**Members' Newsletter** June 2025

# The Primary Club

*The cricketers' charity for the blind and partially sighted*

The Primary Club Platinum Jubilee

Centre stage: captains David Howells, second left, and Ed Hossell at the toss, flanked by umpires Ian Hopkins, left, and Daku Patel. Picture: Chloe Knott/MCC

# VI history made at Lord's

**Newsletter editor John Stern reports on a memorable occasion at the home of cricket**

Last July, a visually impaired cricket match was played on the main ground at Lord's for the first time, showcasing some of the skills and personalities who have benefited from the Primary Club's support over the years.

Although the Primary Club doesn't support England VI cricket directly, the VICCs around the country, from where England players emerge, are our regular beneficiaries.

The ten-overs-a-side VI match preceded a multi-disability match in a day celebrating disability cricket and continued the strong tradition of support for the VI game at Lord's – the British Blind Sport Cup final was played for many years on the nursery ground.

The two teams wore the England colours of T20 red and ODI blue and included a number of leading VI cricketers including David Howells and Mark Turnham of Northamptonshire Steelbacks and Matt Dean from London Metro.

MCC President Mark Nicholas, actor and Lord's Taverner Gordon Kennedy and comedian Adam Hills joined in as guests. Umpires Ian Hopkins and Daku Patel, from Blind Cricket England & Wales, took charge of the game with Paul Stubbs from Middlesex scoring.

David Howells won the toss and his team batted first scoring 90 for 5 from their 10 overs *Continued on p2*

INSIDE Steelbacks win – p3 | MoorVision – p4 | Murray Fund – p6 | Derek Underwood and Adrian Thomas – p8

*Continued from page 1*

with Turnham top scoring with 48. The top bowler was Tokeer Akhtar, conceding just one run while taking a wicket from his over. Hossell's side could not reach the target and fell to a 16-run defeat.

Later in the summer, I chatted to Hills, the Australian comedian and TV presenter who was born without a right foot. He said: "The interesting thing with a day like that is disability is the last thing you talk about – you talk about cricket.

"It's such a great reminder that acquiring a disability, or being born with a disability, doesn't mean life's over. In fact, it might mean that a whole bunch of new doors open up for you."

**Top scorer: Mark Turnham, who made 48, batting against Mo Khatri**

# Nero middles while the rain spurns

**Primary Club trustee and former BBC *Test Match Special* producer Peter Baxter reports from a damp Queensland on last winter's Blind Ashes**

A very strong Australian side regained the Blind Ashes on their home turf. England certainly did not disgrace themselves in the dual format series and they had a few problems to deal with along the way.

First there was the weather. The three one day internationals and five T20s were scheduled for the Gold Coast hinterland in southern Queensland, but after the opening ODI at Mount Tambourine, the area was hit by a week of unseasonable – and heavy – rain.

Australia won that high-scoring opening match by 45 runs, thanks to hundreds from Stephen Palmer and a man England were to become all too familiar with – Steffan Nero.

With the points weighted in favour of the 40-over games, it was a huge setback for England that the other two ODIs were washed out, though the state of the pitch at Palm Beach suggested that even a match in fine weather might have been a challenge.

> When I visited the team, at Broadbeach, during their penultimate game, I was impressed by their cohesion and spirit in the face of the challenges they have encountered. And that cohesion is never so important as in the mutual support required in the visually impaired game.

Eventually, the Broadbeach Cricket Club came to the rescue, providing the ground for the last four T20s in steamy heat, though it was noticeable that members of the England support team had to turn their hands to a bit of groundsmanship to get the show on the road.

Australia won all four of those T20s, too, with Nero scoring two more centuries, but if that suggests a runaway crushing of the opposition, it is wide of the mark. The only result that was not close was by eight wickets with three overs to spare. And England had their own consistent batting star in Matt Page, whose five innings produced 298 runs.

When I visited the team at Broadbeach, during their penultimate game, I was impressed by their cohesion and spirit in the face of the challenges they have encountered. And that cohesion is never so important as in the mutual support required in the visually impaired game. It was something highlighted by their very impressive captain, Ed Hossell, who was quick to praise the contribution of his B1 (totally blind) players. Each team must field four of those in an eleven.

Hossell acknowledged, but made light of, the various problems along the way – not least the scheduling of two T20s back-to-back on the same hot day – twice.

It was particularly gratifying to see the recognition and welcome for this visiting representative of the Primary Club.

## From the editor
John Stern

Welcome to our Platinum Jubilee Newsletter and firstly a date for your diary. On the first day of the third Test against India at Lord's (Thursday 10 July) the 70th anniversary of The Primary Club will be commemorated in a special tea time chat on *Test Match Special*.

Our patron Stuart Broad CBE, whose ten 'primaries' is an England Test record, will be joined in conversation by his fellow 'Commander', Mike Brace, our esteemed trustee and former Paralympian. So, do listen out for that joyful interlude. We're very grateful to our friends at the BBC for the opportunity to rekindle the relationship between *TMS* and The Primary Club.

On to more sombre matters. We were very sad to lose trustee Adrian Thomas earlier this year (see page 8). Adrian, like his parents Mike and Tonie, was a Beckenham and Primary Club stalwart and he will be much missed.

However, we are delighted to welcome David Gavrilovic on to the board of trustees. David has been immersed in VI sport for many years and is vice chair of Blind Cricket England & Wales. He has recently stepped down as a trustee of British Blind Sport.

You can contact me by email: **editor@primaryclub.org**; follow us on X **@ThePrimaryClub**; and visit **www.primaryclub.org.**

## Rule 5 (c)

The curse of Rule 5 (c) has struck again! The rule, under which members are asked to ***add*** £2 to their annual donation for each primary achieved by an England player in a home Test, is invoked by:

- **Gus Atkinson** c da Silva b Holder at Lord's, 11 July 2024.

# Trophy a steal for the Steelbacks

### Northants stunned serial winners Sussex Sharks to lift the Primary Club Cup

On a mild but blustery afternoon at Wantage Road, Northants Steelbacks ended Sussex Sharks' all-conquering run that had seen them holding all three national trophies at once. The Steelbacks lifted the BCEW Primary Club Heindrich Swanepoel Cup (below), adding to their 2021 success at the same ground.

Having been put in, Sussex slumped to 37 for 5 before Si Ledwith (61) and Callum Weir (29 not out) rebuilt the innings and hauled them up to 163 for 8.

The Steelbacks lost a wicket in the first over of their chase but the wicket-taker, Phil Daniels, was later forced to leave the field with a calf injury.

Gerald Porter and David Howells gradually upped the scoring rate and saw Northants home comfortably. Porter finished 54 not out and Howells also passed fifty, thrashing two sixes and three fours in the 21st over to seal the win with eight wickets and nine overs to spare.

This was only the second Primary Club Cup win for Northants and their fourth major trophy overall. It also maintained the record that, whenever the same teams have met in successive Primary Club Cup finals, the trophy always changes hands.

But Sussex Sharks were not bereft of silverware as they regained the BCEW National League title, which they last won in 2022. The 2024 season was the closest ever National League season, as both the title and Division One relegation were decided by a single point. Somerset won Division Two of the National League.

**Caught: Northants' Mark Turnham is congratulated on dismissing Dan Field**

**Unbeaten: Steelbacks' Gerald Porter during his innings of 54 not out**

# Moor is more

**MoorVision, based in the West Country, report on how they've used funds in the past year**

**The race is on: MoorVision runs active play for under-5s**

MoorVision were delighted to receive a grant of £5,000 from the James Fund in November 2024 for the full activity costs of a project relating to the sporting and recreational needs of blind and partially sighted children and young people aged up to 25.

MoorVision provide support to over 260 families of children with VI, of whom 50% have both VI and other additional needs, across the four local authority areas of Devon, Plymouth, Torbay and Cornwall. We also welcome families from Dorset and Somerset.

We applied for funding for Swimming, Tandem Cycling, Goalball, Climbing, Sailing and Active Play for Under 5s. The funds were used in full.

**OUTCOMES**

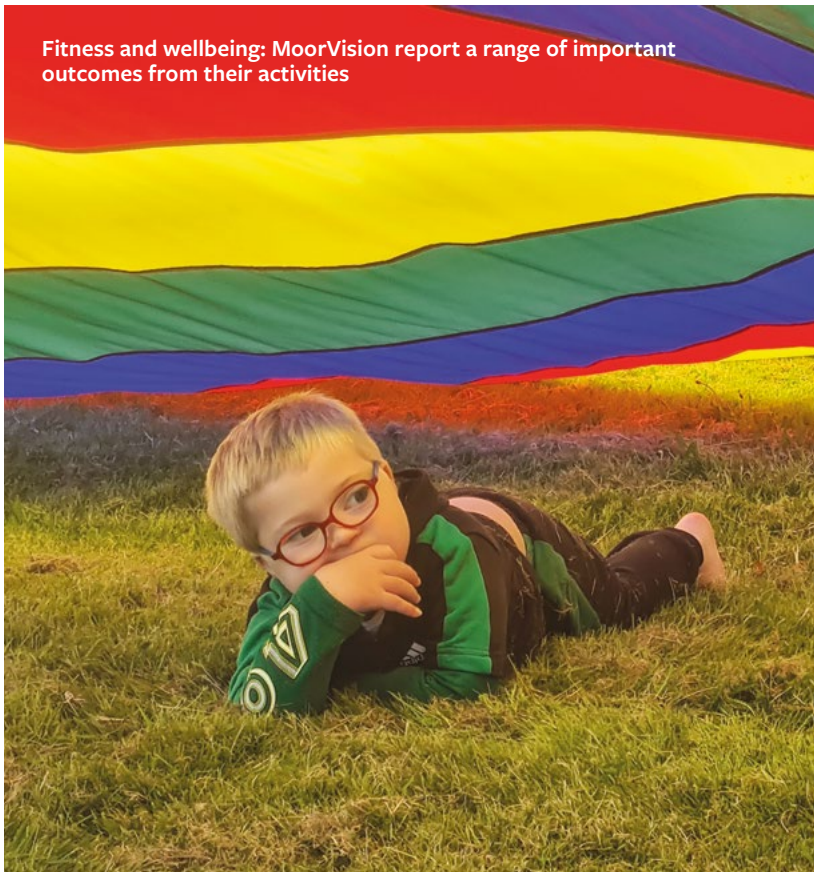
The following number of MoorVision members attended the trips above:

**Jan 2024** VI Swim Gala Cornwall – 70 members
**Jan 2024** VI Swim Gala Devon – 64 members
**Feb 2024** VI Climbing Cornwall – 21 members
**Feb 2024** VI Climbing Devon – 32 members
**March 2024** Active Play for Under 5s Cornwall – merged with Cornwall activity below into one active play/sports day instead – 45 members
**March 2024** Active Play for Under 5s Devon (as above)
**May 2024** Tandem Cycling for all – 30 members
**June-July 2024** Tall Ship Sailing, different age groups – not delivered due to issues with the provider – more places offered on sailing trip below instead
**July 2024** Fully Accessible sailing for different age groups – 24 members
**June 2024** Goalball Festival for all – postponed till Oct 2024.

**Impact of the above activities included:**

- Increased participation in both mainstream and adapted sport
- Increased health and fitness
- Increased wellbeing
- Increased independence
- Increased social skills
- Reduced isolation

Children and young people with VI (including many who also had other additional needs) being able to fully participate in sports alongside their peers and siblings, to have the opportunity to challenge themselves and to show themselves, their families and educators, and the general public exactly what they are really capable of. It also proved educational, in relation to accessibility, to a number of mainstream sports providers.



**Fitness and wellbeing: MoorVision report a range of important outcomes from their activities**

# Showing up for Showdown

**The latest news from this relatively new sport, supported by The Primary Club**

In early March, British Blind Sport were delighted to welcome competitors from the National Showdown League clubs across the country, to compete in the BBS UK Showdown Spring Championship at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham.

Showdown is a fast-paced sport, played on a specially designed table by two players from opposing sides, using flat, paddle-type bats and wearing eyeshades. It shares similarities with table tennis and air hockey and is a sport designed specifically for blind and partially sighted people.

At the first BBS event in June 2024, just 13% of participants were women. By March 2025, this proportion had risen to 36% and total participation had increased by three quarters. Based on these encouraging statistics, individual male and female rankings were introduced.

The community spirit throughout the weekend was incredible, with teams who have previously only connected virtually, meeting in person for the first time, with competitors creating new friendships and with coaches supporting players that are from different clubs. The passion, dedication and competitiveness on display show that there is a need for both grassroots and performance pathway development for this sport.

Congratulations to Jack Peters from Croysutt Warriors who topped the male rankings, and to Ellie Wallwork from Sussex Spitfires who came out on top in the female rankings.

Ellie will be familiar to fans of the BBC TV series *Call the Midwife*, in which she played a young mum. The actress has also appeared in *Doctor Who*.

"I still can't believe it," she posted on Instagram. "I never thought I would earn a sports medal, least of all gold."

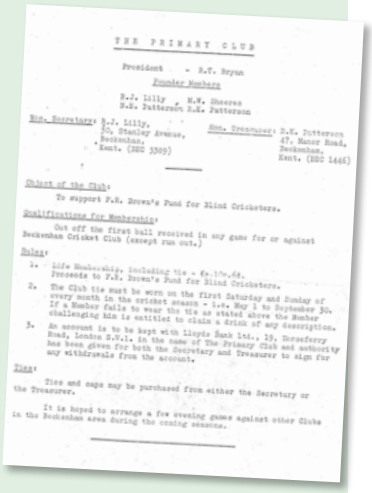
**Going for gold: Ellie Wallwork with her trophy**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Want to run the London Marathon? The Primary Club has one charity place left for next year's event on 26 April 2026. Could you run this iconic event and raise at least £2,000 for charity? If so, email: marathon@primaryclub.org**

**Kayaking and paddling taster sessions**

**Bowling (not that kind) in Lancashire**



THE PRIMARY CLUB

President - H.T. Bryan

Founder Members

H.J. Lilly H.W. Sheeres
H.E. Patterson H.E. Patterson

Hon. Secretary: H.J. Lilly, 30, Stanley Avenue, Beckenham, Kent. (BEC 3509)

Hon. Treasurer: H.E. Patterson 47, Manor Road, Beckenham, Kent. (BEC 1446)

Object of the Club:

To support F.H. Brown's Fund for Blind Cricketers.

Qualifications for Membership:

Cut off the first ball received in any game for or against Beckenham Cricket Club (except run out.)

Rules:

1. Life Membership, including tie - £2.10s.0d. Proceeds to F.H. Brown's Fund for Blind Cricketers.
2. The Club tie must be worn on the first Saturday and Sunday of every month in the cricket season - 1st. May 1 to September 30. If a Member fails to wear the tie as stated above the Member challenging him is entitled to claim a drink of any description.
3. An account is to be kept with Lloyds Bank Ltd., 19, Bromley Road, London S.E.6. in the name of The Primary Club and authority has been given for both the Secretary and Treasurer to sign for any withdrawals from the account.

Ties:

Ties and caps may be purchased from either the Secretary or the Treasurer.

It is hoped to arrange a few evening games against other Clubs in the Beckenham area during the coming season.

**The very first Primary Club newsletter, back in 1955.**

BBC SPORTS PERSONALITY UNSUNG HERO AWARD 2024

# Unsung hero

George Sullivan, from Chelmsford Goalball Club, a new Primary Club beneficiary, was one of 15 winners of the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2024 Unsung Hero award.

The citation read:

*George, a volunteer with the RNIB Community Connection Team and See Sport Differently Champion, promotes visually impaired sport. Severely sight impaired himself, he campaigns for accessible mainstream sports and actively supports blind and partially sighted individuals. He chairs a Goalball team at Chelmsford Goalball Club, providing opportunities for visually impaired players. Recently, George successfully campaigned for audio description at all Arsenal Women's matches and is setting up a Showdown Club in Cambridge, while also contributing to a podcast on women's football. His work has created opportunities for visually impaired individuals to thrive in sport.*

# The Murray Fund

**A second substantial legacy has enabled The Primary Club to kickstart another round of special projects, going beyond our annual grant giving across the UK**

In last year's newsletter, we reported on the very successful project undertaken to distribute a legacy from the late Kenneth James. The trustees felt that a bequest of more than £150,000 called for something special, outside the scope of our normal annual grants. They invited applications for funding to support projects which met our key aim of VI sport and recreation but which stood out as being innovative and/or collaborative. Demand was exceptionally high and the trustees selected eleven high quality projects which met the criteria and which extended the scope of our support to a variety of new sports such as Showdown, Blind Baseball and Blind Ice Hockey projects.

As notified last year, we have benefited from another substantial legacy: this time from the estate of the late Ethel Murray, amounting to just over £210,000. The trustees considered that a similar approach was called for and invited applications, on a similar basis, for a first round of funding to distribute approximately half of the available amount, with a second round planned for late 2025.

As before, demand was exceptionally high. Initial scrutiny produced a shortlist of applications for consideration amounting to more than three times the funds available. A specially constituted trustee panel, showing an encouragingly high degree of unanimity, identified nine applications as particularly meritorious and agreed to fund these in full to the tune of £112,000. Some smaller applications to the Murray Fund were also added to the list of 'normal' annual grants which the trustees approved at their annual meeting.

The nine projects funded from Ethel Murray's bequest are summarised below. As planned, there is enough remaining from the bequest to fund a further round later this year.

**Step change: MoorVision, and their climbing wall, are one of the beneficiaries of the Murray Fund**

## GRANTS MADE FROM THE MURRAY FUND:

**Hartlepool Vision Support – £8,000**
This project supports a new blind baseball club in the North East, including set up and equipment costs, local promotion and collaborating with schools and teachers to develop events.

**Living Paintings Trust – £12,000**
Living Paintings produces Touch to See books and already reaches 4,500 blind and VI children. The Primary Club has previously funded a series on Sporting Heroes and this bid will fund three new titles in a series featuring stars in gymnastics, athletics and football.

**MoorVision – £12,000**
This funding will provide 50 VI young people with residential outdoor activity breaks including canoeing, rafting, kayaking, abseiling, climbing, cycling and zip wiring (see p4 for more details).

**Nature Without Barriers – £17,400**
This proposal will develop a fully inclusive multi-sensory environment in woodland in Cornwall, providing seating equipped with both visual markers and QR codes offering access to audio descriptions, and helping to maintain and adapt forest paths. Our funding will build on a major investment in the woodland by RNIB.

**Open Country – £18,000**
Open Country, a previous recipient of PC funding, will use the funding to set up a new VI tandem cycling club in Teesside.

**Blackburn Blind Sports – £7,020**
BBS received a small James Fund grant last year to develop scuba diving for the blind and VI. The new funding will support a new goalball activity involving set up costs, equipment, transport and coaching.

**VICTA – £10,000**
Another former recipient of PC funding, Victa will use the funds to develop and deliver a bespoke VI sports weekend to enable young people to participate in a wide range of sporting activities.

**MOTUS Dance – £15,700**
The charity focuses on accessibility and inclusion, described as 'an innovative fusion of circus, dance and theatre'. This funding will develop a movement vocabulary for VI dance and enable a group of VI participants to take part in an open air dance festival in 2025.

**Surfing England – £12,000**
This will fund an extension of the 'para-surfing' programme to include dedicated VI surfing activities in three UK locations, encouraging participants to push their boundaries safely.

## THE PRIMARY CLUB
## RESULT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

| | 2024/25 | 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Joining subscriptions and donations | 103,751 | 111,663 |
| Gift Aid recovery | 18,638 | 19,492 |
| Legacies | 74,963 | 13,857 |
| Sale of merchandise | 1,913 | -465 |
| Interest | 6,736 | 5,089 |
| **Total income** | **206,001** | **149,636** |
| Publicity and administration | -8,969 | -8,474 |
| Grants made | -346,284 | -324,794 |
| **Deficit for the Year** | **-149,252** | **-183,632** |
| Reserves brought forward | 278,266 | 461,898 |
| Reserves carried forward | 129,014 | 278,266 |

Note: Copies of the Club's full accounts may be obtained from the Honorary Treasurer.

## 2024/25 GRANTS FOR VI SPORT AND RECREATION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Berkshire County Blind Society | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Birmingham Goalball Club | Season expenses | 8,000 |
| Birmingham Sports Club | Futsal | 7,500 |
| Birmingham Stars VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Blackburn Blind Sports | SCUBA diving | 3,975 |
| Blind Cricket England & Wales | Development, equipment and trophies | 18,090 |
| Blind Golf Scotland (formerly SBGS) | Competition | 3,000 |
| Bradford & District VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| British Blind Baseball | Season expenses | 6,200 |
| British Blind Sport | Archery & ten pin bowling | 12,294 |
| Cambridge Dons | Season expenses | 3,300 |
| Chelmsford Goalball Club | Season expenses | 3,500 |
| Cheshire Cobras VICC | Season expenses | 2,500 |
| Dorset Dolphins VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Durham VICC | Season expenses | 7,000 |
| England and Wales Blind Golf | Competition | 3,500 |
| Gloucestershire VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Greater Manchester Falcons | Cricket and goalball | 8,000 |
| Hertfordshire Comets | Season expenses | 1,918 |
| Kent Spitfires VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Kingston-U-Thames Assn for the blind | Swimming sessions | 8,000 |
| Lancashire Lions VICC | Season expenses | 5,000 |
| London Blind Ramblers | Walking tours | 1,500 |
| London Elephant via Metro | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| London Futsal Club | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| London Sports Club | Swimming and rowing | 2,600 |
| Merseyside VIFC | Weekly sessions | 5,145 |
| Merton Sports & Social Club | Hall hire & insurance | 2,570 |
| Metro Blind Sport | Season expenses of two teams, athletics | 12,000 |
| Northants Steelbacks VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| North West Scorpions FC | Season expenses | 6,510 |
| Open Country | Tandem Challenge Middlesbrough | 2,322 |
| Oxfordshire Goalball Club | Season expenses | 1,480 |
| SAVI Northwest | Venue hire, equipment | 7,000 |
| Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind | Season expenses | 2,700 |
| Sight Support Worthing | Showdown | 4,000 |
| Somerset VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Staffordshire Wolves VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Surrey VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Sussex Sharks VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Tandeming Together | Tandem maintenance, insurance & transport | 4,800 |
| Taunton Deane VI Bowls | Season expenses | 2,500 |
| VIE Velo Tandem Maintenance | Tandem maintenance | 3,700 |
| Vision of Adventure | Storage of tandem fleet | 4,320 |
| Wavertree CC | Season expenses | 3,000 |
| West Glamorgan Sports Club | Season expenses | 2,700 |
| West Yorkshire Goalball Club | Season expenses | 3,540 |
| Worcestershire Elizabethans VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| Yorkshire VICC | Season expenses | 4,000 |
| | | **234,164** |
| Murray Fund grants | See opposite | 112,120 |
| | | **346,284** |

# From the Hon Sec...

Dear Member,

Education is a topical issue, and I have had cause to be grateful for the skills which I was taught in my accountancy and teaching careers that have proved helpful in my busy first year as this venerable organisation's Hon Sec.

I am equally grateful to grant applicants who inspiringly remind me of the powerfully positive effect that sports and recreational activities have on the lives of blind and visually impaired individuals. I have discovered intriguing new worlds not only of blind cricket, but also goalball, golf, tandem cycling, as well as audio books, Showdown and many other activities.

I have been touched by individual members' personal stories and their motivations to make donations on behalf of relatives and friends who supported The Primary Club's aims.

Behind the scenes, trustees Paul and Ross have upgraded our members' database, grant system and accounting software to prepare us for the future.

As both a club and a charity, the Club aims to celebrate its platinum jubilee this year by developing its social media presence with the dual aims of attracting donations and supporting the wide range of activities organised by beneficiaries.

If you play cricket, please encourage every batter who is out first ball to join the Club. If you attend a Test match, please inform those around you of Rule 5(c) ... quirky, yes, but as you can see from the reports in this Newsletter, invaluable to those who benefit.

Thank you for your continued support and please complete the survey (enclosed or online) to help inform trustees, members and beneficiaries as we head into The Primary Club's eighth decade.

Yours sincerely,
**Nicole Pollock**

# Pilgrimage to Canterbury

**Primary Club chair Tim Kelleher reports from Derek Underwood's memorial service**

In March, I accompanied my fellow trustee Mike Brace and his trusted guide dog, King, to Canterbury Cathedral to attend the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the Primary Club's former Patron, Derek Leslie Underwood MBE (1945-2024), at the invitation of Kent CCC.

The service, conducted by the Rev Canon Dr Tim Naish, was attended by many dignitaries and a considerable representation from Kent CCC and the wider cricketing community.

Chris Cowdrey gave an excellent tribute to Deadly from a cricketing perspective, reminding us all of many of Derek's remarkable achievements on the field, including the unforgettable fifth day of the final Test at the Oval in the 1968 Ashes. After a heavy thunderstorm earlier in the day had all but ended the match, Deadly took the last four Australian wickets in 27 balls in the final half hour to square the series. I watched as a child on a black and white TV at home, and the images of joy when John Inverarity was out lbw were matched only by the bulging of the net after Geoff Hurst's hat-trick goal at Wembley two years earlier.

Chris also mentioned Derek's post-retirement achievements, most notably and poignantly his role as Patron of the Primary Club for more than a quarter of a century.

Derek's elder daughter Heather gave an emotional tribute to her father, the family man she knew. Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence, the President of Kent CCC, read Psalm 23 "The Lord is my Shepherd", which was an apposite segue to John Shepherd (former West Indies and Kent all-rounder) reading "So, Farewell".

As we filed out from the Cathedral into the spring sunshine with the strains of Jerusalem still in the mind, the overwhelming feeling was of privilege to have watched, met, known or played with Deadly Derek. A great man.

Pictures: Oyster Bay Photography

**Paying tribute: Chris Cowdrey delivers the eulogy to Derek; our chair Tim Kelleher in fine voice**

# Adrian Thomas 1956-2025

**Trustee Andrew Dixon remembers a Beckenham stalwart who continued the 'family business'**

Adrian was educated at Cranleigh and Birmingham University from where he graduated with a third-class degree (with honours) which he was thrilled with as the word 'study' did not enter the lexicon of his experiences there!

He joined Schlumberger, the oilfield services company, in 1979 and worked for them for 30 years as a geophysicist, travelling the world and, in particular, Libya, Indonesia and Peru.

More than a useful squash player and golfer, Adrian's overriding love was cricket which he played at Beckenham all his life. He was a hard-hitting batsman and bowled 'filthy' flighted off-breaks which got him many wickets. He captained the Sunday Wizards for more than 20 years, much preferring to lose a run chase than playing out a boring draw.

After retiring in 2010 he threw himself into coaching cricket not just at Beckenham but in the locality and there are quite a few youngsters at Beckenham and elsewhere who can be grateful they came under his guidance.

Adrian's dad, Mike, took over the reins of the Primary Club from Leslie Harris in the mid-1980s and ran it, alongside Adrian's mum Tonie, until 1996 when Robert Fleming took over. Adrian is survived by his ex-wife Suzie and twin sons Dan, a physicist, and Benji, an artist.