

OH NEWSLETTER

Haileybury Cricket



SEASON REVIEW

Rupes Kitzinger, Director of Cricket

As another wonderful season draws to a close it is a pleasure to reflect on the huge progress that Haileybury Cricket continues to make. Not only have we had more teams than ever before representing the school, more players than ever before choosing cricket as their sports option but we continue to punch above our weight in fixtures and cups.

A comprehensive pre-season is now de-rigueur for all our boys and girls. This followed the outstanding Senior tour to Sri Lanka in February in which we took 3 teams. The passion and thirst for cricket experiences are alive and well at Haileybury!



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The development of the girls programme continues at pace and we are very proud to field a regular 2nd XI as well as U14 C team. We now find that we have to play against higher rated opposition (our Cs v Bs and our Bs v As for example) in order to keep matches competitive. The MCC Game on Speech Day ended in a victory for the Girls for the first time ever!



Our U18 Girls were Runners up in the National Plate Final and our U17s were semi finalists in their National competition held at Arundel in June. Outstanding achievements I am sure you will agree. It is also worth mentioning that the honours board was literally peppered this year - so much so that we need a new one! Only the 2nd and 3rd girls in our history are now on there. All names are pictured below:



The Boys fixture list is a challenging one but we compete well at all levels (even down to a Lower School G team!). The XI secured their first victory over Tonbridge in at least 26 years and also added Wellington College to that list - amongst many others! One of the most comprehensive victories was against Bishop Stortford College when incredibly both the 1st XI (on Pavilion) and 2nd XI (on Lower Pavilion) both scored 283 in a T20. There were 4 centurions across the teams that afternoon and Mr Baxendale's 2nd XI were statistically the number 1 ranked School 2nd XI in the world!

Honours 2025

E J Scott 141 v Habs
F A Jennings 108* v Mill Hill
M M van der Merwe 5-21 v Felsted
L H Davis 100* v Bedford
T J J Threlfall 5-18 v MTS
F A Jennings 113 v BSC
C J Walters 135* v BSC
J F Mitchell 7-6 v The Perse
B Tilbury 6-60 v Uppingham
F J Fletcher 5-4 v Kingston GS
J F Mitchell 5-46 v Cheltenham
J F Mitchell 107 v Cheltenham



The Boys XI won the North London National T20 region before losing out to Epsom in the National Quarter Finals and the U17 boys fell at the same stage away to Millfield. There were some outstanding performances along the way including seeing off local rivals Merchant Taylor's School by chasing down 120 in 11 overs in the U18s and 145 in 14 overs in the U17s.



We are delighted to have several boys and girls in representative county sides and Leo Davis (Th, U6), Ben Taylor (K, U6) and Omar Shah (K, Middles) have all been included in their respective county Academies (Essex, Northants and Middlesex) this winter.

It was wonderful to see and meet so many OHs at the 'Picnic at Pavilion' on 8th June and again at Foundation Day in September. We are always so grateful for the support we receive and hearing the cricketing tales from previous eras! I look forward to welcoming many OHs back for more in the future.

Rupes Kitzing

As ever our provision is at capacity all year round and we gratefully receive donations to enhance our cricket programmes. We continue to work towards a bespoke Indoor Cricket Centre and we are constantly looking to upgrade cricket facilities. If you are in a position to support us we would love to hear from you. Please do get in touch with myself (r.kitzinger@haileybury.com) or our Director of Development Amy Ledingham (a.ledingham@haileybury.com).

1st XI v Hermits Match Report September 2025

We enjoyed a wonderful game against the Hermits which included 6 'new' OHs who left us in the summer.

The recent leavers put on a formidable total of 244 off 40 overs which looked like being many more until James Mitchell (4-35) stemmed the flow of runs with a flurry of wickets. Archie McIntosh top scored for the Hermits with 72 whilst Eden Scott and Charlie Walters both had good innings.

Not put off by the stiff target, the XI set about the run chase in positive fashion and Conway Abell and captain Leo Davis put on a hundred partnership for the 3rd wicket. Conway made 75 and Leo ended on 88* with Benji Tilbury 57* as the XI won with 17 balls to go, winning by 7 wickets.

1st XI v Hermits Match Report June 2025

Earlier in the summer the result was very similar! Batting first on a good Pavilion wicket the Hermits failed to build on a fine 63 by Tom Billings despite starts for Ben Spencer, Ryan Toms and Johnny Munday. This was largely down to the outstanding leg spin of Finley Higgs who took 4-24 helping the XI to dismiss the Hermits for 185.

The boys set about the chase in typically earnest fashion and Eden Scott passed 50 before being bamboozled by Lucas Osman's mystery spin. However Archie McIntosh anchored the chase with 61* and another 7 wicket victory was recorded for the XI in 33 overs.



HAILEYBURY HERMITS

The Hermits began their 2025 Cricketer Cup campaign on Sunday 8th June with a home fixture against Old Bedfordians (OBs). Skipper Tom Billings won the toss and elected to bat first, much to the delight of the lively crowd gathered on Pavilion. Billings and opening partner Bill Meacock made a steady start, putting on 45 for the first wicket. However, the captain's dismissal sparked a collapse, as the Hermits lost three further quick wickets to slump to 54 for 4. Joe Satt, the Hermits' most recent Cricketer Cup centurion, anchored the recovery with characteristic heart. Supported by Ben Wells and Samir Jordan, Satt helped the side scramble to a total of 139 all out.

In reply, the OBs came out firing, racing to 70 without loss in just eight overs. But the Hermits did not give in. Rhys Carter struck twice in quick succession, bringing his Cricketer Cup wicket tally to 21 and moving him up to sixth on the Hermits' all-time record list. Samir Jordan then removed the other opener, aided by a sharp piece of glovework from Meacock behind the stumps.

With three quick wickets, the Hermits sensed a potential turnaround. However, the OBs' middle order held firm and guided their side to victory with no further wickets lost.

Following the high of the first Cricketer Cup semi final in 41 years last season, the result was a disappointing one for the Hermits. But credit must go to the OBs, who went on to win the competition for the first time, defeating Old Tonbridgians in the final.

Despite the early exit, the future is bright; three Hermits made their Cricketer Cup debuts, and seven members of the team were under the age of 23. We will go again in 2026.

Tom Wigglesworth



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