

AUGUSTINIANS CRICKET CLUB

Founded 1967

Ground: All Saints R.C. Comprehensive High School *Headquarters:* Ashbrow
Honours: Section A Winners—1980, 1982, 1983, 1985; Lumb Cup Winners—1984; Crosland Trophy Winners—1973, 1974, 1985; Outdoor 6-a-side Winners—1985; Runners-Up—1984; Indoor 6-a-side Winners—1984; MenCap Winners—1979, 1982, 1984.

It was at the November meeting in 1967 that “Mr. Grimes, representing the Staff, students, former students and friends of St. Augustine’s Voluntary School expressed his club’s hopes of being admitted to the Association in 1968 and replied to questions put to him by various representatives.”

Undoubtedly, if those same questions were asked today, very similar answers would be forthcoming. It was felt then, as now, that an ‘Old Boys’ team based at the school ground at Bradley Bar and playing in the Association, would provide organised league cricket for those numerous boys who, whilst passing through the school, acquired a love and understanding of the game of cricket.

Remarkably, similar questions could still be addressed to the self-same Michael Grimes who, along with John Harold, Stuart Burns and Peter Lawrence-Brown, played in the original team of 1968 and now, seventeen years later, are still active playing members of the club’s two successful teams.

Surely, those other original founding members – Brian Doran, Frank Heppenshall, and the late, and still sadly missed, Vincent O’Hara are justifiably proud of the present performances of the club’s two teams. The Second XI won the Crosland Trophy in 1985 to add to consecutive wins in 1973 and 1974; whilst the First XI are rapidly developing into the ‘team of the eighties’ having won the Section A title four years out of the last five and the Lumb Cup in 1984. An envious record of success and certainly one not unconnected to the presence of Harold Ainley as First XI captain and Stuart Burns’ leadership of the Seconds.

Halcyon days indeed but not always so. Strangely, it is to less edifying times that memories turn when gatherings of club members take place. All seem to wish to recount the time we were dismissed for 6 (six) against Almondbury Wesleyans, and the scorebook showed the top score to be 2 byes! Yet the club, and the friendships it has fostered over the years, survived such setbacks and, hopefully, even if the circle were once more to turn they would continue for many years to come.