**O60S 1ST XI CAPTAIN’S REPORT 2021**

**The season began promisingly and finished encouragingly but what went on in between was desperately disappointing.**

**After a narrow victory in our first game against Bedfordshire, we finished 14 short in a tight game against Essex, a game we looked like winning until the fall of late wickets.**

**Thereafter unavailability mainly through injury meant that we struggled to compete in most of the games and finished bottom of our group, illustrated by the fact that we fielded a team of 9 away to Hertfordshire.**

**We were indebted to Robin Yates, who contributed runs on a regular basis including a fine 98 at home to Essex as well as Mike Cusack, Mike Tooke and Randolph Lofthouse who all made runs throughout the group games.**

**Andy Gregory performed consistently well, week in and week out with the ball and there were good individual performances from John Spaxman and Trevor Shales who both took 4 wickets in one game.**

**But we just couldn’t compete in most games, which, given the fact that we topped the group 2 years earlier was most frustrating.**

**So we ended up in the playoffs away to Buckinghamshire, fielded a much stronger team, recovered from 9 for 3, with both Robin and Mike Cusack making hundreds, Clive Bennett took 4 wickets and we won comfortably.**

**Away to Hampshire proved a much stiffer test. Again we fielded a much stronger team, again Robin got 100 with Mike Cusack and Lofty also making runs, but we ended up 40 short despite a good performance.**

**After a number of years in the post, I have decided to stand down.**

**Many thanks to all the people who have supported me on and off the field over the years and it has been a privilege to have captained the team. There have been many highs as well some low points but the spirit in the team has always been good. But it is time to stand aside and let someone else oversee the bringing in of some younger players which needs to be encouraged.**

**Andy King**