

Twelve months ago the thought of presenting this report would have filled me with the deepest apprehension. However despite having inherited the biggest debt in the clubs' history you will be pleased to know that we have by hard work and spartan spending managed to reduce our cash committment from £3500 to £800.

In some ways it was a pity that the Committee should have been saddled with such extra problems during our 125th Anniversary Year, a year in which all our efforts ought to have been channeled towards commemorating this milestone in the clubs life.

Commemorate we did however, as you are all aware, with a fire service at St. Nicholas's and a Celebrity Cricket Match held on a glorious June day. The weather in fact helped us to a record Bar profit over the year thus enabling a good percentage of our debts to be paid off from this scourse. Your Bar Chairman, Gerry Mills, can justifiably be very proud of the final profit figure, reached in spite of some difficulties resulting from absent Bar Stewards etc.,

Our improved turnover on the Bar is due in no small measure to the Soccer Section which is now an important part of the club and ensures that the pavilion is in use throughout the close season. The section has not followed the lines I had hoped it would however and in this respect I feel there is some danger of difficulties at a later stage. I hope the officers will keep a close observation on policy in order that we do not have a repetition of our previous soccer team.

I have already mentioned one of you individually but so many members worked extremely hard during and before our anniversary year and therefore I feel you should accept the praise as a team. However at the risk of repeating myself, this was a very exceptional year and thanks must be extended to those of you who produced ideas and foresight some 18 months ago which resulted in such a success. The '1975 Committee,' chaired by Tony Handley-Jones, were the organisers of the events throughout the year and our thanks are extended to his Committee of David Hawes, Ted Goodrham, Laurie Taylor, Gordon Slade, Derek Newman and John Homan.

On the field we have had an extremely mixed year highlighted by our 1st and 2nd XI's winning their respective divisions in the Chiltern Cricket League and our Evening League team gaining runners-up position but these apart we suffered quite a few heavy defeats, particularly our 1st XI. Lets hope this will be put right in 1976.

We have been extremely fortunate in our selection of Club Presidents over the last 25 years with Lady Gage followed by Colonel Marriott and now Raymond Lock. All have served the club faithfully with both the Colonel and Raymond Lock putting their hand in their pocket to assist us. I would like to record our appreciation for the contribution our current President has made in the form of a new car park, sight screens and hedge cutting as well as a monetary contribution to the Soccer Section.

We do of course also need your support and it was most encouraging to see so many of you at the Annual Dinner Dance. I would ask you to continue this interest in our Social events and attend as many functions as you possibly can. Do you realise that the Disco's held in the pavilion raise around £100 a time?. The Bar is a very important and almost painless way of putting money into the Club.

Finally we have out of necessity tended to stagnate as far as further improvements to the pavilion are concerned but I am sure this was the correct course to take and I feel that the final results have justified this. However it is our intention to press ahead with general improvements to the amenities and I envisage that these will become evident very shortly. Eventually we shall add a further section to the pavilion incorporating a new lounge bar.

David Wigmore
Chairman.