast, Worcestershire were unable to seal a fourth quarter-final spot in five years despite a superb start to their North Group campaign.

The Rapids won four of their opening five games and looked a formidable outfit particularly when triumphing over Birmingham Bears in the televised game at Edgbaston and when Tom Kohler-Cadmore was smashing a superb hundred in the home opener with Durham Jets.

They were dealt what proved to be a major blow when New Zealand spinner Mitchell Santner broke a finger in the first game versus Durham which ended his involvement in the competition after he had been earmarked to play all summer.

But there were also some poor performances after the heights of the early matches and the Rapids were bowled out for their lowest ever T20 score - 53 - against Lancashire Lightning at Old Trafford.

Rhodes said: "It was a frustrating tournament for us because it offered so much but I do look back and I see the side we initially wanted to take out there with Mitchell Santner in the team and I think deep down, we missed him a lot really.



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"His all-round qualities and slow bowling, especially left arm spin, is a very useful commodity in T20 cricket all around the world now and I think he would have bowled really well on some of our wickets.

"He is a good fielder and also there were times when we had some short boundaries so having left and right handers would have been really useful.

"We only tended to have Ross Whiteley in our batting who is left handed so to have another in the top six in Mitch would have meant we could make sure we always had a left and right hander out there.

"That was a big blow to us, and it certainly affected us - but we still had a good start in the competition and waned away slightly and that was disappointing.

"The good thing is Mitch has signed again for us and I'm sure he will have some unfinished business with for the 2017 tournament."

Worcestershire's form improved in the Royal London One-Day Cup and they reached the quarter-finals for the first time since the competition was rebranded.

The County pulled off some notable victories against the likes of Yorkshire, Durham, Lancashire and Nottinghamshire in qualifying for the last eight before losing to Somerset at Taunton after a below par batting performance with the exception of Daryl Mitchell and Moeen Ali.

The 50 over competition provided the most emotional moment of the summer with the whole of New Road giving a standing ovation to Tom Fell on completing his first century since his return to the side in the home success over Lancashire.

This year the group stages of the competition will be staged in the early part of the campaign during a three week block.

New skipper Joe Leach said: "I'm sure that its positioning in the season will mean that the tournament will take on more significance for many teams and we will be desperate to go as far as we can and hopefully a trip to Lord's for the final.

"We made some big strides forward in the competition last summer in reaching the quarter-finals and turning in some impressive performances to win away to the likes of Yorkshire, Durham and Nottinghamshire."



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SPECSAVERS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

DIVISION TWO

FINAL TABLE

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Batting	Bowling	Points
Essex	16	6	3	7	58	46	235
Kent	16	5	2	9	49	38	212
WORCS	16	6	4	6	42	35	203
Sussex	16	4	2	10	40	38	192
Northants	16	4	3	9	42	33	184
Gloucs	16	4	5	7	4	40	183
Leics	16	4	4	8	39	40	182
Glam	16	3	8	5	34	42	148
Derbys	16	0	5	11	32	32	119

*Leicestershire and Glamorgan one point deducted.

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES IN ALL FIRST TEAM CRICKET 2016

BATTING

MOEEN ALI

74	v	Gloucs at Bristol SCC
136*	v	Gloucs at Bristol SCC
55	v	Glam at Cardiff SCC
81	v	Somerset at Taunton RLC

ED BARNARD

50	v	Gloucs at New Road SCC
73	v	Derbys at Derby SCC

BEN COX

69	v	Gloucs at Bristol SCC
75	v	Gloucs at New Road SCC
59*	v	Derbys at New Road T20
74	v	Northants at Northampton SCC
63	v	Essex at Chelmsford SCC
69	v	Sussex at Hove SCC
56	v	Sussex at Hove SCC



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JOE CLARKE

119	v	Oxford MCCU at Oxford FC
135	v	Gloucs at Bristol SCC
133	v	Glam at Cardiff SCC
82	v	Sussex at New Road SCC
69*	v	Notts at New Road T20
123	v	Leics at New Road SCC
58	v	Pakistan at New Road TM
69	v	Kent at Canterbury SCC
98	v	Glam at New Road SCC
125	v	Northants at New Road SCC
194	v	Derbys at New Road SCC

BRETT D'OLIVEIRA

122	v	Oxford MCCU at Oxford FC
128	v	Essex at New Road SCC
202*	v	Glam at Cardiff SCC
99	v	Sussex at New Road SCC
62*	v	Bham at Edgbaston T20
81	v	Northants at Northampton SCC

TOM FELL

61	v	Leics at New Road SCC
54	v	Northants at New Road RLC
116*	v	Lancs at New Road RLC
63*	v	Notts at Trent Bridge RLC
65	v	Glam at New Road SCC
66	v	Northants at New Road SCC
85	v	Sussex at Hove SCC

ALEXEI KERVEZEE

59	v	Oxford MCCU at Oxford FC
52*	v	Yorks at New Road T20
77	v	Derbys at New Road RLC

TOM KOHLER-CADMORE

68*	v	Oxford MCCU FC
119*	v	Essex at New Road SCC
51	v	Sussex at New Road SCC
127	v	Durham at New Road T20
169	v	Gloucs at New Road SCC
60	v	Northants at New Road T20
119	v	Northants at New Road RLC



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73 v Pakistan at New Road TM

JOE LEACH

63 v Yorks at Headingley RLC
90 v Leics at New Road SCC
64* v Leics at New Road SCC
51* v Northants at Northampton SCC
65* v Glamorgan at New Road SCC
107* v Derbyshire at New Road SCC

DARYL MITCHELL

155 v Oxford MCCU at Oxford FC
66 v Essex at New Road SCC
55 v Gloucs at New Road SCC
52 v Leics at New Road SCC
61 v Bham at Edgbaston T20
61* v Notts at Trent Bridge RLC
64 v Somerset at Taunton RLC
107* v Northants at New Road SCC
103 v Northants at New Road SCC
75 v Sussex at Hove SCC
67 v Derbyshire at New Road SCC

GEORGE RHODES

55 v Kent at Canterbury SCC
59 v Essex at Chelmsford SCC

JACK SHANTRY

106* v Gloucs at New Road SCC

ROSS WHITELEY

71 v Sussex at New Road SCC
71 v Gloucs at New Road SCC
61 v Derbys at New Road RLC
71 v Leics at New Road RLC
66 v Northants at Northampton SCC

BOWLING

MIGUEL CUMMINS

7-84 v Sussex at Hove SCC
5-82 v Sussex at Hove SCC



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MATT HENRY

5-36 v Northants at Northampton SCC

JOE LEACH

5-115 v Essex at New Road SCC
 5-33 v Durham at New Road T20
 5-99 v Leics at Leicester SCC
 5-70 v Northants at Northampton SCC
 5-106 v Glam at New Road SCC
 5-60 v Derbys at New Road SCC

JACK SHANTRY

5-46 v Oxford MCCU at Oxford FC

*SCC = Specsavers County Championship, FC = First Class, TM = Tour Match, RLC = Royal London Cup, T20 = NatWest T20 Blast.

FINAL AVERAGES

SPECSAVERS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

DIVISION TWO

BATTING

	Matches	Inns	Not Out	Runs	Highest	Average
Moeen Ali	3	4	1	273	136*	91.00
Clarke	15	26	1	1206	194	48.24
Henry	6	6	2	180	49*	45.00
Leach	15	21	5	583	107*	36.43
Cox	15	23	2	757	75	36.04
Fell	8	16	1	530	85	35.33
Mitchell	15	27	2	873	107*	34.92
D'Oliveira	14	25	1	763	202*	31.79
Rhodes	6	11	2	274	59	30.44
Kohler-Cadmore	13	21	1	561	169	28.05
Whiteley	13	22	2	542	71	27.10
Barnard	14	20	4	430	73	26.87
Shantry	11	12	4	210	106	26.25
Kervezee	4	7	1	151	41	25.16
Cummins	3	4	1	29	25	9.66



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Abbott	2	3	0	18	10	6.00
Santner	1	1	1	23	23*	----

BOWLING

	Matches	Inns	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Cummins	3	5	96.2	12	377	15	25.13
Henry	6	11	234.0	48	716	27	26.51
Leach	15	25	495.4	74	1786	65	27.47
Mitchell	15	14	30.5	6	92	3	30.66
Barnard	14	23	358.2	66	1351	31	43.58
D'Oliveira	14	22	259.1	30	761	16	47.56
Morris	7	3	144.1	26	563	11	51.18
Shantry	11	17	358.2	87	1039	18	57.72
Rhodes	6	7	64.5	5	263	3	87.66
Kervezee	4	5	33.0	9	89	1	89.00
Moeen Ali	3	4	42.0	5	161	1	161.00
Abbott	3	4	75.0	17	249	1	249.00
Fell	8	2	2.2	1	10	0	----
Clarke	15	1	2	0	22	0	----

SECOND ELEVEN REVIEW

Worcestershire Seconds suffered a role reversal in terms of their varying fortunes during the 2016 campaign.

Coach Kevin Sharp's side enjoyed a climb of four places to finish fourth in the Second Eleven Championship.

They registered a trio of victories against Leicestershire at Oakham School, Northamptonshire at Kidderminster and Nottinghamshire at RGS Worcester.

It was a contrast to the one success of 2015 against Yorkshire at Barnt Green.

But the Seconds were unable to repeat that form in white ball cricket which had been a strength in 2015 when narrowly missing out on the knockout stages of the T20 and 50 over competitions.

They failed to register a single victory in either competition.

All-rounder Alex Hepburn finished as Worcestershire's leading run-scorer in the Second Eleven Championship to follow on from his four centuries in all competitions the previous summer.



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Hepburn, who took over the captaincy of the side following George Rhodes' promotion to the senior side, scored 567 runs at an average of 43.62.

Opener Ollie Westbury was the next most prolific batsman with 499 runs at an average of 38.38.

On the bowling front, paceman Chris Russell ended as the top wicket-taker with 22 victims at 31.09 runs apiece.

Sharp, reflecting at the end of the season on the Seconds fortunes, said: "The red ball cricket has been our strength this year.

"We have competed very well in that competition and perhaps, with a bit more good fortune, might have finished even higher up. They have been more consistent on the whole.

"We've done well, particularly when in the first half of the season you had to bring in players and trialists so you never quite get a settled team.

"There are lads coming and going a little bit and lads who don't know each other. In light of all those things, we can be really happy with that (red ball cricket)."

Sharp delved into his wide data base of contacts to bring in players during the early part of the campaign when Academy and young pros were away studying at college or school.

He said: "We are developing a strong data base on guys who would be very keen to get the opportunity to play second eleven cricket, some have played for other counties.

"We are actually developing quite a good relationship with the MCC Young Cricketers through Steve Kirby who I've known a long time since his days with Yorkshire.

"He has taken over there now and in the early part of the season, Steve sent me a couple of his players and they played for three or four weeks for us.

"They are looking to secure cricket for their players, some who haven't got counties, and it is a good opportunity to give lads opportunities."

Worcestershire took part in an ECB experiment when playing the Second Eleven Championship match with Warwickshire at Edgbaston as a day-night game in mid- August.

The ECB requested the game was played under floodlights with pink balls as a trial game ahead of the England-West Indies day-night Test in Birmingham this summer and play began each day at 2pm.

Players and coaches gave their feedback to the ECB and Sharp believes day-night Test cricket in England with pink balls can work.



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He said afterwards: "Absolutely terrific. We were really delighted to get the opportunity. The weather has been good as well and the evenings were special with the lights on and it was warm and there was some good cricket played.

"We played on the Test match pitch (England versus Pakistan) so it had had quite a lot of cricket played on it, and was quite slow and not actually easy to score. You will have seen from the scores that the rate was going at about three an over, and just under that at times.

"But having said that the whole experience has been special for everyone. Circumstances changed during the day. Early doors at two o'clock, the wicket was quite slow, the ball didn't come on and offered a bit to spin.

"Then as the day went on and when it got into the evening and a bit of dew came down, the ball skidded on a bit more and was probably a better time for batting in that respect.

"Twilight was a difficult period for viewing at times for players. One or two of the batsmen felt it was a bit glarey at that time as in England, the twilight period lasts longer than overseas. Overseas it goes from light to dark fairly quickly and in England it doesn't.

"During that period, the wicket-keepers found it a bit more difficult for judging, perhaps one or two of the outfielders as well.

"It is an interesting concept for the ECB to contemplate but I think it could work - definitely."

In terms of playing with a pink ball, Sharp said: "Batters generally, apart from that twilight period, had no problem and it was with a white sightscreen and you wonder if a black sightscreen might be better.

"The newer ball was easier to pick up with it being bright. When it went duller, it was perhaps at times a bit more difficult, particularly in that twilight period but there weren't any major problems."

The Seconds also used pink balls in the first innings and orange balls in the second innings of the four-day friendly match with Hampshire Seconds at the Ageas Bowl nursery ground during September.

In terms of the Seconds performances in T20 and 50 over cricket, Sharp said: "It's been a bit more of a battle with the white ball. Perhaps at times we've just been a little bit naive in the way we've played and perhaps personal individual game plans need more work.

"We have at times been relatively inexperienced and T20 is a very different format and a very quick game and you've really got to think on your feet and make the correct decisions in order to be successful. That will come with playing and I'm sure all the players who have played this year will have learned a lot from it and they will come back wiser and stronger. I'm sure we will see that next season."



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Sharp oversaw the development of Joe Clarke and Ed Barnard before their graduation into the first team during 2015 and it was a similar story with George Rhodes during the second half of the summer.

He said: "George has deserved it. He has worked so hard. As an all-rounder, he bowls his off spin and bats and has made it hard to get him out.

"He has got a solid compact technique and his work ethic is as good as anyone's, he has got his rewards and deserved to be selected."

Hepburn took over as captain from Rhodes for the second half of the summer.

Sharp said: "With Alex Hepburn, he has developed into a genuine all-rounder. He has done his fair share of bowling this time and has also been quite successful with that at times.

"What we have to remember is with a lot of these lads in the Second Eleven and lads like Alex, at their age they are having to take an awful lot of responsibility.

"George Rhodes was captain for the first half of the season and Alex has taken over that role when George got in the first eleven.

"I'm sure they will mature and grow and learn from having the opportunity to be a leader."

SECOND ELEVEN CHAMPIONSHIP

NORTH DIVISION

FINAL TABLE

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Aband	Bat	Bowl	Points
Durham	9	5	1	3	0	23	30	148
Lancs	9	4	0	3	2	17	25	131
MCCU	9	2	1	6	0	26	31	119
WORCS	9	3	3	3	0	25	28	116
Yorks	9	2	3	4	0	13	32	97
Warks	9	0	0	8	1	27	23	95
Notts	9	2	4	2	1	17	29	93
Derbys	9	1	2	5	1	18	25	89
Leics	9	1	3	4	1	21	24	86
Northants	9	0	3	4	2	14	20	64



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

SECOND ELEVEN TROPHY

NORTH DIVISION

FINAL TABLE

	Played	Won	Lost	No Res	Aband	Points
Lancs	6	4	1	1	0	9
Leics	6	3	0	2	1	9
Notts	6	4	2	0	0	8
Derbys	6	3	2	0	1	7
Warks	6	3	3	0	0	6
Durham	6	2	3	0	1	5
Yorks	6	2	3	0	1	5
Unicorns	6	2	3	0	1	5
Northants	6	2	3	0	1	5
WORCS	6	0	5	0	1	1

SECOND ELEVEN T20

NORTH DIVISION

FINAL TABLE

	Played	Won	Lost	No Res	Aband	Points
Durham	12	7	1	0	4	18
Warwicks	12	7	1	1	3	18
Lancs	12	6	1	2	3	17
Derbys	12	7	3	0	2	16
Leics	12	4	3	0	5	13
Notts	12	4	5	1	2	11
Yorks	12	4	6	1	1	10
Northants	12	3	6	1	2	9
Unicorns	12	2	8	0	2	6
WORCS	12	0	0	0	2	2



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES IN THREE-FOUR DAY SECOND X1 CRICKET 2016

BATTING

JOSH DELL

65 v Warwcks at Edgbaston SEC

TOM FELL

72 v Northants at Kidderminster SEC

52* v Gloucs at Cheltenham F

WILL FRAINE

87* v Yorkshire at Scarborough SEC

87 v Notts at RGS Worcester SEC

JOSH HAYNES

115* v Somerset at Taunton Vale F

ALEX HEPBURN

60 v Warwicks at Barnt Green F

149 v Northants at Kidderminster SEC

121 v Yorkshire at Scarborough SEC

ALEXEI KERVEZEE

111 v Sussex at Kidderminster F

140 v Derbys at Derby SEC

106 v Middx at Kidderminster F

58 v Hants at Ageas Bowl F

TOM KOHLER-CADMORE

102 v Middx at Kidderminster F

ZEN MALIK

112 v Warwicks at Barnt Green F

57 v Durham at Stourbridge SEC

58 v Hants at Ageas Bowl F

ALEX MILTON

91 v Somerset at Taunton Vale F

87 v Sussex at Kidderminster F

59* v Derbys at Derby SEC

53 v Lancs at RGS Worcester SEC



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

GEORGE NEWTON

73 v Lancs at RGS Worcester SEC

GEORGE RHODES

57 v Leicestershire at Oakham SEC

137 v Gloucs at Cheltenham F

50 v Yorkshire at Scarborough SEC

68 v Derbys at Derby SEC

CHRIS RUSSELL

55 v MCC YC at Kidderminster SEC

JOSH TONGUE

50 v Sussex at Kidderminster F

BEN TWOHIG

99 v Leicestershire at Oakham SEC

60 v Warwicks at Barnt Green F

70 v Middx at Kidderminster F

OLLIE WESTBURY

54 v Leicestershire at Oakham SEC

137 v Northants at Kidderminster SEC

151 v Gloucs at Cheltenham F

83 v Derbys at Derby SEC

63 v Warwicks at Edgbaston SEC

ROSS WHITELEY

65 v Hants at Ageas Bowl F (first inns)

65 v Hants at Ageas Bowl F (second inns)

BOWLING

ALEXEI KERVEZEE

7-61 v Notts at RGS Worcester SEC

CHRIS RUSSELL

5-97 v Northants at Kidderminster SEC

5-90 v Durham at Stourbridge SEC

JACK SHANTRY

7-39 v Notts at RGS Worcester SEC



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

BEN TWOHIG

5-61 v Warwicks at Edgbaston SEC

SEC = Second Eleven Championship, F = Friendly

SECOND ELEVEN LEADING CHAMPIONSHIP AVERAGES

BATTING

	Matches	Inns	Not Outs	Runs	Highest	Average
Fraine	3	5	1	209	87*	52.25
B Kohler-Cadmore	1	2	1	46	35*	46.00
Hepburn	8	14	1	567	149	43.62
Rhodes	4	7	1	257	68	42.83
Kervezee	5	10	1	366	140	40.67
Westbury	7	13	0	499	137	38.38
Tegg	1	1	0	383	38	38.00
Milton	6	11	3	292	59*	36.50
Fell	3	5	0	126	72	25.20
Newton	2	4	0	98	73	24.50
Dodd	2	3	0	67	34	22.33
Dell	3	6	1	111	65	22.20
T Kohler-Cadmore	1	2	0	41	27	20.50
Twohig	8	13	2	217	99	19.73
Malik	8	14	0	254	57	18.14

BOWLING

	Matches	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Shantry	1	23.5	5	57	7	8.14
T Kohler-Cadmore	1	1.5	0	14	1	14.00
Willerton	2	45.5	12	159	8	19.88
King	1	23.5	5	85	4	21.25
Kervezee	5	55.5	4	183	8	22.88
Tongue	3	54.1	12	183	8	22.88
Brown	3	29.0	6	117	5	23.40
Russell	8	183.8	36	684	22	31.09
Rhodes	4	40.0	6	135	4	33.75
Hepburn	8	137.0	31	419	12	34.92
Williams	1	14.0	1	77	2	38.50
Twohig	8	181.3	29	732	17	43.06
Malik	8	34.0	4	143	3	47.67



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Morris

5

128.1 19

471

9

52.33

THE ACADEMY

The Worcestershire Academy continues to flourish under the charge of Coach Elliot Wilson - and once again two of its products have shown sufficient potential and quality to graduate into the first team squad at New Road.

Opening batsman Ollie Westbury and paceman George Scrimshaw have signed their first professional contracts with the County up until the end of the 2017 season.

They have emulated the achievement of Josh Tongue and Ben Twohig who made the same move 12 months earlier - and have since impressed sufficiently to sign new three year deals at New Road.

Westbury and Scrimshaw became members of the first team squad when they reported back for pre-season training with Strengthening and Conditioning Coach Ross Dewar in early November.

Westbury has what Second Eleven coach Kevin Sharp describes as "old school" methods in having a desire and hunger to bat for long periods.

Never was this more apparent than on his England Under-19s debut when he stayed out in the middle for eight hours in scoring 196 against Sri Lanka A at Fenner's.

Scrimshaw - like Westbury - impressed for the Second Eleven and it was encouraging that he was able to stay fit throughout the summer after previous injury problems.

Unfortunately, he had to return home early from an England Young Lions training camp in December with a back problem and will miss the start of the new season.

But the County have high hopes of Scrimshaw fulfilling his potential in the coming years.

Wilson is in charge of trying to ensure the conveyor belt of young talent produced by Worcestershire continues to flourish.

He is already working closely with the 2016-2017 Academy intake but also the age groups below that level who, if all comes to fruition, will eventually become full Academy members.

From October 1, Worcestershire County Cricket Club have overseen the boys' player pathway which has been responsible for developing many members of the current first team squad.

It means the County have greater control of the progress made by budding stars of the future from Under-9s right through to when they join the full Academy - and eventually the professional ranks if all goes to plan.



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The likes of skipper Daryl Mitchell, Brett D'Oliveira, Ben Cox, Ben Twohig and Josh Tongue of the current professionals at New Road have come through this system which previously came under the umbrella of Worcestershire Cricket.

That will in turn free up more resources for Worcestershire Cricket to focus on growing the game and attracting more youngsters to take up the game.

Wilson explained: "Here at New Road there are two organisations, the County Cricket Club and the Worcestershire Cricket Board.

"The Cricket Board is generally responsible for recreational cricket but it is also the body which for a long time now, has been responsible for representative cricket for boys and girls.

"To ensure a continuity of coaching, continuity of delivery and trying to have a greater control over what goes on with every young cricketer in this county from under-9s through to the academy and hopefully into the professional game, the County Cricket Club has seen fit to take on the whole of the boys' player pathway.

"As of October 1, the pathway, all of our county age group cricket, has been delivered and overseen by the Worcestershire County Cricket Club rather than the Worcestershire Cricket Board.

"It has enabled us to ensure a continuity of coaching, a quality of message, a joined up approach with everything we do from nine-year-olds all the way through to the 19-year-olds.

"It gives us a real level of control, influence, flexibility over what we do in that journey to try and develop future cricketers for Worcestershire County Cricket Club like Josh Tongue and Ben Twohig, Daryl Mitchell, Brett D'Oliveira etc.

"What we are hoping is we don't just have products of the academy but we get more products from the pathway itself across the whole of the pathway rather than guys who just come into the academy part of that process."

Ryan D'Oliveira and Andy Sutton have switched from roles with the Worcestershire Board to working as part of the Worcestershire Cricket Club set-up.

Wilson said: "Ryan has started as a cricket administrator, a match-day liaison officer and also a pathway cricket coach.

"He will continue the administration he has done for the player pathway, which he has done for the last 18 months, and will then take on responsibility for match-day liaison between the club and the scorers, umpires, officials, TV etc.

"He will also get to increase the hours he does from a coaching perspective to help the pathway and also get some experience of working with Kevin Sharp and the second team.



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"Andy Sutton is the final piece of the jigsaw to basically do the job he has done with the Cricket Board which is performance officer. He will now be a performance officer for the County Cricket Club.

"We will still have the backing and full support of Worcestershire Cricket Board. We see that as very important to the development of clubs, the recreational game and coaching at all levels but it will now be primarily delivered by the County Cricket Club rather than the Cricket Board.

"We will then be responsible for all cricket activities representative-wise in Worcestershire."

Worcestershire finalised their 2016-2017 Academy intake in October - and it included four newcomers.

Pacemen Adam Finch and Matthew Davis and all-rounders Zain Hassan and Xavier Clarke - younger brother of Joe - are part of the full Academy for the first time during the next 12 months.

They have joined forces with Jack and Josh Haynes, Jack Charters, Dillon Pennington, Zen Malik and Josh Dell who returned for a further year as members of the intake.

The new quartet and the other Academy members are being put through their paces by Academy coach Elliot Wilson, or other county coaches, at least three times a week during the winter months.

Then this coming season they can expect to play plenty of cricket at Under-17 level, with the development squad, the full Academy side and then graduate to the county's Second Eleven.

Wilson admitted selecting this year's intake was "a more challenging process" compared to choosing the members of the past two groups.

He said: "For the last three years we have been blessed with such a good group of players that they stood out a mile.

"This year I enjoyed doing a lot more sifting through players to try and work out which players to put in which programmes. It was a real challenge for me.

"We had some choices to make, not only about personnel but the direction in which we were going to try and take this programme.

"We ended up with 10 players on the programme and that list included two Haynes', Josh and Jack returning, Jack Charters returning, Dillon Pennington returning, Josh Dell and Zen Malik returning."

Wilson has given his assessment of the new quartet.



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ADAM FINCH

Elliot Wilson said: "He is in his first year of his 'A' levels at Oldswinsford Hospital School. He was pretty late into the Performance Programme and last year was really his first full year in and around Under-17 cricket and the Academy environment.

"He is one of the fast bowlers and has shown a lot of durability throughout the summer, played a lot of cricket and remained injury free.

"He plays at Himley and, in addition to being a pace bowler, has the ability to bat and score lower order runs."

ZAIN HASSAN

Elliot Wilson said: "He is from Stourbridge Cricket Club. Zain is an all-rounder. His main skill would be as a left-handed top order batsman but he also bowls medium pace.

"He has been doing that job for Stourbridge CC first team as an Under 14 and Under 15 year old for the past two years which is quite an effort.

"Zain has also played Under-17 cricket for Worcestershire in 2015 and last summer was one of our stronger performers."

MATTHEW DAVIS

Elliot Wilson said: "He is from Old Elizabethans Cricket Club in Worcester. A real all-rounder. He will already be one of the best physically in the group in terms of his movement, strength and power.

"He will open the bowling in his age group cricket and is a seamer who always gets the ball to do a little bit. He is a useful lower order batsman and has got the capacity to grow with his batting.

"He will undoubtedly make the most of every opportunity that is thrown his way. He is that sort of kid. From my perspective, he is a real sound investment. If we are going to invest some time and energy in him, he is going to make the best of whatever he has got."

XAVIER CLARKE

Elliot Wilson: "He plays for Oswestry Cricket Club and goes to Llanfyllin School on the Shropshire-Wales border. He is part of the satellite academy in Shropshire under the guidance of Paul Pridgeon.

"He is a top order batsman and a leg spin bowler who has got some undoubted precocious talents - a bit like brother Joe. He has got the ability to find the middle of the bat on a regular basis and get off strike on a regular basis.

"Xavi is on a little bit of a different journey to his brother who didn't get any of the recognition that Xavi has got at his age. Joe missed out on Bunbury's and the Academy and we have given Xavi those opportunities. We have got to challenge Xavi in different ways moving forward."

WORCESTERSHIRE 2016-2017 ACADEMY INTAKE

JACK HAYNES

JOSH HAYNES

ZEN MALIK

JOSH DELL

DILLON PENNINGTON



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

JACK CHARTERS
ADAM FINCH
MATTHEW DAVIS
ZAIN HASSAN
XAVI CLARKE

Wilson also announced the members of the 2016-2017 elite players group which is the step just below the full Academy intake.

The six youngsters selected were:

RYAN WHELDON
JAMIE HAMMOND
CALLUM LEA
MAHAAZ AHMED
BILLY COX
JUJHAR JOHAL

WORCS QUARTET SELECTED FOR BUNBURY FESTIVAL

For the second year running, Worcestershire had four players selected from their Academy-Pathway programme, for the English Schools Cricket Association Under-15s Bunbury Cricket Festival - at Radley College, Oxfordshire.

Opening batsman Jack Haynes was chosen for the Bunbury Midlands squad for a second time, having captained them as an Under-14 player 12 months previously, along with top four batsman-seamer Zain Ul-Hassan, late order batsman-opening or first change bowler Matthew Davis and leg spinner- top order batsman Xavier Clarke.

David English's Bunbury Festival showcases the skills of 56 of the most talented England Under-15 players in the country. It has helped discover and nurture many talented cricketers. More than 300 Bunbury's have gone onto play first class cricket - and over 60 have represented England.

Clarke and Ul-Hassan played key parts in the Midlands winning the Bunbury Festival T20 competition.

Clarke, batting at number five, top-scored with 46 off 40 balls and two boundaries in the seven run semi-final win over South and West.

Ul-Hassan made an impact in the final against London-East as the Midlands triumphed by 21 runs. He hit an unbeaten 53 from 38 balls with two sixes and two fours.

Haynes, Clarke and Davis were then selected for the "Best of The Bunbury's" match at Loughborough.



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Haynes' outstanding form for the Midlands-North side proved in vain as London-East and South West triumphed on the final day.

Haynes scored 63 and 126 for the combined Midlands-North team but their opponents chased down a 341 target. Clarke also impressed with 78 and 18 not out.

JOSH HAYNES SHINES IN SUPER FOURS

Academy player Josh Haynes was selected to represent the Midlands in the Super Fours which were held at Loughborough in August.

It was a second call-up for left arm spinner Haynes with the Super Fours in effect the Under-17 equivalent of the Bunbury's.

County pathway player Adam Finch was originally on stand-by but was also called up by the Midlands.

The tournament offered the cream of the players in that age group the opportunity to show off their skills in front of watching England Development Programme coaches and selectors.

Haynes skippered the Midlands in the abandoned third and fourth place play-off match against London and East at Loughborough.

He returned the excellent figures of 2-27 from his full complement of 10 overs out of a total of 281-6 from 50 overs before the heavens opened.

Haynes also had figures of 2-29 against the South and West, scored 54 versus the North and finished with 2-38 in the group match against London and East in addition to his contribution in the third-fourth play-off game.

TOM SCOTT CONFIRMED AS WCCC CEO ON PERMANENT BASIS

Worcestershire CCC confirmed the appointment of Tom Scott as their permanent CEO in succession to David Leatherdale in mid-July.

Scott had replaced Leatherdale on an interim basis in February 2016 until the end of the 2016 season, after his predecessor's move into a similar role with the Professional Cricketer's Association.

The 58 year old, a life-long supporter of the club, was more than happy to take up the post full-time half-way through last season and this was approved by the Worcestershire CCC Board.

Scott founded The Cotswold Group, a UK leader in providing support services to the Insurance sector, in 1990. By the time The Cotswold Group was acquired by G4S - the world's largest security company - in 2011, it employed more than 300 full-time staff with offices in Gloucester, London, Manchester and Norwich.



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The Cotswold Group were Worcestershire CCC's main sponsor for a three year period from 2009 and Scott, who was educated at Nunnery Wood Secondary School, had become a member of the County's informal strategic group.

Worcestershire CCC Chairman Stephen Taylor, confirming the appointment in a statement, said: "It is brilliant news that Tom is taking the role full-time. He came in on an interim basis and the club have been very happy with the way Tom has performed to the point where the Board agreed that he should be appointed full-time.

"It is great that we have got someone with the business and commercial expertise of Tom in such a key role. Tom is looking to develop the commercial side of the club and enable it to begin work on Phase Three of the ground development on New Road, which is a key objective for the club over the next three to five years.

"In Tom, we have appointed someone who really cares about the club, he is an ardent Worcestershire supporter and watched them himself as a young boy. He has sponsored the club and is doing this important job for all the right reasons."

Scott said after his appointment was confirmed: "I was born and raised in Worcester, I'm a life-long supporter and feel passionate about Worcestershire County Cricket Club and cricket in Worcestershire.

"I want to see success at the Club both on and off the pitch so that our financial future is secure. After taking on the role in late February there has been a lot to learn about professional cricket but I have thoroughly enjoyed the process.

"There have been various aspects that have needed attention which provided me with a greater understanding of what makes the Club tick. During this time I quickly realised I would like to do the job permanently, so when the Board agreed, I was very pleased to accept."

JOE LEACH IS NEW FIRST TEAM CAPTAIN

Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes announced at the end of September that Joe Leach was to become the new first team captain of Worcestershire for the 2017 season.

Leach, who had been vice-captain for the past 12 months, has taken over the position from skipper Daryl Mitchell who spent six years in charge.

Rhodes said in a club statement: "I am looking forward to enjoying a good working relationship with Joe.

"He has had an exceptional season. He was already vice-captain and has got key attributes which will help with captaining the side.

"I have enjoyed working with Mitch for six years in the captain-coach relationship.



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"We have gone through lots of ups and downs but I felt the team going forward needed a fresh start and input from a different source regarding the captaincy.

"I hope Daryl can continue to play a key role as one of our most accomplished and experienced batsmen."

Mitchell led Worcestershire to promotion at the end of the 2010 season and repeated the feat in 2014 in addition to reaching the quarter-finals of the NatWest T20 Blast on three occasions.

Leach said in a club statement: "It is a great honour to be made captain and a great opportunity to take on a young improving squad.

"Hopefully we will go from strength to strength as a squad over the next few years.

"I would like to pay tribute to Daryl who has done a fantastic job, got us two promotions and to quarter-finals, and I look forward to working with him as a senior player."

Leach becomes the 29th official captain of Worcestershire.

JON GRAHAM APPOINTED FIRST NEW ROAD MANAGING DIRECTOR

Worcestershire CCC appointed Jon Graham as their first ever Managing Director in mid-October to help deliver its vision of making the Club a sustainable business in its own right outside of cricket.

Lifelong supporter Graham had already made a sizeable impact during nearly four years as Business Development Director, Commercial Director and latterly as General Manager.

He developed, created and launched the Worcestershire Rapids T20 brand in 2014. Graham and his Commercial Team won the best in class at the Business of Cricket Awards (BOCA) in the same year and behind the scenes he made significant changes in the day to day running of the business.

During this period the County has made huge strides forward towards their goal of becoming a 365 days a year enterprise.

Wordsley born Graham, aged 42, will be working in harness with new County CEO Tom Scott in striving "to take the Club to the next level."

He said: "Personally the MD role gives me the mandate to deliver the vision that, not just Tom and I believe in, but everybody at the Club is striving for. I feel incredibly proud becoming MD of Worcestershire County Cricket Club, it is a massive responsibility and one that I relish.



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"The support of my partner, my children and parents has been vital throughout my career and will continue to be so as we move this business forward.

"We are in a strong position to make changes. Some really positive strides and exciting times lie ahead."

Worcestershire CEO Tom Scott said: "I am delighted for Jon. His appointment as Managing Director reflects the Club's ambition to grow its commercial offering and ultimately develop the stand along New Road. This will create significant new income for the Club to help sustain its future and create further income for Cricket."

BLACKFINCH INVESTMENTS BECOME NEW WCCC MAIN SPONSOR

Worcestershire CCC are delighted to announce Blackfinch Investments have extended an already flourishing and fruitful relationship with the County by becoming their main sponsor for up to three years.

Blackfinch Investments were Worcestershire's official shirt sleeve sponsor across all formats for the 2016 campaign as they sought to raise the profile of the company locally and - through live television exposure - nationally.

In addition, Blackfinch have enjoyed plenty of in-ground branding at New Road and often entertained clients via their Worcestershire CCC membership & hospitality packages.

Now they are replacing Arctic Spas as main sponsor for 2017 - with an option to extend the sponsorship for a further two years for 2018 and 2019 - and Blackfinch CEO Richard Cook is hoping the liaison with Worcestershire will become "a long term relationship."

Richard Cook said: "We were shirt sleeve sponsors last year which gave us a good feel for how it is going to work as the main sponsor and we are over the moon to be taking on that role.

"It is a one year deal with the two year option and hopefully the relationship will be a long term one."

Worcestershire CCC CEO Tom Scott said: "I am very pleased with the introduction of Blackfinch as our main sponsor. They have been loyal supporters of the club and have committed to the club for 2017 and we are looking forward to working closely with them.

"They have already shown their commitment to the club with their previous sponsorship deal and we are delighted that partnership is being extended further.

"We are keen to work with them to make sure they get the most from their sponsorship and that we can provide them with what they are looking to achieve."



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

HOST OF WORCS PLAYERS SIGN NEW CONTRACTS

Eight Worcestershire CCC players signed new contracts during 2016 including opening batsman Daryl Mitchell and wicket-keeper-batsman Ben Cox who put pen to paper on new deals until the end of the 2020 season.

Cox, who was in the final year of his current contract, signed on the dotted line in late June and he has been rewarded for two excellent seasons behind the stumps and with the bat.

Mitchell, who passed 1,000 first class runs for the 2016 season after an excellent second half to the summer, was half-way through a four year deal signed at the end of the 2014 campaign.

Promising paceman Josh Tongue, who made his first team debut against Oxford MCCU at the start of last season, has committed to the County for the next three years and up and coming spinner Ben Twohig has signed for the same period.

All-rounder George Rhodes, who broke into the senior team during the second half of last season, was awarded a new two year contract and there was a 12 month extension for another all-rounder in Alex Hepburn.

Worcestershire have welcomed two new first-time professionals into their ranks in opening batsman Ollie Westbury and paceman George Scrimshaw who signed one year contracts.

NEW SIGNINGS

Worcestershire have signed Australian all-rounder John Hastings as their main overseas player for the 2017 season.

Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes moved swiftly last August to secure the services of the 31-year-old who has a proven record in all formats of the game and is expected to be available for the majority of the season subject to international commitments.

Hastings has previous experience of county cricket with Durham and in 2015 finished fifth in the PCA Most Valuable Player rankings.

He has appeared in Test, ODI and T20I cricket for his country and Worcestershire are hoping he will be available sooner rather than later after undergoing patella tendon surgery in December.

New South Wales born Hastings has also featured in the Indian Premier League with the Chennai Super Kings and, earlier this year, Kolkata Knight Riders.

Mitchell Santner has re-signed for Worcestershire Rapids as their NatWest T20 Blast overseas player for the coming summer.



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The New Zealand all-rounder will be keen to make an impact after injury cut short his spell with the Rapids in 2016.

Santner suffered a broken finger in his first T20 Blast appearance against Durham Jets at New Road.

Like Hastings, he has appeared in all formats of the game for his country.

INTERNATIONAL CALL-UPS

Worcestershire Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes received another international call-up to be part of the coaching squad for the England Test series in Bangladesh this winter.

His involvement followed on from assisting with the England Lions during their T20 and 50 over series against Pakistan 'A' in the UAE the previous winter.

It was another example of the high esteem Rhodes is held in and last summer he came in for praise from Andy Flower - the ECB technical director of elite coaching - for the "excellent job" he has undertaken at first team level and also further down the scale at New Road.

Rhodes was reunited with his former Worcestershire captain in Phil Neale - the England operations manager - ex New Road overseas player Shakib Al Hasan and, of course, England all-rounder Moeen Ali.

Moeen continues to be an established member of the England side in all formats of the game and he has just experienced the third anniversary of his international debut against the West Indies in the Caribbean in February 2014.

He enjoyed a successful 2016, particularly with the bat in Test cricket and scored four centuries during the calendar year - a tally only matched by Indian skipper Virat Kohli.

The 29-year-old scored a Test best 155 not out against Sri Lanka at Chester-le-Street, 108 versus Pakistan at The Oval and then 117 and 146 against the Indian attack in Rajkot and Chennai respectively.

Moeen was not as prolific with the ball although he did collect a combined tally of 11 wickets from the two Tests against Bangladesh in Chittagong and Dhaka.

He has now also completed 1,000 runs in ODI cricket.

Joe Clarke is ambitious to join Moeen in the England side and he carried out 12th man duties for the ODI against Pakistan in Cardiff. The 20-year-old again featured for the Lions throughout the year.

After the T20 and 50 over series against Pakistan 'A' in the UAE, Clarke was selected for the home Tri Series - again against Pakistan 'A' and Sri Lanka 'A'.



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However, he was ruled out of the last two games of the series with a side injury suffered in the warm-up after he re-joined Worcestershire for the NatWest T20 Blast match with Derbyshire at Derby.

Brett D'Oliveira's early season form also earned him a call-up for the Tri-Series and it was a proud moment when he received his Lions cap off the ECB's lead batting coach Graham Thorpe ahead of his debut against Pakistan 'A' at Canterbury.

Clarke was also selected for a Lions training camp in the UAE this winter and he featured in three ODIs against the host nation and a four-day match versus Afghanistan.

He impressed sufficiently to be selected for the recent Lions tour of Sri Lanka.

Worcestershire had FIVE players selected in the initial England Under-19 squad for the summer matches against Sri Lanka 'A'.

Josh Dell, Josh Tongue, Ben Twohig and Zen Malik were chosen for the three ODIs with Ollie Westbury joining them for the two Tests.

David Graveney OBE, chairman of selectors for the EDP, was full of praise for the Academy set-up at New Road after the quintet were chosen.

He said: "For Worcestershire to provide four players to both squads, and a fifth in the four-day squad, is a fine reflection on the work being done by Elliott Wilson and all the other coaches involved with the Academy at New Road."

Westbury had a Test debut to remember in scoring 196, spanning eight hours at Fenners and two 40 plus scores in the second Test at Northampton which ensured he was chosen as England's player of the series.

Tongue was forced to withdraw with a back problem which came to light after a warm-up game and another Worcestershire player, George Scrimshaw, had to pull out of the second Test because of a toe injury.

But Scrimshaw and Dell were chosen for an England Young Lions training camp in Dubai before Christmas, although the former had to return home early with a back problem.

TOURIST MATCHES

There was plenty of international cricket at New Road during 2016 and some memorable displays to entertain spectators.

England Women took on Pakistan Women in an ODI in June and registered an emphatic 212 run victory.



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England were put into bat and amassed 378-5 in 50 overs with openers Lauren Whitfield (123) and Tilley Baumont (104) putting on 235 before Natalie Sciver smashed 80 off 33 deliveries.

Pakistan were dismissed for 166 in 47.4 overs with Anya Shrubsole finishing with 4-19.

Pakistan 'A' gained a thrilling eight wicket win over Sri Lanka 'A' at the conclusion of a four-day fixture in July.

Pakistan obtained a first innings lead of 211, dismissing Sri Lanka for 250 after they had elected to bat and then totalling 461-8 declared.

Sri Lanka looked as if they were going to bat out the final day for long periods but they were finally dismissed for 358.

Pakistan then chased down a 148 target in just 19.2 overs thanks to Babar Azam (66) and Saud Shakil (51).

Pakistan were also the visitors via their senior team for a two-day match with Worcestershire, who rested Joe Leach and Ben Cox, at the end of July.

The tourists were put into bat and on day one scored 261-3 with Azhar Ali contributing 81 and Shan Masood 67. Ed Barnard (1-30), Alex Hepburn (1-49) and Alexei Kervezee (1-38) claimed one wicket apiece.

It was Worcestershire's turn to bat on day two and there were contributions from Daryl Mitchell (49), Tom Fell (35), Joe Clarke (58) and Tom Kohler-Cadmore (73) as they ended play on 260-6.

TOM FELL AND DAWN PUGH GET ALL CLEAR IN CANCER BATTLES

The most heart-warming news of 2016 came with batsman Tom Fell and first team scorer Dawn Pugh being given the all clear in their respective battles against cancer.

Fell was initially diagnosed with the illness at the end of the 2015 campaign and again in March 2016 which meant he missed the pre-season tour of Abu Dhabi and a sizeable chunk of cricket during the first third of the campaign.

But he battled back via the second team after getting the all-clear from the specialist in May and returned to the senior side in June.

The standing ovation that greeted his century in the Royal London One-Day Cup match with Lancashire was an emotional and tearful occasion and showed the esteem and popularity of the County number three.

Fell made his return in the Specsavers County Championship clash against Leicestershire at New Road and scored 61 and 10.



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The 22-year-old had been overwhelmed with the rapturous applause from supporters that continued all the way to the wicket when he went out to bat in the first innings.

He said afterwards: "I'd like to say thank you for the magnificent reception I received from spectators on my return to first team action against Leicestershire.

"It was a fantastic feeling to hear so much applause when I walked out to the wicket for my first senior game this season.

"It's what I have been working towards, and what has been driving me on through these last few difficult months.

"The support of all the lads, coaches and support staff has been immense. I will never forget it."

Dawn was forced to miss the opening two thirds of the 2016 season as she fought against the illness.

She was back in her key role for the Royal London One-Day Cup match with Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge on August 1.

But it was only in the early days of October that she was given the green light by the specialist much to everyone's delight.

The first team squad wore Yell4Fell yellow coloured shirts in support of Tom and Dawn's fight against cancer and in aid of cancer charities during the NatWest T20 Blast match with Derbyshire at New Road.

Tom Kohler-Cadmore also had his hair shaved off on the outfield before the opening game of the season against Kent at New Road in support of his great friend Fell and cancer charities.

Worcestershire assistant coach-bowling coach Matt Mason said: "It was a huge blow to all the team and staff when we heard about Tom Fell's cancer diagnosis and thankfully he has come through it so well.

"Equally hard on all of us was the news about our wonderful scorer Dawn who is as big a part of our team as any player. It was great to hear the news that she had overcome her battle against cancer."

KOHLER-CADMORE WINS AWARD FOR FASTEST HUNDRED OF THE SEASON

Tom Kohler-Cadmore was awarded the Walter Lawrence Trophy after scoring the fastest hundred of the 2016 domestic season.



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Now in its 82nd year, the Walter Lawrence Trophy is open to all domestic county competitions as well as One-Day Internationals, T20 Internationals and Test Matches in England.

Kohler-Cadmore lifted the award for his 43 ball century in the Worcestershire Rapids opening NatWest T20 Blast fixture of the summer against Durham Jets at New Road. He produced an awesome display of hitting and his ton included five sixes and 13 fours.

It helped the Rapids to total a massive 225-6 in their 20 overs and eventually triumph by 38 runs.

In total, Kohler-Cadmore scored 127 from 54 deliveries with eight sixes and 14 fours - the County's highest ever individual T20 score.

The 22-year-old becomes the third Worcestershire player to lift the Walter Lawrence Trophy after Graeme Hick in 1988 and Vikram Solanki in 2009.

Hick hit the fastest ton in a County Championship match versus Surrey at The Oval and Solanki in a T20 fixture against Glamorgan at New Road.

Other Worcestershire players, Basil D'Oliveira (1967) and Tom Graveney (1968) collected the trophy for exploits with England against India at Leeds and West Indies in Port of Spain respectively.

SPIRIT OF CRICKET AWARD LIFTED BY TOM FELL

Tom Fell's sporting behaviour during the Specsavers County Championship match with Sussex at Hove won him the 2016 Christopher Martin Jenkins Spirit of Cricket Award.

The Worcestershire batsman became the fourth winner of the award after Derbyshire's Wayne Madsen (2013), Sussex's Luke Wright (2014) and former New Zealand captain Brendon McCullum (2015).

The award was created by Marylebone Cricket Club and the BBC in memory of former MCC President and BBC Test Match Special commentator Martin-Jenkins, who died in January 2013.

Fell's conduct on the third and final day at Hove in September was recognised by a judging panel of MCC and BBC representatives.

Sussex were in the middle of chasing a 272 target when Fell completed a diving stop on the boundary and returned the ball to the wicketkeeper.

But the former Oakham School pupil then indicated to the umpires that his foot had been in contact with the rope when he collected the ball and that four runs should be signalled.



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His actions were applauded by spectators and Worcestershire went on to win the game by 11 runs.

MCC Chief Executive Derek Brewer paid tribute to Fell and said: "Tom Fell is fully deserving of this award in light of his actions against Sussex.

"MCC works hard to promote the 'Play Hard, Play Fair' message through the Spirit of Cricket at all levels of the game.

"So it is very encouraging to see professionals like Tom setting such a good example."

SECOND ECB BUSINESS AWARD IN THREE YEARS FOR COUNTY

Worcestershire CCC scooped one of the awards at the annual ECB Business of Cricket Awards (BOCA) for the second time in three years.

In 2014 Worcestershire lifted the County Recognition Award - a reflection of the overall work the county has done to improve their business model against the principles of the Transformation Programme.

For 2016 the County won the Business Change and Innovation Award as a result of the success of their two Outdoor Cinema Events and the Concert of Legends at New Road last summer.

The awards recognise and reward off the field excellence across the first class game.

The Worcestershire CCC business plan is to diversify the business model to place greater focus on non-cricket events.

The two cinema events, the screening of 'Lion King' and 'Finding Nemo' in late June and early August respectively attracted a combined audience of around 4,500 - the equivalent of a "sell out" home game in the NatWest T20 Blast.

It was a similar picture with the Legends Concert - a 12 hour musical extravaganza which was headlined by UB40 and also included artists such as Lulu, Heather Small of M People and The Lighthouse Family.

More than 5,000 attended and, as is the case with the Outdoor Cinema, the plan is for the events to become regular highlights of the Worcestershire CCC calendar.

Employing methods specifically designed to mitigate against risk and financial exposure, the County delivered three hugely successful events and in the process significantly expanded its database while broadening the demographic of its customers beyond traditional cricket audiences.

All three events generated profit while helping establish New Road as a key events venue to a wider audience, paving the way for outdoor events to become annual highlights in the



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County's ever-growing calendar and to bring new customers back to both cricket and non-cricket events.

Worcestershire clearly impressed the BOCA judges, one of whom said: "Well executed successful events delivered without financial risk."

Another one said: "The submission is strong on demonstrating change. The cinema programme in particular matched the audience and objectives articulated, providing a platform for similar future events."

THANKSGIVING SERVICES TO HONOUR TOM GRAVENEY AND KEN MILLS

Worcester Cathedral was packed to the rafters for a Service of Thanksgiving in late April for the life of Worcestershire's legendary batsman Tom Graveney.

Sir Michael Parkinson CBE paid tribute to Tom who died in November 2015 aged 88 and he was accompanied in a question and answer session by Sir Tim Rice, former Worcestershire captain Norman Gifford, Tom's nephew David Graveney OBE and Tom's son Tim Graveney.

Tom Graveney, whose elegant stroke play was imbedded in the memory of anyone fortunate enough to watch him play, scored 47,793 first class runs with 122 hundreds at an average of 44.91 - most of them on uncovered wickets.

He amassed 4,882 runs for England at an average of 44.38 with 11 centuries between 1951 and 1969.

Tom Graveney was a member of Worcestershire's County Championship winning side of 1964 and 1965 following his move from Gloucestershire and regained his England Test spot in 1966 becoming captain of the County from 1968 to 1970.

After his retirement from county cricket in 1970, he enjoyed a distinguished career in broadcasting with Test Match Special and was Worcestershire president from 1994 to 1998 before becoming president of the MCC for 2004-2005.

Another sad loss was that of Worcestershire Supporters' Association chairman Ken Mills MBE who died in late August at the age of 77, after a long battle against illness.

Ken had been chairman of the Association for 41 years and has left an outstanding legacy at New Road.

He oversaw the purchase of New Road by the Association for the County in 1977 from Worcester Cathedral for £30,000 and was involved in many other projects.

During his lengthy term as chairman he also helped to organise coach trips to away matches for supporters until they ceased in 2011 and also the popular Fifty-Fifty competition.

It has been estimated that the Association has raised £6.5 million at current values.



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A Thanksgiving Service to honour Ken's memory was held at St. John's Church and Worcestershire CCC held a minute's silence before the start of the second day's play in the County Championship match against Derbyshire with both teams wearing black armbands.

Ken is already honoured at New Road - together with his late wife Pat, who was Association Secretary for 40 years - via a stand in front of the Premier Inn.

WORCS CCC MEMBERS GIVEN INSIGHT INTO PROPOSED NEW T20 JOURNEY BY ECB

Worcestershire CCC members were given a detailed insight into the benefits and significance of the ECB's proposed new city based T20 competition at a New Road forum in October.

ECB Chairman Colin Graves, Chief Operating Officer Gordon Hollins plus Mike Fordham from the Commercial Department were all in attendance in The View for the near two hour forum in front of around 50 members.

The trio outlined the details of the eight team tournament which it is intended to be staged each August from 2020 in addition to the existing NatWest T20 Blast.

But minimising the impact on other competitions is also a major factor being taken into consideration.

It was confirmed that Worcestershire will receive an additional £1.3 million payment from the ECB each year if and when the competition goes ahead.

Gordon Hollins highlighted several issues concerning the state of the game:

- * - the decline world wide of Test cricket
- * - a real debt in the game in this country of £140 million
- * - a 15% decline in the participation in cricket during the past 10 years
- * - how to inspire the next generation of children to engage with cricket

Mike Fordham also pinpointed several pertinent issues regarding the game

- * - cricket being reliant on a largely male middle-upper class audience across all formats in the 40-50 age group
- * - only 5% of fans attending international matches in 2016 were under 16
- * - just 13% of supporters watching NatWest T20 Blast games were juniors
- * - teenagers in an ECB survey regarded Premiership rugby and WWE wrestling more interesting than cricket
- * - twice as many teenagers in the survey recognised John Cena, an American wrestler, than England Test captain Alastair Cook.

ECB chairman Colin Graves summed up the need for the new competition.



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He said: "I have taken the option of changing the game for the better and sustainability going forward. We are talking about cricket in the right position going forward for the young generation we are missing.

"I say to all the county chairman 'leave a legacy for your club, leave a legacy for cricket, and look forward instead of back.'

"We've got to get this right from an operational, customer, broadcaster, and county point of view.

"Don't think you are not part of it by not having a game played here - you will get £1.3 million per year to make sure you can sustain cricket in Worcestershire.

"It's not just about the grounds where the matches are going to be played. It is making sure we get cricket back to where it needs to be."

WORCS CCC 2016 GALA AWARDS EVENING

Worcestershire held their end of season Awards Evening in the Chestnut Marquee and all-rounder Joe Leach was voted the County's Arctic Spas Players' Player of The Year for the second year running.

The 25-year-old has completed a memorable double by also lifting the Dick Lygon Award - sponsored by Crown Domestic Appliances - given to a player for their contribution off as well as on the pitch.

Leach scored more than 600 Championship runs and picked up 65 wickets - the highest tally in Division Two of the Specsavers County Championship.

It followed on from his 2015 exploits in Division One of nearly 500 runs and 59 wickets.

Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes said: "I think the Players' Player award is a real prestigious award. For your peers, the guys you are with in the dressing room day in and day out throughout a busy season, to vote for you is really special.

"Joe deserved to win it. He was consistent in all formats and he is well-respected for the performances and other dimensions he gives to the dressing room.

"He got 600 runs and over 60 wickets and there are other things to consider. He played all the games in all formats, the 20 over games, and 50 over games, and has been successful. He is the type of guy who is a competitor and that holds him in good stead for the future years.

"The Dick Lygon award is a really special award because it is for performances on an off the field and it's decided by the Chairman and Director of Cricket.

"We had other outstanding candidates as well and that's testament to Joe Leach's qualities that he kept them at bay in many ways.



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"The important thing for everyone to consider when this award was given out was that it is not just the best player.

"It is the guy who gives his all to the dressing room, who gives his all for the club and the club's cause, the type of guy called upon to make appearances outside playing cricket and a really good ambassador for Worcestershire CCC.

"Joe fitted that bill superbly with the season he had on the field and also the manner in which he goes about his professional business as a Worcestershire player in promoting the club and what we stand for. He is an example of a person you can't fail to respect."

Joe Clarke also retained The Young Player of The Year award - sponsored by Mark Bowen and MB Insolvency - after scoring five Championship hundreds and completing 1,000 runs in his first full season of first team cricket.

Rhodes said: "Joe Clarke has had another wonderful season and is definitely progressing in the right way. He got six first class hundreds which is a terrific effort for a youngster and has an old head on his young shoulders.

"Joe won this award for the second year running and I'm sure he would have pushed Joe Leach for the Players' Player of The Year - it would have been a close thing.

"He is a young player who is class and is getting better, a player we are delighted to have brought through the system and his runs go a long way towards helping the team secure some big scores.

"He defies his youth in many ways. There is definitely an old head on young shoulders and when you look at some of the best young players.....Alastair Cook, when he was very young, seemed to possess an old head on young shoulders.

"Joe Root was the same so that's a good sign for Joe Clarke to possess a similar trait."

Here is a full list of the award winners:-

Worcester Cricket Society's Moment of the Season. Shield Trophy (presented by Ann Mullen & Michael Hitchings)

WINNER: TOM FELL

The Cricket Society's "Moment of the Season" went to Tom Fell for his century against Lancashire in the Royal London One-Day Cup at New Road.

The whole ground rose as one to acknowledge Fell's first hundred since his return to the side after his double battle against cancer.

It helped Worcestershire to the win which kept alive their hopes of reaching the quarter-finals - a mission completed after another fine knock by Fell at Trent Bridge on the following day.

The Fans Forum Fielder of the Year Award Glass Trophy (presented by Michael Bishop & Paul Sandars)

WINNER: BEN COX



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Each match members of the fans forum can nominate the player they consider to be the outstanding fielder. Points are awarded from the nominations, and also for catches, stumpings, and run outs. The player with the most points over the season is declared the winner.

The competition was close. In First Class matches, Ben Cox led the way, whilst in limited overs matches Brett D'Oliveira was the leader.

Particular highlights were Alexei Kervezee's catch against Gloucestershire, Ben Cox's stumping of Neil Dexter against Leicestershire, Ross Whiteley's catch on the boundary against the Bears, and Brett D'Oliveira's run out and catch in the exciting win at Hove.

The BBC Hereford & Worcester almost lost for words Award Bottle of Champagne & Trophy (presented by Sally Bentley-Read & Chris Williams)

WINNER: BRETT D'OLIVEIRA

BBC Hereford-Worcester have commentated on over 30,000 deliveries during the season and the winner was Brett D'Oliveira after an unusual piece of action in the home Specsavers County Championship match with Northamptonshire.

Northants needed just one run from the final five balls of the 110th over to secure maximum batting points but Chad Barrett blocked out every delivery from D'Oliveira much to the surprise of everyone.

Commentator Dave Bradley said: "There are not words to describe why he did it. We gave the award to Brett for that and also because we had taken the mickey out of his hair all summer and he had been very good about it!"

Worcestershire County Cricket Supporters Association Award (presented by David Kennedy)

WINNER: JOE LEACH

Worcestershire County Cricket Supporters Association members voted for their Player of the Year. The award and a cheque for £500 went to Joe Leach, a player who polled twice as many votes as any other player.

The Kenyon Award Kenyon Trophy (presented by Sue Jackson)

WINNER: DARYL MITCHELL

Daryl Mitchell was the joint holder of this award last season and in 2016 he was the outright winner after his superb performance in the record breaking win over Northamptonshire in the Specsavers County Championship match at New Road.

Mitchell scored a century in both innings - the third time he has achieved this - as Worcestershire chased down a 401 target on the final day.

His efforts helped Worcestershire achieve their highest ever successful run chase at their headquarters.

The Damian D'Oliveira Academy Player of the Year Award Tip Foster Trophy & Book (presented by Tracey D'Oliveira)

WINNER: OLIVER WESTBURY

Oliver earned the right to his opportunity as a professional in 2017 through the sheer weight of his performances.

He exhibited the behaviour expected of a Worcestershire man and worked as hard as any academy player that Academy coach Elliot Wilson has seen in the last three years.



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He plays to his limitations and is continually looking to improve himself on and off the park. His highlight must be his performances for England Under-19s in the summer series versus Sri Lanka where he scored an incredible 196 over eight hours. Oli followed this up with two 40s in the second Test at Northampton.

Development Focus Presentation Framed Letters: presented By Academy Coach Elliot Wilson to Ollie Westbury and George Scrimshaw.

The frames recognise the progress of a WCCC academy player achieving professional status here at New Road, with letters from the significant people in their life who talk about their pride in what they've achieved and what it would mean to see them play for Worcestershire CCC.

OLLIE WESTBURY

Ollie had worked and worked for the past two years and through his sheer weight of runs deserved his opportunity to join the Pears full time.

GEORGE SCRIMSHAW

After challenging 2014 and 2015 seasons due to injury, George showed resilience to come back from those lows to perform well in 2016.

The Arctic Spas Players Player Award Glass Trophy (presented by President of Arctic Spas, David Martin)

WINNER: JOE LEACH

This award has been voted for by the players themselves. This player has:

- *Made a significant contribution to the team's performance throughout the 2016 season
- *Has a positive attitude in the dressing room
- *Has given 100% in both training and matches
- *Demonstrates team spirit, epitomises the Worcestershire Way.

The Young Player of the Year Award – Sponsored by Mark Bowen, Sponsored by MB Insolvency Glass Trophy (presented by Mark Bowen)

WINNER: JOE CLARKE

Joe Clarke enjoyed a memorable first full season of senior cricket at New Road and scooped the Young Player Award for the second year running.

The 20-year-old scored six first class centuries during 2016, including five in the Specsavers County Championship as he completed 1,000 first class runs for the first time.

Clarke scored many of his runs under pressure including key knocks in the big run chase victories over Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.

The EBC Group T20 Player of the Year Award Glass Trophy (presented by Richard Lane)

WINNER: BEN COX

Keeper-batsman Ben Cox was again a model of consistency in all formats of the game and lived up to the 'Mr Reliable' tag given him by Director Of Cricket Steve Rhodes.

In the NatWest T20 Blast he came up with several late order performances with the bat which either helped the Rapids over the winning line or enabled them to set a challenging target.

The Dick Lygon Award – Sponsored by sponsored by Crown Domestic Appliances Lygon Buttons (presented by John Graham, owner of Crown Domestic Appliances)



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WINNER: JOE LEACH

This is regarded as one of the most prestigious awards and highlights the contribution of a player off the pitch as well as out in the middle.

Joe Leach's never say die attitude was typical of the excellent spirit evident amongst the squad at New Road and he was the deserved 2016 winner of the Lygon Buttons.

THE BOARD

The Board can confirm the votes were cast as follows in the ballot to elect Directors - Meriel Harris 915 *Peter Jewell 725 Richard Coles 581.

*Due to an irregularity in this candidate's nomination being brought to our attention, the Board considered that it had no alternative but to declare null and void all votes cast for this candidate.

Accordingly, Meriel Harris and Richard Coles were declared elected.

In congratulating Meriel Harris on her re-election and welcoming Richard Coles to the Board, we should like to place on record our thanks to Peter Jewell for his work on behalf of the Club over many years.

FAREWELL

Paceman Chris Russell has parted company with the County after not being offered a new contract and we wish him all the best in his future career.

WITH THANKS

The club wishes to thank and give appropriate appreciation to:-

- BBC Hereford and Worcester for again providing ball by ball commentary for all matches on the radio and on line during 2016. It was a service well received and much appreciated by many thousands of Worcestershire CCC supporters in all parts of the world.
- Our television partner BSkyB who continue to underpin the finances of English cricket and provide such extensive and innovative coverage of the game. Matches televised live at New Road gave valuable exposure to our corporate partners.
- King's School for allowing the club to use their playing fields for car parking on busy days when it is available.
- The Worcestershire Supporters' Association for their ongoing and generous support to the club.
- The volunteers of the Ladies Pavilion who continue to provide wonderful tea and cakes on match days at New Road. It is an institution without parallel on the county circuit and should be, and is, treasured.



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- The WCCC Heritage Group under the chairmanship of Tim Jones who continue to give of their time in ensuring the club's heritage is fully documented and archived.
- Our honorary New Road PA announcers Clive Feith and Ernie Mann who continue to provide an informative service on match days.
- The officials of Kidderminster, Bromsgrove, Stourbridge, Barnt Green and RGS Worcester for hosting Second XI-Academy matches during the 2016 season and providing such good wickets.
- The media who always play such an important part in the life of Worcestershire County Cricket Club. They continue to support the club and provide an excellent service to local supporters. Thanks go to regular New Road journalists Mike Beddow (ECB match reports and freelance), Chris Oldnall (Cricket Paper and freelance), John Curtis (Worcestershire CCC website and twitter feed), Dave Bradley, Trevor Owens and Graham Hill (BBC Hereford-Worcester), Worcester News, various Sky TV presenters, BBC Midlands Today, Steve Lee (freelance broadcaster), Central TV and various national newspaper journalists and websites.
- All the Club's stakeholders including members, supporters, sponsors, advertisers, hospitality clients and the media for their support throughout the year.
- The non-executive members of the board who continue to devote many unpaid hours of their time to the club.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Middlesex on winning Division One of the Specsavers County Championship, to Essex for being promoted from Division Two, to Northamptonshire Steelbacks for winning the NatWest T20 Blast and to Warwickshire Bears for winning the Royal London One-Day Cup (50 over competition).



WORCESTERSHIRE **COUNTY CRICKET CLUB**

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB LIMITED

&

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MERGED ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016

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WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

COMMENTARY

The accounts for the year ending 31 December 2016 are a consolidation extracted from the audited accounts of Worcestershire County Cricket Club Limited and Worcestershire County Cricket Trading Limited. Both of these entities have accounts that are prepared and audited annually by Bishop Fleming.

As is normally the case, signed copies of these audited accounts are held at the club's offices and are available for inspection throughout the year. Copies are also available at the AGM should anyone wish to see them after the meeting.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Although the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2016 show a seemingly strong surplus of £428,673 compared to a reported surplus of £182,412 in 2015, the underlying position remains loss making.

Both 2016 and 2015's results were flattered by exceptional items. The results for 2016 are boosted by £500,000 received in the last quarter from England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) which the club has treated as income. Excluding this amount results in an underlying loss of £71,327 for 2016. In 2015, as previously reported, the results were boosted by a successful mis-selling claim against our bank – without which our underlying loss would have been £179,313.

The sequential underlying loss may well have reduced, reflecting the restructuring of operations in 2016, lower levels of interest rates on debt and reduced costs – however there remains plenty of challenges ahead. We continue to focus on cost reductions in the business and seeking additional income from our assets. The club's focus will be on improving its return on its enviable facilities and reducing its debt levels, so that more can be put back into its cricket operations.

BALANCE SHEET

The balance sheet as at 31st December 2016 shows total equity of £1,938,140, compared to £1,509,467 in 2015. As in previous years the balance sheet reveals that debt levels were stretched in previous years to support the build program.

Overall debt levels total £5,223,918 at 31st December 2016, an overall reduction of £306,745 from £5,530,663 at 31st December 2015. In terms of debt profile, short-term loans that become due in 2017 have increased sharply to £1,412,261 from £807,609 which became due



WORCESTERSHIRE

COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

in 2016. This accounts for the increase in net current liabilities reported now at £2,625,359 for 31st December 2016.

Despite the board continuing to recognise that opportunities exist for future development of our business (for example Phase 3), the immediate focus is to reduce loan obligations.

The board is confident that the steps it has taken in 2016 and changes anticipated throughout 2017 will enable the club to focus on reducing its debt levels, improving utilisation of its excellent facilities, and [properly] investing in cricket for the future.

Tom Scott
Chief Executive

Fanos Hira FCA
Audit Chairman



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31st December 2016

			2016	2015
			£	£
Income		Notes		
	Subscriptions	2	401,380	429,082
	Match Receipts	3	310,596	406,954
	Fund raising and other income	4	55,445	328,943
	England and Wales Cricket Board		2,530,389	1,838,689
	Catering surplus	5	91,487	155,328
	Commercial Department surplus	6	81,888	69,716
			3,471,185	3,228,712
Expenditure				
	Administration expenses	7	446,733	289,743
	Cricket expenses	8	1,761,585	1,978,835
	Match expenses	9	193,135	195,338
	Upkeep of ground and buildings	10	637,510	603,147
			3,038,963	3,067,063
Surplus before Exceptional item/interest			432,222	161,649
	Interest and finance costs		-	20,763
Surplus before tax			432,222	182,412
	Deferred tax charge		(3,549)	-
Surplus after tax			428,673	182,412



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB BALANCE SHEET

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2016

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
Share Capital		124	112
Reserves	11	1,938,016	1,509,355
Shareholder Funds		1,938,140	1,509,467
Employment of capital			
Fixed assets	12	8,005,122	7,987,324
Investments	13	15,390	15,390
Current assets			
Stock		29,828	18,376
Debtors	14	165,013	174,359
Cash at bank		179,247	38,441
		374,088	231,176
Current liabilities	15	(2,625,359)	(1,971,369)
Net current liabilities		(2,251,271)	(1,740,193)
Total assets less current liabilities		5,769,241	6,262,521
Loans	16	(3,831,101)	(4,753,054)
Total Net Assets		1,938,140	1,509,467

Approved by authority of the Board on 8 March 2017.

Tom Scott
Chief Executive

Fanos Hira FCA
Audit Chairman



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Year to 31st December 2016

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Club's accounts:

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of land buildings. These unaudited merged accounts are an informal consolidation prepared from audited statutory accounts of Worcestershire County Cricket Club Limited and Worcestershire County Cricket Trading Limited.

DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is provided on all fixed assets on a straight line basis, at rates calculated to write off the cost or value of each asset over its expected useful life.

STOCK

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

LEASES AND HIRE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

Tangible fixed assets acquired under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are capitalised at the estimated fair value at the date of inception of each lease or contract. The total finance charges are allocated over the period of the lease in such a way as to give a reasonably consistent charge on the outstanding liability. Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account as incurred.

PENSION

The Club contributes towards personal pension schemes for players and staff administered by the England and Wales Cricket Board. The pension costs are charged to the Income and Expenditure Account as they are incurred.

DEFERRED TAX

Deferred Tax is provided in full in respect of taxation deferred by timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes.



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	2016 £	2015 £
2. Subscriptions		
General	360,498	406,480
Members' car park tickets	40,882	22,602
	401,380	429,082
3. Match Receipts		
LVCC County Championship	77,310	82,461
Royal London 1 Day Cup	18,863	34,212
Twenty/20 matches	198,024	217,301
Twenty/20 insurance claim/tourist insurance claim	-	45,000
Tourist match	16,399	27,980
	310,596	406,954
4. Fund Raising and Other Income		
Match day parking	6,098	6,903
Other income/ loan waivers/ ECB non cricket	37,042	280,198
Donations/ Legacies/ Development income	12,305	41,842
	55,445	328,943
5. Catering Surplus		
Sales	1,112,821	1,116,791
Cost of sales	(503,441)	(417,745)
Gross profit	609,380	699,046
Less Direct Expenses		
Wages	419,630	464,251
Other overheads	98,263	79,467
Total overheads	517,893	543,718
Surplus/Deficit for the year	91,487	155,328



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	2016 £	2015 £
6. Commercial Department surplus		
Sponsorship and advertising etc.	503,174	561,063
Less Direct Expenses		
Salaries	(172,241)	(151,748)
Other expenses	(249,045)	(339,599)
Surplus for the year	81,888	69,716
7. Administrative expenses		
Gross salaries and expenses	281,985	268,716
Salary recharges	-	(75,000)
Audit	14,930	15,000
Accountancy/ professional fees	66,635	29,421
General expenses	83,183	51,606
	446,733	289,743
8. Cricket expenses		
Playing, coaching staff salaries and other direct expenses	1,693,075	1,909,299
Player's pension scheme	68,510	69,536
	1,761,585	1,978,835
9. Match expenses		
Second X1 Umpires	-	600
Gatemen's and scoring costs	148,592	125,878
Sundries	44,543	68,860
	193,135	195,338
10. Upkeep of ground and buildings		
Ground staff wages	198,424	127,983
Upkeep of mowers and rollers	25,481	16,375
Ground & building upkeep	358,238	420,364
Insurances	53,119	30,488
Heat and light	65,716	79,161
Rent and rates	44,755	45,265
Flood cost	13,192	2,944
Pay and display parking	(121,415)	(119,433)
	637,510	603,147



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

11. Shareholder Funds

	Capital Redemption Reserve £	Revaluation Reserve £	General Fund £	Total £
At 1 January 2016	283	66,516	1,442,556	1,509,355
Surplus/Deficit for the year	-	-	428,673	428,673
Revaluation in the year	-	-	-	-
Depreciation written back	-	-	-	-
Other movement	(12)	-	-	(12)
At 31 December 2016	271	66,516	1,871,229	1,938,016

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Buildings £	Equipment £	Leasehold Property £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2016	7,987,324	636,416	-	8,623,740
Additions	5,250	12,548	-	17,798
Disposals	-	(113,659)	-	(113,659)
Revaluation	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2016	7,992,574	535,305	-	8,527,879
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2016	-	636,416	-	636,416
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(113,659)	-	(113,659)
Revaluation	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2016	-	522,757	-	522,757
Net book value				
At 31 December 2016	7,992,574	12,548	-	8,005,122
At 31 December 2015	7,987,324	-	-	7,987,324

13. Investments

	Total £
Cost or Valuation	
At 31 December 2015	15,390
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2016	15,390



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	2016 £	2015 £
14. Debtors		
Trade debtors	34,797	27,066
Other debtors	26,676	-
England and Wales Cricket Board	-	48,493
Prepayments and accrued income	60,334	52,046
Deferred Tax Asset	43,205	46,754
	165,012	174,359
15. Current liabilities		
Bank loans and overdrafts	214,761	353,609
Trade creditors	317,163	409,337
Taxation and social security	312,875	235,726
Other loans	1,197,500	454,000
Accruals and deferred income	583,060	518,697
	2,625,359	1,971,369
16. Non-current liabilities		
Bank loans	1,883,507	2,039,538
Other loans	1,928,150	2,683,516
	3,811,657	4,723,054
Accruals and deferred income	19,444	-
	3,811,657	4,723,054
Instalments due:		
1 - 2 years	472,184	1,335,623
2 - 5 years	1,161,376	1,287,851
Over 5 years	2,178,097	2,129,580
	3,811,657	4,753,054



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

SIX YEAR SUMMARY

	2016	2015	2014 (15 months)	2013	2012	2011
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Subscriptions	401,380	429,082	408,371	373,159	387,901	382,536
Match receipts	310,596	406,954	330,617	316,255	207,018	286,700
Fundraising and other income	55,445	328,943	206,903	154,341	62,722	119,238
ECB distributions	2,530,389	1,838,689	2,360,707	1,879,422	1,769,278	1,739,286
Catering surplus/deficit	91,487	155,328	51,209	- 9,594	21,021	118,336
Commercial surplus	81,888	69,716	156,070	113,267	174,370	247,240
Total Income	3,471,185	3,228,712	3,513,877	2,826,850	2,622,310	2,893,336
Expenditure						
Administrative expenses	446,733	289,743	276,204	237,892	251,974	286,873
Cricket expenses	1,761,585	1,978,835	2,054,781	1,726,578	1,836,288	1,732,053
Match expenses	193,135	195,338	155,367	137,302	99,537	105,590
Upkeep of ground & buildings	637,510	603,147	499,028	466,907	374,678	377,627
Total Expenditure	3,038,963	3,067,063	2,985,380	2,568,679	2,562,477	2,502,143
Surplus pre-exceptional item/interest/finance	432,222	161,649	528,497	258,171	59,833	391,193
Exceptional loss/profit	-	-	- 169,954	-	350,000	-
Interest/finance costs	-	20,763	- 299,771	- 198,422	- 184,824	- 179,300
PreTax Surplus	432,222	182,412	58,772	59,749	225,009	211,893
Deferred tax (charge)/credit	(3,549)	-	-	- 12,375	2,303	- 25,237
Surplus after tax	428,673	182,412	58,772	47,374	227,312	186,656
Balance Sheets						
Shareholder funds	1,938,140	1,509,467	1,327,055	1,268,283	1,880,937	1,653,625
Fixed assets	8,005,122	7,987,324	7,879,581	7,660,000	5,057,010	5,198,915
Investments	15,390	15,390	15,390	15,390	15,390	15,390
Current Assets	374,088	231,176	313,621	741,115	1,186,211	961,394
Current Liabilities	-2,625,359	-1,971,369	-1,973,631	-2,225,061	-1,688,597	-1,795,755
Net current liabilities	-2,251,271	-1,740,193	-1,660,010	-1,483,946	- 502,386	- 834,361
Loans	-3,831,101	-4,753,054	-4,907,906	-4,923,161	-2,689,077	-2,726,319
Total net assets	1,938,140	1,509,467	1,327,055	1,268,283	1,880,937	1,653,625



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

WCCC AGM DOCUMENT: ADJUSTMENTS

The following changes have occurred within the AGM document relating solely to the more accurate and consistent allocation of costs (based on previous years):

1. Box lease income of £60,917
Included within Catering instead of Commercial Income
2. Room hire income of £10,076
Included within Commercial instead of Catering Income
3. Away team food of £85,000
Included as a negative cost within Cricketing costs instead of Catering Income
4. Catering Agency Costs of £35,518
Included in administrative expenses (gross salaries and expenses) instead of Catering costs
5. Match expenses of £25,350
Included in administrative expenses (general expenses) instead of Match expenses (Gateman's and scoring costs)
6. Shop costs of sales of £13,262
Included in general expenses instead of commercial costs
7. NVQ (£23,107) and Car Lease costs (£1,308) of £23,415
Included in administrative expenses (general) instead of Cricketing costs
8. Cricketing costs of £127,342
Included in administrative expenses (gross salaries and expenses) instead of cricket expenses



WORCESTERSHIRE

COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, NOON, MONDAY 20TH MARCH 2107

CLUB RULES

Members are advised that proposals for changes in the Club Rules (item 8 on the AGM agenda) are withdrawn pending completion of a full scale review of the Constitution, such to be completed in time for proposals to be put to a postal ballot well before the 2018 AGM. In the meantime, the meeting is asked to agree to the deferral of Elections to the Board until February next year in acknowledgement that the change of Financial Year (already approved as 1st January to 31st December) makes it desirable for the Board Year to run AGM to AGM – all such to be held in March following the end of each Financial Year.

Tom Scott
Chief Executive