

Yet another excellent weekend in Devon catching up with old friends and enjoying the atmosphere.

A few of The Class of '73 met up in Somerset for a couple of days before travelling on to Exeter and meeting up with Huw Jenkins (I think that's their tent in the background) .

Their weekend in Exeter continued with a visit to the College, Mount Radford and the White Hart, and eventually an evening in The Ganges, The Turks Head and finally Weatherspoons.



Dickie Allard, Jeff Rees, Adrian Wotton, John Morgan, Gary Page

Other more senior members met up in the Fishermans Cot. Some managed a visit to Knightshayes before joining others for a meal the Cot, Steve and Chris, Jeannie Poole and her sister Chris, Roger Herd, John and Judy Brand, and Derek Barnard.



On Sunday many made their way to Killerton.



It was a very moving moment to find that Robert Meakins had managed to have the plaques prominently installed in front of the trees that we had planted in 2010. Both trees are now looking very healthy, and the protective cage has been removed.



We presented Rob with an engraved pint tankard and a Killerton Cricket Cap as an honorary Killertonian. Rob had intended to play for Killerton this year, but Broadclyst were struggling to raise a team (apparently there was a football match on the TV)



After admiring the trees we made our way up to the House and met up with others. We had the obligatory Front Door Photos:





After a tour of the House, a walk in the gardens and then the short drive to the cricket ground. First, the equally obligatory photo of the Team:



Killerton Team of 2024

John Morgan captain, Gary Page, Jeff Rees, Malc Greenhalgh, Horace Letchford, Neville Pritchard, Alex Bath, Jasper Bubb 14, Matt Williamson, Freddie Cochrane, Sam Gore plus Derek Barnard (scorer)

Then the full squad including non-playing "extras"



The match was entertaining and not a great distance between the scores at the end, however, Broadclyst won with 258 runs whilst Killerton came in a close second with 217 runs.

There was an excellent tea prepared by Lee.

Derek Barnard presented a prize for the Man of the Match for each team:

Freddie Cochrane was chosen as Man of Match for the Killerton team.

The Sir Richard Acland trophy was presented to Broadclyst CC.

It was a slightly sad occasion as earlier this year we received news that Vijay Daswani had died in a swimming accident in Goa. Vijay was instrumental in forming the relationship between Broadclyst and the Ex-Killertonions. As many will recall, it was during one of our visits to Killerton in 2013 that Vijay decided to take a look at "our" cricket pitch and wandered down to investigate. He was pleasantly surprised to find that not only was it in excellent condition, but that Simon Gray, the chap looking after the pitch was there. There was a long conversation where Simon explained that the pitch was now the home ground for Broadclyst Cricket Club. They are a friendly village club that enjoy friendly matches.

After a while, Simon suggested to Vijay that it might be nice if the Killertonions could raise a team and we could arrange a match. Vijay took the proposal to others who, after a lot of phone calls and emails, the following year we played our first game. Since then, it has become an annual event. The following year in 2015 the Ex-Killertonions provided the Sir Richard Acland Trophy to be awarded to the winning team each year but to be kept at the ground.

The weather during the afternoon had been "variable" - from tee shirt weather to decidedly chilly - and "I think I need a coat". By the end of the match, it was definitely cold. This and the fact that a number of people needed to get away for trip home meant that the BBQ usually offered by Broadclyst was postponed until next year

A few photos from the game are available on Google Photos:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/8eidY3g8F2F7QyG96>

A very special thank you to John Davies for managing to arrange a full team - and for supplying a number of caps that made the team look very smart in the Team Photo.

On a slightly different note, many will remember Jeff Rees' wife Jo. Sad to report that she passed away last year with cancer.

Jeff is walking with his daughter Sarah and son James, 10miles in the lovely Derbyshire countryside on Sunday, from Bakewell to Chatsworth in memory of Jo.

It's not a sponsored walk or anything, but if anyone would like to make a contribution it would be greatly appreciated, they can do so on the Cancer Research website - <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/>

I finally found the floor plan of the house (as I remember it). It is available on the website. I'd welcome additions/corrections/comments:

<https://killerton-memories.co.uk/images/pdf/Plan2.pdf>

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