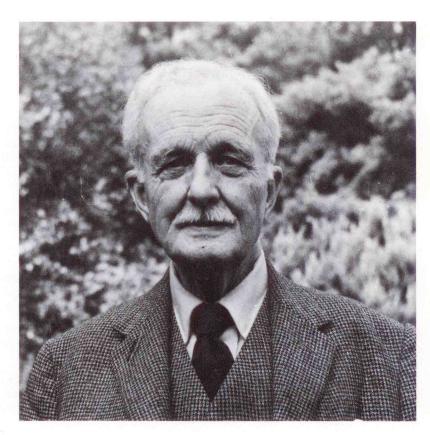


A Century at Blackheath

This book is dedicated to all those men and women who have worked unselfishly in the interest of cricket at Blackheath during the last hundred years. Blackheath Cricket Club would like to thank the many people who have contributed the information and photographs presented in this account.

Details of the early years of the Cricket Club are scanty and much of our information has been gathered over the years in conversation with old members, many of whom are unfortunately no longer with us. Our records are complete only since 1949 and whilst it may be assumed that batting figures are substantially correct it is certain that many fine bowling performances took place in the earlier period that were not recorded. Every effort has been made to ensure that the details given are correct, but in a publication such as this it is inevitable that errors and omissions will occur. For any of these we apologise.

Blackheath Cricket Club offer sincere thanks to Supasports Ltd. and Stuart Surridge Ltd. for their generous gifts of cricket bats in support of the Centenary Season; we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the valuable help and advice we have received over the years from the Surrey County Playing Fields Association and the Lords' Taverners.



Introduction by E.L.Y. Waddilove Esq. President of Blackheath Cricket Club

The purpose of this booklet is to tell the story of the Blackheath (Surrey) Cricket Club up to the present time, and before it is forgotten, but it also records much of the early history of Blackheath and Blackheath Village.

We are reminded that though cricket was being played by the boys of the free school of Guildford when Elizabeth I came to the throne, Blackheath was then and remained for some three hundred years, a wilderness. When the Cricket Club was founded in or about the year 1878 the Village was still very small and remote and travel difficult and it must have required great enthusiasm to raise a team.

We appreciate, however, that the story of the Blackheath Cricket Club is not complete and we hope that someone who sees this booklet may have unrecorded information, especially relating to the early years and will have the kindness to make it available to the Club.

To those who have worked hard to produce what the reader will find within, our best thanks are due. It has plainly been no light labour, but we believe a labour of love, and the reward we all hope they will reap is that their work will be of interest to the present members of the Club, as well as to many inhabitants of Blackheath and to future generations.