



Newport Cricket Club



'The Formation of Women & Girls Cricket at Newport Cricket Club'

Girls U13 UK Champions 2013



Girls U13 UK Champions 2014



Girls U15 UK Champions 2014

'A Decade of Outstanding Achievement' (2009 - 2018)



'The Inaugural Match' 2013



Women's UK Champions 2013



Newport Cricket Club



The Formation of Women & Girls Cricket at Newport Cricket Club

A Decade of Women & Girls Cricket (2009 - 2020)



'A Decade of Outstanding Achievement!'

Foreword

This book was compiled in 2020 by Head Coach & Chairman Mike Knight.

It charts the modern history of Newport Cricket Club's Women and Girls section, covering its formation in 2009 and charting its development, culminating in a decade of outstanding success.

The book tells the story of how Club 'legends' Mike and Dave Knight worked tirelessly to create and develop a Women and Girls Cricket section at the Club.

Newport Cricket Club had supported girl cricketers previously, albeit a small number playing in boys teams. Several attempts had been made in the early 2000's to develop a Girl's Cricket section at the club, but even though the Boys section was flourishing, all efforts to develop a Girl's Cricket section had failed miserably.

However, in 2009 as part of the Club's 175th Anniversary, a major target was set to establish a Girl's Cricket section. It proved to be one of the most satisfying and rewarding initiatives that the Junior section, under the guidance of Mike & Dave Knight had ever made.

It was 'A Decade of Outstanding Achievement'



The Formation of Women & Girls Cricket at Newport Cricket Club



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'A Decade of Outstanding Achievement!'



Chapter 1

Women's Cricket Comes to Newport in 1890



The arrival in June of the lady cricketers of England provoked some amusement in Newport. They played an exhibition match at the Athletic Club in 1890.

'Women's Cricket Comes to Newport in 1890'

A fully functioning Girls Cricket section at Newport Cricket Club was formed in 2009 and the rapid rise of Girl's Cricket was phenomenal. In the winter of 2012, it was announced by Head Coach, Mike Knight that Newport would form a new Newport Women's Cricket Club for the 2013 season. The team would be captained by Wales Captain, Claire Thomas and no longer would the club's leading Girl players have to leave the club to play senior women's cricket.

2013 was one of the greatest years in the Club's history and a wonderful year for Newport Cricket Club's Women and Girls Cricketers, with the Club's teams reaching all 3 ECB Women & Girls UK Finals, winning two of them. Newport's Women's team and the Newport U13 Girl's teams being crowned UK Champions and the U15 Girls being UK Runners Up. The magnificent achievements will live long in the memories of Newport Cricket Club folklore.

It was a far cry from 1890, when the first Women's Cricket match was played in Newport

Women's Cricket Comes to Newport (June 1890) <http://www.newportpast.com/nfs/y90t99/chapter8.htm>

The arrival in June of the lady cricketers of England provoked some amusement in Newport. They played an exhibition match at the Athletic Club. The contingent consisted of thirty young ladies from whose number two teams were chosen for the match. The "Reds" were captained by Miss Westbrook described as the W.G.Grace of the team (a very pretty bat) and the "Blues" were led by Miss Daisy Stanley.

The dress of the group caused quite a stir amongst the Newport ladies who attended the match. It consisted of white flannel skirts reaching half way between knee and ankle and almost touching the high white cricketing boots. Loose sailor bodices also of white flannel opening at the throat with a broad collar falling behind. Around the skirts were three lines of



trimming, either red or blue, according to the team, with large sashes to match and a rosette in the white cricketing cap. The skirts were full and weighted around the bottom with shot. The stockings matched the trimmings in colour as did the long sleeves of the Jerseys, worn under their sailor shirts, the sleeves of which were very full and came down to the elbow. To prevent injury from a blow on the breast, a sort of armour of steel plates, leather and wadding was worn.

At 2 p.m. the match started and the "Blues" took the field and were warmly applauded. Their manners and bearing left nothing to be desired and whilst the match was in progress they regarded the business in hand as serious. During the afternoon the 4th Battalion of the South Wales Borderers rendered a selection of music. The all-round play of both teams was remarkably good, eliciting repeated applause, the "Reds" scored 36 and the "Blues" 125.