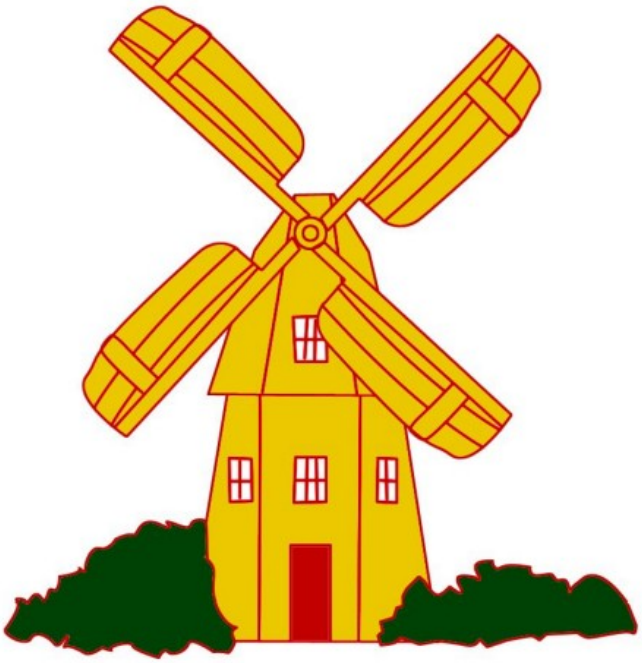
Avoncroft Cricket Club



Annual Report 2025

Season Overview

After two years of wet weather, 2025 saw a complete reversal with a summer of hot sunshine and drought creating sub-continental cricket conditions for much of the season. Whilst this created new challenges for the club's committed grounds team, the opportunity for our senior and junior cricketers to play with the sun on their backs was not lost on the growing membership at Avoncroft.

On the pitch, there were mixed levels of success in adult cricket. Both the 1st and 2nd XI performed well in patches but were unable to string enough consistent success together to challenge towards the upper echelons of their respective leagues. The 3rd XI performed admirably in stepping up to Division 8 but the inexperienced nature of the side made competing a bit too much of a challenge. On Sundays, leadership of the adult friendly XI passed on to youngster Ben Huxley who showed impressive commitment to the club through his efforts on and off the pitch.

The club's junior section continued to embody the charitable aims of the club. 60 boys and girls were again able welcomed to the club as part of the ECB's All Stars Programme, whilst a further 100 or so juniors from ages 7-15 took part in junior cricket across 10 different junior sides in both boys and girls teams. Alongside volunteers throughout the club, the junior section was indebted to the work of the team of coaches and managers that give up their time to help our boys and girls develop their cricketing skills. This was never more evident than through the efforts of Cam Wilkes, who was award Club Person of the Year for his commitment to junior development and specifically the free 1:1 coaching session that he introduced for his U13s side over the summer of 2025.

1st XI Review

2025 was a tale of two halves for the 1st XI. A tricky start to the season saw Croft floundering towards the lower reaches of table at the halfway stage of the campaign but a strong finish, including 6 wins in their last 9 games, saw the 1st XI climb into the top half of the table.

The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the performance of star batter Duncan Roke who became the first player in Croft history to reach 1000 league runs for the season. Duncan's campaign, which included 8 x 50s and 2 x 100, proved the mainstay of Croft's batting success, with support on offer from captain Dan Elliott (608 runs) and youngsters Ben Athey (466 runs) and Ben Huxley (378 runs).

With the ball, veteran Paul Athey topped the wicket takers with 24 1st XI victims, just pipping his son Matthew who finished with 23 wickets. The depth in bowling resources was clear to see with 8 bowlers in total taking at least 10 league wickets.

TABLE												TOP 10													
POS	TEAM	P	w24	wc24	w20	wc20	wd10	wd8	dsl	t	ld2	ld2*	l24	lc24	l20	lc20	a	c	BatP	BowlP	Pen	R/W	W	Pts
▲ 1	Enville CC, Staffs - 1st XI	22	3	0	15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	13	9	0	26.59	18	409
▲ 2	Old Elizabethans CC, Worcs - 2nd XI	22	4	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	22	19	0	10.8	14	353
3	Himbleton CC - 1st XI	22	4	0	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	0	1	0	24	24	0	10.15	13	339
4	Stourport-On-Severn CC - 2nd XI	22	3	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	3	0	19	30	0	6.52	11	320
5	Five Ways Old Edwardians CC - 1st XI	22	2	0	6	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	5	0	3	0	38	28	0	-2.6	8	279
6	Avoncroft CC - 1st XI	22	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	7	0	1	0	29	22	0	0.6	10	278
7	Brockhampton CC - 2nd XI	22	3	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	6	0	3	0	30	12	0	1.11	10	269
8	Cookley CC - 1st XI	22	1	0	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	4	0	6	0	2	0	39	35	0	3.21	7	246
9	Feckenham CC - 1st XI	22	3	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	9	0	1	0	40	27	0	-13.19	6	222
10	Martley CC - 1st XI	22	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	8	0	1	0	36	29	1	-8.14	7	219
▼ 11	Worcester Nomads CC - 2nd XI	22	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	12	0	0	0	57	43	0	-13.91	2	172
▼ 12	Droitwich Spa CC - 2nd XI	22	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	4	0	12	0	0	0	57	51	0	-16.99	1	144

2nd XI Review

It was a mixed season for the 2nd XI with 8 wins and 8 defeats resulting in a mid-table finish in Division 8 (East). Standout performances came from Croft's developing junior stars – wicket-keeper batter Jack Seers topped the runs table with 354 runs whilst fellow junior James Blow (227 runs) also showed create strides in both skills and results.

The bowling line-up leant more on Croft's experienced campaigners, with Worcestershire Over 70s stalwart Andy Pittam (19 wickets) and Max Jukes (18 wickets) leading the way over the course of the season.

TABLE																TOP 10
POS	TEAM	P	w	wcn	t	l	lcn	a	c	BatP	BowlP	Pen	NRR	W	Pts	
▲ 1	Bredon CC - 2nd XI	18	15	0	0	2	0	1	0	8	5	0	1.61	15	318	
▲ 2	Feckenham CC - 2nd XI	18	13	0	0	4	0	1	0	11	17	0	0.89	13	293	
3	Birlingham CC - 1st XI	18	11	0	0	6	0	1	0	14	20	1	0.85	11	258	
4	Droitwich Spa CC - 4th XI	18	9	0	0	8	0	1	0	25	25	0	0.47	9	235	
5	Avoncroft CC - 2nd XI	18	8	0	0	8	0	2	0	25	26	1	0.4	8	220	
6	Five Ways Old Edwardians CC - 2nd XI	18	9	0	0	8	0	1	0	29	28	24	0.41	9	218	
7	Harvington CC - 2nd XI	18	7	0	0	9	0	2	0	17	36	0	-0.86	7	203	
8	Astwood Bank CC - 4th XI	18	4	0	0	12	0	2	0	40	46	0	-0.51	4	176	
▼ 9	Cookhill CC - 2nd XI	18	4	0	0	13	0	1	0	32	57	0	-1.1	4	174	
▼ 10	Pershore CC - 4th XI	18	3	0	0	13	0	2	0	21	24	0	-2.34	3	115	

3rd XI Review

It was a tough year for the 3rd XI who continued to yo-yo between Divisions 8 and 9. Having struggled in their previous foray into Division 8 in 2023, the 3rds gave a stronger account of themselves this season, picking up 4 wins despite playing at the same level as their 2nd XI counterparts.

Kunal Issar, Damian Hampton, Brent Burford and Ravi Verma all topped 200 runs with the bat, supported by Akshat Kaul who joined part way through the season and finished the year with an average above 50. Junior bowlers Carter Morgan, Josh Gammon and Evan Walford all finished with double figure wickets, demonstrating strong promise for the future.

TABLE										TOP 10					
POS	TEAM	P	w	wcn	t	l	lcn	a	c	BatP	BowlP	Pen	NRR	W	Pts
▲ 1	Worcester Nomads CC - 3rd XI	18	13	1	0	3	0	1	0	9	18	0	1.28	14	312
▲ 2	Highley CC - 1st XI	18	11	2	0	4	0	1	0	11	24	1	1.72	13	299
3	Rushwick CC - 3rd XI	18	10	1	0	5	0	2	0	20	31	0	0.55	11	281
4	Old Elizabethans CC, Worcs - 4th XI	18	11	0	0	6	0	1	0	18	12	1	0.47	11	254
5	Bewdley CC - 3rd XI	18	8	0	0	9	0	1	0	29	36	0	-0.22	8	230
6	Oldswinford CC - 3rd XI	18	8	0	0	9	0	1	0	25	29	0	0.19	8	219
7	Droitwich Spa CC - 5th XI	18	7	0	0	10	0	1	0	20	33	0	-1.09	7	198
8	Belbroughton CC - 3rd XI	18	5	0	0	12	0	1	0	31	48	0	-0.44	5	184
▼ 9	Avoncroft CC - 3rd XI	18	4	0	0	14	0	0	0	25	42	0	-1.54	4	147
▼ 10	Kidderminster CC - 4th XI	18	4	0	0	9	4	1	0	21	31	60	-0.83	4	77

Treasurer's Report 2025

2025 saw Avoncroft complete a range of major investments to enhance club facilities for adult and junior members and their families. The largest purchase saw the club replace it's aging artificial wicket, enabling a greater number of boys and girls matches that take place over the course of the summer. In addition, the pavilion upgrade continued with replacement showers in both the male and female changing rooms.

The Accounts are attached to this report, however the key points in summary are as follows:

- The club made a loss of £9,323 although this was driven by one-off capital purchases of £19,266.
- Income, excluding grants, increased to over £40k, with a large increase in sponsorship as the club signed deals with main sponsors for both adult and junior cricket.
- Expenditure, excluding capital purchases, remained reasonably stable with an increase in spend on ground maintenance offset by reduced utility payments.
- Any surpluses, once a reasonable contingency is set aside in case of unexpected pressures on running costs, are managed through a development account which enables the club to fund improvements in facilities and other key investments to drive sustainability and improve member experience. The club's success with its day-to-day finances meant that a development account balance of £11,143 was set aside for further investment priorities in 2025. This included £1,767 of funding raised to replace the club's aging scorebox with work booked in for the 2026 pre-season.

AVONCROFT CRICKET CLUB - CLUB ACCOUNTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	General A/C 2025		Development A/C 2025		TOTAL 2025		TOTAL 2024	
INCOME	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Main Committee		*0*		*0*		**0**		**0**
- Grants					0		0	
Playing Committee		*7,633*		*0*		**7,633**		**7,436**
- Subscriptions	*2,930*				2,930		2,750	
- Adult Match Fees	*4,168*				4,168		3,941	
- Indoor Nets	*535*				535		745	
Junior Committee		*10,302*		*0*		**10,302**		**9,764**
- Subs, Training & Match Fees	*10,062*				10,062		9,764	
- Indoor Nets	*240*				240		0	
Social & Fundraising Committee		*2,950*		*10,780*		**13,730**		**7,624**
- Vice Presidents / Donations					0		1,186	
- Sponsorship			*4,200*		4,200		1,000	
- 200 Club & Bonus Ball			*1,949*		1,949		1,945	
- Ground Hire			*280*		280		320	
- BBQ			*2,170*		2,170		2,188	
- Clothing	*2,950*				2,950		36	
- Other social/fundraising			*2,182*		2,182		949	
Ground & Pavilion Committee		*0*		*0*		**0**		**7,976**
- Capital Grants			*0*		0		7,976	
Bar Committee		*9,089*				**9,089**		**9,993**
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC INCOME		*29,974*		*10,780*		*40,754*		**42,793**

EXPENDITURE	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Main Committee		*6,711*		*0*		**6,711**		**7,327**
- Loan repayments *	*1,448*				1,448		1,930	
- Insurance	*3,370*				3,370		3,281	
- Fire Compliance	*164*				164		67	
- Licences	*677*				677		677	
- Pest Control	*528*				528		1,170	
- Sundries	*525*				525		202	
Playing Committee		*7,196*		*0*		**7,196**		**3,687**
- League Fees	*526*				526		687	
- Balls	*897*				897		909	
- Trophies / Medals	*0*				0		340	
- Indoor Nets	*684*				684		680	
- Ground Hire	*1,350*				1,350		1,025	
- Clothing	*3,739*				3,739		0	
- Other					0		45	
Junior Committee		*2,139*		*0*		**2,139**		**2,780**
- League Fees	*565*				565		655	
- Courses	*0*				0		450	
- Kit / Equipment / Balls	*883*				883		609	
- Trophies	*691*				691		1,065	
Social & Fundraising Committee		*401*		*907*		**1,308**		**541**
- Advertising banners / Signage			*907*		907		146	
- Presentation evening	*401*				401		395	
Ground & Pavilion Committee		*13,458*		*19,266*		**32,724**		**17,599**
- Capital Purchases			*19,266*		19,266		3,465	
- Ground Rent	*341*				341		341	
- Ground Work / Expenses	*10,272*				10,272		7,448	
- Bin Collection	*391*				391		358	
- Pavilion Maintenance / expenses	*283*				283		1,193	
- Utilities (Gas)	*94*				94		105	
- Utilities (Electricity)	*2,003*				2,003		4,413	
- Utilities (Water)	*75*				75		275	
Bar Committee						**0**		**0**
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC EXPENDITURE		*29,904*		*20,173*		**50,077**		**31,934**
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC PROFIT / (LOSS) BEFORE INTERNAL TRANSFERS		*70*		*-9,393*		**-9,323**		**10,859**
TRANSFER TO DEVELOPMENT A/C		*-1,500*		*1,500*		**0**		**0**
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC PROFIT / (LOSS)		*-1,430*		*-7,893*		*-9,323*		*10,859*

Notes to accounts

* The club took out a loan of £9,650 from England & Wales Cricket Trust in 2019 to fund the cost of ground equipment. The loan was fully paid off in Q3 2025

AVONCROFT CRICKET CLUB - CLUB ACCOUNTS

DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT - MEMORANDUM

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	INCOME 2025		EXPENDITURE 2025	
	£	£	£	£
OPENING BALANCE		**19,036**		
Made up of:				
- General Balance		6,608		
- Artificial Wicket Grant + Club contribution		10,428		
- Ground resilience fund		2,000		
Grants		**0**		**10,428**
E&W Cricket Trust - Artificial Wicket			10,428	
Sponsorship & Donations		**10,780**		**9,745**
Danton HR (1 year senior sponsor)	1,250			
Black Cat Building (2 years junior sponsor)	2,000			
Alex Richardson	250			
Bournville Village Trust	500			
Headway	200			
Fundraising (200 Club/Bonus Ball/BBQ/Raffles etc)	4,814			
Toyota Raffle	1,767			
Showers			4,800	
Fencing			1,210	
Roll-on batting cage			2,382	
Memorial			446	
Advertising banners / signage			907	
Transfer from General Account		**1,500**		**0**
SUB-TOTAL		**12,280**		**20,173**
BALANCE		**11,143**		
Made up of:				
- General		6,376		
- Toyota Raffle (for scoreboard)		1,767		
- Ground resilience		3,000		

AVONCROFT CRICKET CLUB - CLUB ACCOUNTS

MOVEMENT OF FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Bank £	Cash/Chq £	Total £
Opening balance at 1st January 2025	**35,879**	**547**	**36,426**
Split between:			
- General a/c	**12,328**	**24**	**12,352**
- Development a/c	**19,036**		**19,036**
- Bar a/c	**2,002**	**523**	**2,525**
- Social a/c	**2,513**		**2,513**
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	(10,247)	924	(9,323)
Closing balance at 31st December 2025	**25,632**	**1,471**	**27,103**
Split between:			
General a/c	**8,188**	**640**	**8,828**
Development a/c	**11,143**		**11,143**
Bar a/c	**1,840**	**831**	**2,671**
Social a/c	**4,462**		**4,462**

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Avoncroft Cricket Club

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 9th Feb 2026.

Name: PHILIP INGLE