



OTHCC

Early TT26
Newsletter



NEWSLETTER



Early Trinity 2026

In This Edition

1. Welcome
2. Fixture List
3. India Tour Report
4. Lord's T20 Day
5. Key Fixtures
6. Toronto CC
7. Alumni Drinks
8. Early Season Report
9. Thank you

Welcome

On behalf of everyone at OUCC, welcome to our early Trinity Term newsletter.

In this edition, we reflect on a strong start to the year and look ahead to an exciting term for the club. The tour to India was a resounding success placing both squads in great stead for the season, reflected by early successes against the counties and in the BUCS leagues.

Once again, we would really appreciate if you could pass this newsletter to teammates and friends, encouraging them to sign up at the following [link](#). We hope to build a wide network of friends of OUCC, sharing the success of the club on a termly basis. We hope to see many of you and look forward to an exciting season of Oxford cricket in 2026.

OUCC Committee 2025-26

India Tour Report

The Blues men's and women's squads embarked on a joint tour to India, beginning in Bangalore at the Just Cricket Academy before concluding in Goa. Across nine days, both squads combined competitive cricket with valuable cultural experiences, laying strong foundations for the season ahead.

After an initial training day to adapt to the conditions, both squads moved into a busy run of fixtures.

The men's side opened their tour with a closely fought 50-over match, posting 249 thanks to Henry Nicholls' superb 117 and a debut 31 from Freddie Katzenellenbogen. Despite strong bowling from Chris Carnegie (3-64) and Tilak Patel (3-43), the match slipped away in the final over.



They responded immediately the following day, with a T20 victory led by Jai Chandra's explosive 83*, after disciplined bowling from Will Marriage and Chris Carnegie restricted the opposition. This momentum continued into the third match, where a controlled bowling display, highlighted by Nathan Schofield's 3-36, set up an 8-wicket win, guided home by Amogh Karpe (75*) and Katzenellenbogen (39*).



Alongside these performances, the women's squad used the early matches to adapt to unfamiliar conditions following a productive indoor winter. While results did not always go their way, there were clear signs of progress and growing cohesion as a new-look side, particularly with the integration of five freshers.



As the tour progressed, both squads showed clear improvement, with a number of standout individual performances.

For the men, contributions came from across the squad, including consistent bowling from Carnegie and Patel, and key innings from Karpe, Chandra, and Nicholls. The final 50-over fixture saw one of the strongest batting displays of the tour, as Robbie Hardwick (76), Timon Basu (48), Josh Royan (47), and George Gardiner (35) combined to post 283, before Tilak Patel (4–53) and Will Marriage sealed the win.



For the women, individual milestones and consistency were equally encouraging. Standouts include Maisie Wright's first fifty and Sophie Goodman's economical bowling throughout the tour.

After seven days in Bangalore, the squads travelled to Goa for the final stage of the tour. The men's team immediately delivered one of their most complete performances in a floodlit T20, restricting a Karnataka academy side to 137 through a shared bowling effort. Narayan then led the chase with a rapid 47 from 25 balls, securing an emphatic victory inside 12 overs.

The women's squad also continued to build momentum in Goa, showing increasing confidence and adaptability in different conditions, with their final match providing one of the strongest collective performances of the tour.



A key strength of the tour was the shared experience across both squads. Highlights included exploring Bangalore's central markets, visiting Mysore Palace, and spending time on the beaches in Goa. The squads also engaged in wider opportunities, including a showcase match at the Manipal Academy of Higher Education and a visit to the British Deputy High Commission in Bengaluru.



Additionally, a group of players visited the Hope Foundation School, where they spent time with students discussing higher education and playing cricket—an especially rewarding experience for those involved.



Bringing the men's and women's squads together proved invaluable, both socially and competitively. Celebrating successes, supporting one another, and sharing experiences helped to build a strong sense of unity across the club.



While the men's side secured multiple victories and the women's side focused on development and integration, both squads leave the tour better prepared for the season ahead.



“Looking at the bigger picture, the India tour was transformational. Not only was its organisation entirely student-led, but touring along with the women's team for the first time laid the foundations for all Oxford cricketers to enjoy equal sporting opportunities for generations to come.”

– William Marriage



Off the pitch, it was enjoyable to celebrate the men's successes and spend time together as one club through dinners and day trips. Highlights included visiting Mysore Palace, exploring the markets in Bangalore and a beach day in Goa.



“The India tour was one of the best weeks of my life. The trip was phenomenal both on and off the pitch and has put us in great stead for the upcoming season”

– Chris Carnegie



Overall, the tour was an extremely rewarding experience, providing valuable opportunities for development both on and off the field, while strengthening team bonds and creating lasting memories.

 **TELLWORTH**
Part of the Premier Miton Group

“Brilliant preparation, amazing culture, awesome camaraderie. Playing cricket in India is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we were so fortunate to experience the country through our sport. A massive thank you to everyone who made this tour possible - it will hold us in good stead for the season ahead and beyond!”

– Hannah Davis



We are immensely grateful for the support of Sharwood's and the university's Vice-Chancellor, Irene Tracey, as well as the extensive effort behind the scenes from Vivek Narayan, without their support and efforts this tour would not have been able to take place.

 **Sharwood's**
SINCE 1881

 **Child Bereavement UK**
REBUILDING LIVES TOGETHER

Lord's T20 Day

OUCC will contest both the Men's and Women's T20 Varsity matches at Lord's on Thursday 7th May. As the highlight event of the OUCC calendar, we look forward to welcoming alumni to support the Dark Blues. The Women's side will seek to defend their title, while the Men aim to improve on last year's result.



Women's Blues at Lord's 2025

Tickets may be found at the following link on the [Lord's website](#) and will also be available to purchase on the day!



*University of Oxford vs Brookes Derby
2025*

2026 Key Fixtures

Friday 1st May

Authentics, Women's and Men's
Blues vs Oxford Brookes T20 Day

Thursday 7th May

Men's and Women's Blues
T20 Varsity Matches at Lord's

Friday 22nd May

Authentics vs MCC

Sunday 7th June

Men's Blues vs Harlequins

Friday 12th June

Women's Blues vs MCC

Saturday-Monday 20th-22nd June

Women's & Men's Blues and
Authentics

50 Over Varsity Matches

Arundel Castle Cricket Ground

Tuesday 30 Jun - Friday 3rd July

Men's Blues 183rd University Match
at Parks

Our full fixture list may be found at
[this link](#).



**LORD'S
THURS 7TH MAY
T20 VARSITY**



Toronto CC

We have been contacted by the Toronto Cricket Club who are planning an Oxford vs Cambridge cricket match in Toronto in 2027 in celebration of both their 200th anniversary and that of the University Match.

If there are any friends of OUCG in Canada (or who fancy a trip to Canada!), please do reach out to Toby Brown to express interest at toby.brown@magd.ox.ac.uk and he will provide further details once available.

The facilities at Toronto are some of the best in Canada and they have generously offered to help with logistics for anyone wishing to make the trip across the Atlantic!



Toronto CC

Alumni Drinks

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Alumni Drinks last term. It was truly wonderful to see such a great turnout and to reconnect with so many familiar faces. The evening had a fantastic atmosphere, with people catching up, sharing stories, and strengthening the sense of community that makes OUCG so special. It was especially nice to see old friends reconnect and new connections being formed across different years.

OUCG is already looking forward to hosting the next round of alumni drinks in Oxford this autumn.



Early season reports

The first month of cricket in parks has been highly successful for the Dark Blues. In the warm-up games against Kent and Middlesex, second-year Amogh Karpe returned early from the India tour to bat at 3 for the UCCE. Karpe batted well with 67 against Middlesex and two innings over 30 against Kent.



Men's Blues away in Leeds

The Men's Blues opened their season against Teddington CC, batting first after winning the toss. Toby Brown's 68 led the way, with support through the order pushing Oxford to a strong 222/8 from their 50 overs. Teddington countered aggressively, chasing down the target in just 33 overs with seven wickets in hand.



The next day the Blues welcomed Durham UCCE to The Parks, winning the toss and electing to bat. A determined batting effort saw Oxford grind their way to 192/9 from their 50 overs, with Toby Brown anchoring the innings and valuable lower-order contributions ensuring a competitive total.

In reply, Durham pushed hard in pursuit, with Cairns leading the charge with a well-made 56. However, the Blues held their nerve superbly in the closing stages. Tight spells and crucial late wickets from the likes of Carnegie and Marriage turning the screw just when it mattered most.

With composure under pressure and a clinical finish in the field, Oxford sealed a thrilling 6-run victory, an outstanding team performance to kick off their campaign in style.

Next in the BUCS campaign, Men's Blues faced Leeds/Bradford UCCE, batting first after winning the toss. Toby Brown's composed 53 anchored the innings as Oxford posted 172 all out. In reply, Leeds/Bradford's top order dominated, with Rahul Tangirala's 90 steering a swift chase, completed in 27.5 overs for an 8-wicket win.

Encouraging signs with the bat and in the field, but the Blues will look to sharpen up as the season progresses.



Henry Nicholls against Leeds / Bradford



Women's Blues against Loughborough

The Women's Blues faced a strong Loughborough side, traditionally among the top teams in the competition, electing to field first after winning the toss. A disciplined and energetic bowling performance kept things tight throughout, with regular wickets halting any momentum and restricting the visitors to 108/7 from their 30 overs.

In the batting, Oxford were led superbly by Maisie Wright and Jemima Vereker, whose composed knocks of 32 and 35 respectively laid the foundation for the chase. Their partnership provided control and momentum, allowing the Blues to stay ahead of the rate despite a few middle-order wickets.

With contributions elsewhere ensuring there were no late nerves, Oxford reached 110/5 in 21.3 overs to secure a confident 5-wicket win.

Thank you!

Thank you for getting to the end of our newsletter. As the OUCC committee, we would also like to thank you for your continued support of the club and hope to see many of you this season.