

HENLEY CRICKET CLUB

We are very proud of what Henley Cricket Club has achieved over the last few years, including buying our own ground, building a new pavilion and winning the league.

We are a very friendly club, and welcome new players and supporters alike. Our ground is one of the loveliest places to play or watch cricket in England. Please visit the about us page to discover more about the history of Henley Cricket Club

www.henleycricketclub.co.uk

Henley Cricket Club is a thriving home for cricketers of all abilities. We offer all visitors and indeed prospective new members a warm welcome.

Our sides accommodate cricketers young and old, from a thriving junior section, through “leisure” cricketers to keen club cricketers playing league cricket at varying levels from the lower reaches of the Thames Valley League to the heights of the Home Counties Premier League Division One.

New members, playing or social, are more than welcome to swell the numbers at our two lovely home grounds. Our main ground in Henley on Thames, has been the home of the club since the 1930s, and the second in Nettlebed that the Club has shared with Nettlebed CC for the past three seasons. This ground has benefited from significant investment and improvement including a new pavilion, a re-laid square and significant work to the outfield.

We look forward to an exciting season in 2016 and a good spring to benefit ground preparation, with the club challenging for honours in both leagues, as we continue to give players the chance to develop and improve. The theme of development is best demonstrated by our thriving junior section developing our future senior players.

Having won the Home Counties Premier League in 2013 and 2014, Henley were runners up in 2015 and 2016.

Henley Cricket Club run four Saturday Senior Sides, one Sunday Senior Side, an “Occasionals” Senior side who play a number of matches on Wednesday and Friday evenings from May – July.

The Saturday League sides play as follows for 2017:-

1st X1 Home Counties Premier League Division 1

2nd X1 Thames Valley League Division 1

3rd X1 Thames Valley League Division 5b

4th X1 Thames Valley League Division 7b

The club has a thriving junior section with teams from U9 – U15 and a girls’ team playing in the Berkshire Youth Cricket League.

Henley Cricket Club was founded by Archibald and George Brakspear in 1869, with a ground at Barn Cottage, Remenham Lane [the old pavilion can still be seen in the cottage garden]. This was a club for gentlemen and so in 1886 Henley Town Cricket

Club was formed for the working man and they played at the present ground in Matson Drive.

The Great War ended cricket for both clubs and it was not until 1931 that Henley Cricket Club was reformed by Bill Brakspear and he had the grounds man, Lew Rose build the pavilion which stood until the replacement was completed in May 2010.

As the Brakspear family involvement declined and the Brewery sides ceased to Participate, in 1974 the brewery granted Henley CC a 30 year lease on the ground. As the end of that lease approached it appeared that the ground might be used for some other purpose than cricket, however, after protracted negotiations the club was offered the opportunity to purchase the ground and after much fundraising this was completed in December 2005.

After many years of playing friendly cricket, the club decided, rather belatedly, to embark on league cricket in 1988 and has made extraordinary progress in the two decades that have followed this decision.

The Club joined the 3 Counties League initially running 2 Saturday X1s, and rapidly progressed through the divisions to become league champions in 1994. We then moved to the Cherwell League and eventually won the first division title in 1999, so winning promotion to the Western Feeder League of the newly formed Home Counties Premier League. Two short years later we were again Champions and so promoted to the First Division.

We have consistently finished in the top half of the table and in 2004 we won the Championship, just 16 years after setting out on our journey! We repeated the feat in 2009, 2010 and 2013. And again in 2014!

We have come a long way since 1974

