

Chapter 5

The New Cricket Ground and Pavilion is opened

1900 - 1909



**In 1901 the new Cricket Ground
and Pavilion was opened**



**The New Pavilion (1902c)
Groundstaff and Professionals**



1900's

The new ground is ready and the Pavilion is built The new ground is ready and the Pavilion is built

Silverlock, Steeples and Diver form a formidable trio of club professionals.

Silverlock, Steeples and Diver form a formidable trio of club professionals.

1900

New Pavilion donations appeal receives huge support.
New Pavilion donations appeal receives huge support.

1901



Donations appeal receives huge support

Donations receives huge support

- G. Llewellyn Lloyd, 1st X1 and Football team captain for 3 years
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- New ground and Pavilion are officially opened.
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1902

- New Ladies Pavilion erected.
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1903

- Edwin Diver joined Silverlock and Steeples as club professionals.
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- George Boots, Wales and Newport Rugby, appointed Umpire.
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1905

Groundsman John Butcher retired, Diver was appointed Groundsman/Coach.
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Diver appointed Groundsman/Coach

Diver appointed Groundsman/Coach

1906

- Club stalwart and ex-captain Fred Phillips appointed Mayor of Newport.
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1908

Dick Steeples leaves after 13 years as a professional bowler (1896 – 1908).
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Silverlock also terminated his 17 year engagement – only temporary!
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1909

Silverlock returns playing as an amateur.
Silverlock returns playing as an amateur.



The 'Historic' Rodney Parade Ground



Rodney Parade - 'The New Ground & Pavilion Opens'

G. Ll. Lloyd was re-appointed 1st X1 captain in 1900. The 1st X1 played 17, won 13, lost 1, with 3 drawn. Frank Rees (39.3) once again won the 1st X1 Average Bat. With Silverlock, averaging 62.7, with a highest score of 175, the club had a most successful season, only losing one match. Silverlock also took 70 wickets at 10.17 per wicket, while Steeples took 63 wickets at 9.7 runs each.

Pavilion Appeal

The new ground was nearly ready, practice wickets were in full swing, and 2nd X1 matches were played, but the lack of dressing accommodation was keenly felt. The Club were not in a position, due to heavy expenditure on the new ground, to provide a pavilion, and an appeal was made for generous benefactors to help the Club. The Club's SOS was responded to almost immediately, donations up to that time totalling £1,104 10s. 6d – a magnificent response to the Club's appeal.

G. Llewellyn Lloyd Captains Newport Rugby and Cricket Teams for 3 seasons

In 1901, G. Ll. Lloyd completed a third successive year as 1st X1 captain, while also captaining the Rugby team (1899 – 1903) during the same period. There was no more popular cricketer who ever played for the club. He played for Wales, gaining twelve Rugby caps between 1896 - 1903. He came home to Newport fresh from Leys School, Cambridge and was a steady bat, with a good late cut and a forcing stroke past extra cover, coupled with excellent defence. He was also a good wicketkeeper and did much for Newport cricket until business claimed much of his time. In a wet summer the 1st X1 played 22, winning 11, losing 3 and drawing 8 matches.

The New Ground and Pavilion Open

Another epoch in the history of the Club commenced in 1901, as on June 1st, on the occasion of a match with Cardiff, the new Cricket Ground and Pavilion were formally opened by Viscount Tredegar. The total of donations up to this time in connection with the pavilion amounted to £1,534 17s. 6d – a truly magnificent response from the Club members.

L. Foster Stedman takes over the Captaincy

In 1902, L. Foster Stedman was elected captain, the 1st X1 played 24, winning 11, losing 6 and drawing 7 matches. Frank Rees once again won the 1st X1 Average Bat (31.20). E. S. Phillips had an average of 40.25, but didn't qualify for the bat and Silverlock averaged 70.06, with a highest score of 170 n.o. Silverlock also took 62 wickets at 10.93 per wicket, and Steeples took 60 wickets at 9.36 runs.

A Ladies Pavilion is Built

In 1902, the promise of a Ladies pavilion on the Cricket Ground saw fruition, and £190 was spent in erecting a fitting memorial to the splendid help which the ladies gave in raising funds for the Cricket Pavilion adjoining it.

L. Foster Stedman was captain again in 1903, the 1st X1 played 22, won 13, lost 1 and drew 8, in another wet season. They almost constituted a record this year by only losing one match. On numerous occasions they got within one match of invincibility, but strange to say never attained it. Arthur Gould averaging 19.33, secured the Average Bat, but Frank Rees did even better averaging 23.1, but didn't qualify for the bat. T. B. Williams (38.0) secured the 2nd X1 Average Bat. In addition to Silverlock and Steeples, E. J. Diver the well known Surrey and Warwickshire cricketer was engaged by the club as coach/wicketkeeper, in the place of Hutchins, who fell ill during the previous season and died, after several years service as Juniors coach. George Boots the famous Wales and Newport Rugby Forward, took over as 1st X1 umpire, from James Williams, who put in many faithful years service in a position not much sought after.

In 1904, L. Foster Stedman continued as 1st X1 captain, playing 21, winning 15, losing 4 with 2 drawn, with the Average Bat being won by P. C. Phillips with an average of 20.58. E. S. Phillips also had a splendid average (37.2), but didn't play in sufficient innings to qualify for the bat. Club Professionals Silverlock and Steeples were still doing good service for the club, Silverlock averaging 37.71 (highest score 140) and took 62 wickets for 11.38 runs apiece. Steeples again bowled splendidly, 85 wickets at 10.22 runs apiece.

Fastest Scoring Performance in the Club's History!

During this season perhaps the fastest scoring performance in the history of the club took place. The venue was Thornbury, Gloucestershire, where the club 1st X1 were playing against a strong Thornbury X1, captained by 'The Coroner' Dr. E. M. Grace. As usual several professionals and amateurs from the County X1, were in the Thornbury X1. L. Foster Stedman (then captain) and the late Leslie Phillips, were firmly set, and the Doctor was bowling lobs at one end, with Dennett and Spry, the Gloucestershire Professionals, at the other end. There was some hurricane hitting, as during the course of that partnership, lasting just under 50 minutes, no fewer than 210 runs were scored. Three balls were in use during that short period. Two were lost at one time – one safely lodged in a hay rick in the adjoining field. And altogether 12 sixes were hit – surely a record for a club match. Both batsmen obtained centuries – Stedman 100 not out and Leslie Phillips 102.





The 'Historic' Rodney Parade Ground



The New Pavilion is Built

The 'new' Rodney Parade Ground and Pavilion

Although in 1899 the new ground was nearing completion, it was not much used in consequence of the lack of accommodation. In 1900, the new ground was practically completed, practice wickets were in full swing, and 2nd X1 matches were played, but the lack of dressing accommodation was keenly felt. The Club were not in a position, in consequence of heavy expenditure on different parts of the ground, to provide a pavilion, and hints were thrown out that perhaps some generous benefactors would come forward to the Club's assistance in the matter. That the Club's SOS was responded to almost immediately is shown by the following extract which appeared in the Report for this year,

THE proposed Cricket Pavilion will be a two-story building. The ground floor will contain lockers and professional's rooms, bath and lavatory accommodation, kitchen, stores, etc.

On the first floor, provision is made for club dressing-room 24ft. by 18ft., visitors' dressing-room 12ft. by 15ft., the former being fitted with lockers, and a dining-room 27ft. by 18ft. Also a small bar furnished with service lift from kitchen overdoor. Access to shower bath, lavatories, etc., is gained by means of staircase placed at each end of the building.

Fronting the pavilion, a spacious stand will be erected, constructed in tiers, for the use of the members. A verandah is arranged on the top of stand, extending the length of the dining-room. The stand will be constructed of brickwork, and faced with local red porous brick, and the roof covered with tiled tile. The design of the building is of a simple character, and is for reasons of economy and the suitability for the purpose intended.

Messrs. Isaac and Bain, F.R.I.C.A., of Newport, are the architects.

List of Subscriptions already promised.

Messrs. Edward & Fred Phillips	500 0 0	Mr. Edward Davies	5 0 0
Lord Tredegar	200 0 0	" Foster Steadman	5 0 0
Mr. T. G. Cartwright	50 0 0	" C. E. Parsons	5 0 0
" H. S. Lyne	25 0 0	" H. H. Parnall	5 0 0
" G. F. Harding	25 0 0	" A. W. Boucher	5 0 0
" W. J. Ordery	25 0 0	" A. J. Gould	5 0 0
" T. C. Graham	25 0 0	" H. Packer	5 0 0
" G. L. Lloyd	10 10 0	" E. Bellerby	5 0 0
" Thos. Harding	10 10 0	Dr. R. E. W. Brewer	2 2 0
" J. A. Muller	10 0 0	Mayor of Newport (R. L. Jones, Esq.)	2 2 0
		Mr. H. P. Phillips	1 1 0

The Newport Athletic Club.
NEW PAVILION FUND.

By **HARRY PACKER**, Hon. Secretary

I will subscribe the sum of £ _____ towards the New Pavilion Fund

'It will be remembered that in last year's Report hopes were expressed that some generous members would come forward to the assistance of the Club in the funds necessary for building a pavilion on the New Cricket Ground. This hope was speedily fulfilled by the announcement at the Annual Meeting of a munificent offer of £500 for this purpose by Messrs. Edward and Fred Phillips, which was given by them in memory of their late father, Mr Thomas Phillips, known to all members as a keen sportsman and a staunch supporter of the Club. Your Committee gratefully accepted this offer, and, being further helped by the generous promise of £200 by Lord Tredegar, it was felt that the Club could at once proceed to obtain tenders for a pavilion worthy of its best traditions. The tender of Mr. A. Hazell was accepted, and your Committee are glad to be able to report that the building is now almost finished, and will be used by the cricket members this season, leaving the ground inside the cycle track free for Tennis. Your Committee wish to thank the many generous donors, and especially Mr. W. T. Ford, who presented the whole of the tiles for the roof, but as there is still a balance of £400 to be raised before the debt is cleared, your Committee would be glad to hear from any intending subscribers, feeling that there are many members who will be desirous of responding to the appeal which has been made for the purpose of erecting a building to adequately commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Club's tenancy of the present grounds.'

The sum received in donations up to this time totalled £1,104 10s. 6d - a magnificent response to the Club's appeal.





The 'Historic' Rodney Parade Ground



The Opening of the New Cricket Ground & Pavilion

Rodney Parade - 'The Opening of the new Ground & Pavilion in 1901'

Another epoch in the history of the Club commenced in 1901, as on June 1st, on the occasion of a match with Cardiff, the new Cricket Ground and Pavilion were formally opened by the late Viscount Tredegar

Original 'Invitation to the Official Opening of the Pavilion'

One cannot do better than give the reference in the Club Report of 1901 :

'The next important event of the year was the opening of the New Cricket Ground on June 1st, the ceremony being performed by the noble President of the Club, the Right Hon. Lord Tredegar, in the presence of a large and representative gathering. At the luncheon which followed (nearly 100 members and ladies being present), his lordship congratulated the Club on having acquired a Cricket Ground and Pavilion which compared favourably with any in the Country. Many subscriptions were promised on this occasion, and as will be noticed by reference to the Statement of Accounts, these have been added to so liberally that the whole expenditure on the actual building has been met by subscriptions. Lord Tredegar, who had already promised £200, increased the amount to £300, and Messrs Edward and Fred Phillips gave a further £208, thereby raising the amount of their joint donation to £708, a truly magnificent gift. The splendid clock in the front of the building was presented by Messrs Rainforth & Son. It is difficult for your Committee to express their real appreciation of such generous support which has enabled them to add to the property of the Club a well-appointed building with ample accommodation for cricketers, but once more they would record their sincerest thanks to all subscribers. The Committee of ladies whose help in raising the funds has been greatly valued, have suggested the addition of a Ladies Tea House, and this is at present under consideration, but the arrangements are not in a sufficiently advanced state to be embroiled in this Report'



Fred Phillips

The total of donations up to this time in connection with the pavilion amounted to £1,534 17s. 6d – a truly magnificent response from the Club members.

'Invitation to the Opening of the Pavilion'

The Ladies Pavilion - opened in 1902



In 1902, the promise of a Ladies pavilion on the Cricket Ground saw fruition, and £190 was spent in erecting a fitting memorial to the splendid help which the ladies gave in raising the funds for the Cricket Pavilion adjoining it.





The 'Historic' Rodney Parade Ground



The Pavilion Opening & Match

Rodney Parade - Newspaper Report of 'The Opening Of The New Pavilion'

The South Wales Argus published a full Report of the Pavilion Opening and Match on Saturday 8th June 1901. It read :-

The New Cricket Pavilion

'It will suffice to say now that it's windows and tiers of seats in front command a splendid view of the ground. On the ground floor there is a bathroom with four shower baths and room for a slipper bath, lavatory and conveniences; kitchen, diner, lift, storeroom and dressing rooms for Professionals and boys. On the upper floor there is a large central room with French windows opening to a veranda and the gallery of seats. On one side is the home dressing room, with lockers for members; and on the other side the visitors dressing room and the members bar'.

'At 1.15pm the game was adjourned and Lord Tredegar was called upon by Mr. Horace Lyne (Chairman of the general committee of N.A.C.) to declare the pavilion open. There were present Mr. Joseph Lawrence, M.P., the Mayor Councillor W. H. Brown, Ald. Bear, Councillor L. S. Abrahamson, Dr. Marsh, Messrs R. Stratton, L. Forestier-Walker, J. F. Rainforth, H. S. Lyne, J. A. Muller, A. Swash, (Architect), Col. Walwyn, Col. Wynyard, Messrs T. C. Graham, H. Packer, T. Gill Williams, A. J. Woodcock, E. Phillips, F. Phillips, G. F. Harding, L. H. Hornby, W. Lyndon Moore, A. Hazell (Builder), C. D. Phillips, J. Young, E. H. Faulkner, E. Coulman, T. Dawson, Capt. F. G. Dawson, W. H. Le Grand Chambers, J. K. Stone, W. C. Earle Marsh, W. J. Orders, T. G. Cartwright, and a large number of ladies'

'On behalf of the Newport Club, Mr. Horace Lyne presented a gold match-box to Lord Tredegar, and his Lordship, speaking from the steps of the pavilion, thanked the club for the present. He had had so many keys for performing opening ceremonies that he had rather expected they would give him a purse of sovereigns (*laughter*) which he needed more, but as he did not smoke (*laughter*) the match-box would be very useful to him (*renewed laughter*). He had great pleasure in declaring the pavilion open. It was very pretty outside and it was very convenient inside (*applause*). The building was then inspected, and lunch followed. At the close of the lunch, Lord Tredegar proposed 'The King', and Mr. Horace Lyne proposed 'The Donors', and mentioned that Mr. Tom Ford, who had already given the tiles for the pavilion, had written offering to give £10, while his sister promised to give one guinea. They still wanted a certain amount of help towards this public institution. They had received £1,100, and they wanted about £400 more. He hoped that some of the money would come from those who could subscribe only their half-crowns. He coupled with the toast the names of the chief donors, Mr. Edward Phillips and Mr. Fred Phillips, who had given largely towards the funds to commemorate their father, an old friend and a good sportsman, Mr. Thomas Phillips (*applause*). He presented to Mr. Edward Phillips, on behalf of the architects, Messrs. Swash and Bain, a picture of the new pavilion'.

The Opening Match

'It was appropriate (as the Mayor said at lunch) that Cardiff should be Newport's opponents on the day of the formal opening of the new cricket pavilion. In Football, in Cricket, in commerce, Newport and Cardiff are old rivals, and old friends; there is at once rivalry and community of interest between them, and Cardiff cricketers will hail with satisfaction the opening of the fine cricket ground which Newport now possess, and the equipment of a pavilion worthy of the ground'. Under the care of Mr. John Butcher and the ground staff there is no doubt that the new cricket ground at Newport will become one of the best in the Kingdom. We look forward to the day when there will be seats all around the ground and a crowd to fill them for the occasion of club and county Matches'.

CARDIFF			NEWPORT		
Lowe (S)	c Stedman b Steeples	9	Silverlock	c R. Lowe b Nash	40
Lowe (R)	b Silverlock	29	F. Rees	b Nash	23
N. Riches	not out	47	G. Ll. Lloyd	c S. Lowe b Nash	9
G. E. Cording	b Silverlock	42	P. C. Phillips	b S. Lowe	4
J. H. Brain	st Brewer b Silverlock	0	A. J. Gould	b Nash	1
W. H. Brain	c Brewer b Silverlock	1	D. F. Vines	b S. Lowe	0
Nash	lbw b Silverlock	0	W. E. C. Hudden	c Riches b Nash	4
C. Colley	st Brewer b Silverlock	0	J. R. Williams	c J. H. Brain b S. Lowe	11
L. Stephenson	c P.C. Phillips b Silverlock	16	L. F. Stedman	b Nash	12
D. Mullens	c Silverlock b Steeples	2	E. R. Brewer	not out	1
R. Colley	c Steeples b Silverlock	2	Steeple	not out	0
	Extras	8		Extras	12
	TOTAL	156-10		TOTAL	117-9

Steeple 2 - 51 Silverlock 8 - 63

Nash 6 - 48

MATCH DRAWN





The 'Historic' Rodney Parade Ground



Rodney Parade – 'The 3 Professionals Silverlock, Steeples & Diver'

In addition to some of the older members Foster Stedman had helping him at this period Leslie Phillips (one of the best sportsmen of that sporting family), who went for the bowling the moment he got at the wicket; Maurice Stratton, quite a good bat although on the slow side and a good bowler with a leg break; Lionel Robathan, whose father was an enthusiastic cricketer in the 1870's and early 80's, a really good bat with a variety of strokes, and a good outfield; and W. E. C. Hudden, a hitter who could always get a few runs when they were wanted, he was also a very useful slow left hand change bowler. Perhaps his chief prominence was as an outfielder, where as a safe catch and in saving boundaries, he had not his equal in South Wales.

In 1905, L. Foster Stedman was re-elected, the 1st X1 played 16, won 11, lost 2 with 3 matches drawn. It was pleasing to note that the 3rd X1 proved invincible under the captaincy of D. J. Davies, perhaps the most popular skipper the 3rd X1 ever had. The Average Bats were won by Frank Rees (37.35) 1st X1, Maurice Stratton (36.0) 2nd X1 and E. V. Swallow (20.14) 3rd X1. Frank Rees (108) and Diver (142) obtained centuries and the latter's average was 33.75. Silverlock was not quite so successful as usual, his average was 28.8 and his 37 wickets cost 12.38 runs apiece. Steeples 54 wickets cost 12.24 apiece.

John Butcher Retires - Diver becomes Groundsman/Coach

During 1905, the heavy responsibility on John Butcher for the up-keep of the grounds led to a re-arrangement of the staff, under which Diver was given charge of the cricket ground. The success of this arrangement soon manifested itself in the improvement of the wickets. For the first few years the new ground gave a lot of trouble in the preparation of wickets suitable for first class cricket (it was more apparent to players who were used to the old ground, where John Butcher with his usual thoroughness had got a beautiful wicket) but it afterwards improved and became one of the finest provincial grounds in the Kingdom.

The 3 Professionals - Diver joins Silverlock and Steeples

With the appointment of Edwin Diver, to join Silverlock and Steeples the club had three outstanding Professionals who committed time, effort and commitment to the Club. Their records of achievement could not be matched!

In 1906, L. Foster Stedman was again re-elected, the 1st X1 played 19, winning 8, losing 5 and drawing 6. L. Foster Stedman also won the Average Bat (25.57). For the first time a Thursday X1 was formed, captained by T. Blandford and had quite a successful season.

E. S. Phillips and Silverlock share excellent Opening Partnership

In 1906, one of the best first wicket partnerships in the club's career took place against Cardiff, who had scored 162 runs. Silverlock and E. S. Phillips went in first and put on 195 runs for the first wicket, Silverlock scoring 153 n.o and E. S. Phillips 105. Newport obtained 306 runs with only three wickets down at the close – one of the best performances Newport ever did. Steeples during this season bowled exceptionally well, and took 74 wickets for 12.6 runs apiece.

Fred Phillips Elected Mayor of Newport

In 1906, club stalwart and ex-captain Fred Phillips was elected Mayor of Newport. He was described : 'Like the whole of his family the Mayor is a sportsman of the first water. As an athlete he was a champion at flat and hurdle racing, a football player for the Newport Club in its earliest days, a cyclist, and a cricketer. In the latter capacity he captained the Newport team for years, while he was mainly responsible for the formation of the Monmouthshire County Cricket Club, an organisation he was both secretary and captain of'.

In 1907, all three captains were again re-elected - L. Foster Stedman 1st X1, W. G. Jones 2nd X1 and D. J. Davies 3rd X1. The 1st X1 played 19, winning 11, losing 2 and drawing 6. The Average Bats were won by F. Gordon-Phillips (20.71) 1st X1, H. T. Williams (17.25) 2nd X1, and H. Cockcroft (20.5) 3rd X1. Yet another of that great sporting family who have done so much for the club came to the forefront. F. Gordon Phillips (son of Mr. Fred Phillips) came from Repton School with a good reputation as a fast bowler, and soon justified himself. At this time he bowled a beautiful ball coming very fast off the pitch. He was also a good forcing bat, and always got a lot of runs if not got out in the first few overs.

Once again in 1908, the same gentlemen were elected as captains - L. Foster Stedman 1st X1, W. G. Jones 2nd X1 and D. J. Davies 3rd X1. The 1st X1 played 17, winning 8, losing 4 and drawing 5. The Average Bats were won by L. H. Weight (31.3) 1st X1, G. Shrubsole (26.33) 2nd X1, and R. C. S. Plummer (23.5) 3rd X1. The three Professionals, Silverlock, Steeples and Diver were still with the club. Silverlock had an average of 43.8 runs and 41 wickets at an average of 14.2. Diver who was giving great satisfaction as groundsman and coach, had an average of 24.0, and Steeples took 53 wickets for an average of 15.5 runs apiece.



NEWPORT CRICKET CLUB

Arthur Gould

Captain of both club and country, Newport legend Arthur Gould is regarded as the first superstar of Welsh rugby. The multi-skilled and charismatic back played 27 times for Wales, 25 at centre and two at full-back.

He was captain in 18 of the 27 matches he played for Wales – a record that lasted almost a century.

He retired in 1897 and remained Wales' most-capped centre until overtaken by Steve Fenwick in 1980.

One of three brothers to represent Wales, Gould played for Newport for 16 years between 1882 and 1898. His tally of 37 tries in 24 games in the 1893-94 season is a club record that still stands to this day.

He was inducted into the World Rugby 'Hall of Fame' in November 2016.

Newport Cricketer Inducted Into World Rugby 'Hall of Fame (November 2016)

Captain of both club and country, Newport legend Arthur Gould is regarded as the first superstar of Welsh rugby.

He was inducted into the World Rugby 'Hall of Fame' in November 2016.

In 1874, Arthur Gould's father Joseph Gould was one of the founders of Newport Cricket Club and was the first Captain of the Club. Arthur's brother Bob headed the 1st XI Bowling averages in 1886.

Arthur Gould was a very useful batsman and in 1903, won the 1st XI Average Bat (Av. 19.33). Writing about Gould in Newport Athletic Club's – 'The First Fifty Years', H. Berrow, the books author wrote, 'He took to cricket like all his sport, seriously. He was not a born cricketer, but got to be quite a good defensive bat purely by perseverance, and his quickness in running between the wickets, and his fielding at cover-point made him worth his place in the side'.

Gould's fielding prowess was evident against Guy's Hospital (a touring side) on 11/8/1892, when he caught 5 of their batsmen out whilst fielding at cover-point.

He also served as Assistant Secretary of the Club.

Arthur Gould - The Rugby Player



**Arthur Gould
Newport RFC & Wales**

Newport Veterans' Cricket Team, July 2nd, 1914.



Arthur Gould - The Cricketer



**Arthur Gould
Newport Cricket Club**



The 'Historic' Rodney Parade Ground



Rodney Parade – Silverlock & Steeples End their Association With The Club

Steeple's Severs his Association after 13 Years as a Professional Bowler

The close of the 1908 season marked the severance of an engagement of 13 years with Dick Steeples as a Professional bowler. (he also did magnificent service for the County XI). During his career for Newport he must have taken close on 900 wickets in club matches. He was a professional well-liked by all who came in touch with him, and one cannot do better than repeat the following remarks made concerning Steeples by a well-known Newport captain under whom he played for many years, 'Dick Steeples (called 'Dick the lion-hearted') will always be remembered by those who played with him as a man who was never beaten – undoubtedly the best fast bowler of his day in second class cricket. With Silverlock he was the foundation of the Newport side for many years; always cheerful, always ready, always a trier – the best stamp of professional I ever saw. He would bowl, just come on as change, and bowl again and again, always with the same good heart – an extraordinary character, such as is not to be found now. For a fast bowler he was the cleanest player I have ever known. I never knew him bump a ball at a man's body or try tricks that one has often seen first class amateur fast bowlers do. Dick Steeples was a gentleman pro. who played the game as it should be played'.

Silverlock terminates his engagement - only temporary though!

In 1908, Silverlock also terminated his Club engagement after 17 years service, but as it turned out it was only temporary.

Rodney Parade – 'Silverlock Returns As An Amateur'

Again in 1909, the same gentlemen were elected as captains - L. Foster Stedman 1st XI, W. G. Jones 2nd XI and D. J. Davies the 3rd XI for a tenth season. The 1st XI played 18, won 8, lost 4 and drew 6. The 1st XI Average Bat was won by L. H. Weight (30.5), Weight was a young player who was a product of Diver's coaching, he was fast becoming an excellent forcing bat and useful medium to fast change bowler. The following season he obtained a Professional, engagement with Hendon, in the Durham Senior League and became one of the most prominent Professionals in Durham. He played for Northern Counties against both the Australians and South Africans.

Silverlock Returns as an Amateur

At the end of the 1908 season, both Silverlock and Steeples had left the club's service, and in their places for 1909, G. L. Robinson, of Middlesex, and F. Rainsford of Bedford, were engaged as the Club's Professionals. Diver was still engaged as groundsman and coach, and as usual excellent wickets were provided. However, Silverlock returned to the club – he really intended to give up Professional cricket and had joined his brother in the restaurant business in London, but in consequence of the ill health of his wife, who had been medically advised to go back to the country, he returned to Monmouthshire, and played during the season for the club as an amateur. Like a duck taking to water he signalled his re-appearance for the club by knocking up 124 runs against Penarth in quite his best style. During this year the club lost one of its oldest cricket members in the person of Mr. J. H. Young, late of the Tredegar Arms Hotel. He was a very enthusiastic cricketer and as an old skipper of the XI remarked 'he always kept the side in a good humour, being always merry and bright'.

Achievements/Milestones of Newport Cricket Club (1900– 1909)

- 1900 – New Pavilion donations appeal receives huge support
- 1901 – G. Ll. Lloyd, 1st XI and Rugby team captain for 3 years
- New ground and Pavilion are officially opened
- 1902 – A new Ladies Pavilion is erected
- 1903 – Edwin Diver joined Silverlock and Steeples as club Professionals - George Boots, Wales & Newport Rugby, was the 1st XI Umpire
- 1905 - Groundsman John Butcher retired, Diver was appointed Groundsman/Coach
- 1906 – Club stalwart and ex-captain Fred Phillips was appointed Mayor of Newport
- 1908 – Dick Steeples leaves after 13 years as a Professional - Silverlock also terminates his 17 year engagement – only temporary!
- 1909 – Silverlock returns playing as an amateur

Newport Cricket Club Captains (1900 - 1909)

1900 G. Llewellyn Lloyd	1901 G. Llewellyn Lloyd
1902 L. Foster Stedman	1903 L. Foster Stedman
1904 L. Foster Stedman	1905 L. Foster Stedman
1906 L. Foster Stedman	1907 L. Foster Stedman
1908 L. Foster Stedman	1909 L. Foster Stedman



Rodney Parade

George Howells Mags - Cricket & Rugby Captain

In 1899, G. Ll. Lloyd (Wales Rugby player & Newport Rugby Captain) was elected as 1st XI captain. He was re-elected as captain in 1900 and again in 1901, completing a third successive year as 1st XI captain, while also captaining the Football team (1899 - 1903) during the same period



and there was no more popular cricketer who ever played for the club. He also played Rugby for Wales, gaining twelve caps between 1896 and 1903.

Steeple, Steeples & Diver - the '3 Professionals'



At this time Newport engaged many of the best Professionals.

Silverlock
(1892 - 1914)

Steeple
(1896 - 1908)

Diver
(1903 - 1914)

During the period between 1903 - 1908, the 3 Newport Professionals played together and made history for the club.

RODNEY PARADE - NEWPORT CRICKET CLUB'S NEW HOME

The Rodney Parade Cricket Ground

The new Grounds opening ceremony on June 1st, 1901, was performed by the President of the Club, the Right Hon. Lord Tredegar, in the presence of a large and representative gathering. At the luncheon which followed (nearly 100 members and ladies being present), his lordship congratulated the Club on having acquired a Cricket Ground and Pavilion which compared favourably with any in the Country.



Many subscriptions were promised on this occasion, and the Statement of Accounts, show that these have been added to so liberally that the whole expenditure on the actual building has been met by subscriptions. Lord Tredegar, who had already promised £200, increased the amount to £300, and Messrs Edward and Fred Phillips gave a further £208, thereby raising the amount of their joint donation to £708, a truly magnificent gift. The splendid clock in the front of the building was presented by Messrs. Rainforth & Son.

The Pavilion provided a well-appointed building with ample accommodation for cricketers. Once more the committee recorded their sincerest thanks to all subscribers. The total of donations up to this time in connection with the pavilion amounted to £1,534 17s. 6d - a truly magnificent response from the Club members.

officially Opened 1st June 1901

Diver becomes Groundsman/Coach



In 1905, John Butcher retired as Groundsman. The re-arrangement of staff, saw Diver given charge of the cricket ground. Diver's new role was Groundsman/Coach. The ground improved and became one of the best in the Kingdom.

L. Foster Stedman - Captain for 11 Years



In 1913, after 11 consecutive seasons, L. Foster Stedman relinquished the 1st XI captaincy. He was 'a good, forceful bat and an excellent right arm medium to fast bowler. He was a very popular captain'. No one has equalled his Captaincy record in the club's history, captaining the 1st XI from 1902 - 1912.

E. S Phillips - WW1 Killed in Action



The 1914 season was curtailed in August when WW1 broke out. E.S Phillips ended the season at the top of the batting averages, in what was tragically his last season as he was killed in action early in the First World War.