



THE ROSE

VOL 3 NO 2
JULY 2026

HEIDI PAGE

PLAYER OF THE
TOURNAMENT

CHARITY PARTNER:



MAIN SPONSOR:





**MERSEY ROSE RECREATIONALS
CRICKET CLUB**

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WELCOME

It's been quite a start to the 2026 season with games against Frodsham, Salford Chargers, Ormskirk Occasionals and Nantclwyd. The win remains elusive but

there has been a lot to be positive about, especially in terms of bowling and fielding. It's also been good to see the squad expanding and a number of new players enjoying the game with us.

The softball team took part in the Out4Cricket tournament at Sutton Coldfield and while they weren't able to repeat their success of last year it was a great event and the team gave a good account of themselves. Some of the batting, especially in the final game, was a joy to watch! We were naturally pleased that one of our own players, Heidi Page, was voted Player of the Tournament by the umpires.

This month we will be visiting Salford Chargers and also travelling to Yorkshire to take on Leeds Kites. This will be our annual charity match in aid of Sahir. Some of you will remember our first charity match against the Rainbow Toffees and we hope the game with Leeds Kites will be played in a very similar spirit of friendship despite the obvious 'Roses' dimension!



Andi and Joe

MATCH REPORT V ORMSKIRK OCCASIONALS, 9.6.26



Mersey Rose 52-7 (20.0 overs) (*Isaac Lockett 22; Mike Cooper 3-6*)

Ormskirk Occasionals 53-2 (16.1 overs) (*Dave Eyres 23*; Dave Leivesley 1-2*)

Ormskirk Occasionals won by 8 wickets

Mersey Rose won the toss and opted to field first but, as several players - including most of the top order - were held up in traffic, the visitors were forced to bat first instead.

Lack of T20 experience among the makeshift top order made it difficult for them to lay the foundations and, while Isaac Lockett hit a fluent 22, no-one else was able to stay around for too long.

Dave Leivesley, Andrew Foster and Alan Hitchmough added a few runs quickly at the end but they had limited time to make their mark. Mersey Rose finished their 20 overs on 52 for 7.

That did not seem a great score but it had been a difficult pitch to bat on, especially as it was quite spongy and the ball kept low.

The hosts also found it difficult to score quickly as Mersey Rose bowled accurately and gave little away. In the eighth over Dave Leivesley bowled Kenny Wright for 9 and shortly afterwards Alan Hitchmough took the wicket of fellow opener Brian Nean for 5 in similar fashion. At the halfway stage, the hosts were on 20 for 2.

The arrival of David Eyres at the crease turned the game around and he showed his intentions with an early boundary. Powerful hitting helped him to an unbeaten 23 despite some probing bowling from Heidi Page and Gail Rose and, with the help of Adam Post (8 not out) the Occasionals reached their target with over 3 overs to spare. However, it hadn't been plain sailing for them and Rose's performance in the field gave reasons for optimism.

Player of the match: Isaac Lockett



Dave Leivesley

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YOU WILL DRAW INSPIRATION FROM AMAZING TEAMMATES
AND YOU WILL WIN FAR MORE THAN MATCHES!**

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MATCH REPORT V NANTCLWYD, 21.6.26



Nantclwyd 246-9 dec (Jonny Clayton 50*; Andi Page 3-22)

Mersey Rose 57 (Andrew Foster 10; Geoff Monk 2-4)

Nantclwyd won by 189 runs

On Sunday the team travelled to Nantclwyd, which is always a wonderful place to play cricket and especially so on a sunny and warm afternoon. The hosts had an unusually strong side and, while the final score points to an undeniable gulf in quality between the teams, it doesn't tell the full story.

Mersey Rose fielded first. Despite disciplined bowling from Andrew Foster and Rob Smith, the opening wicket proved elusive. Rose had several chances and had dropped catches to blame as opportunities were squandered. On other occasions they were unlucky that the ball didn't quite carry to fielders.

Dave Trenner eventually made the breakthrough when Andrew Foster held a catch at extra cover. A few balls later, from the same position, Foster created an incredible run-out with a direct throw. However, just when it seemed the momentum may swing toward the visitors, Jonny Clayton put on a show of aggressive strokeplay.

Dan Barrowcliffe struck twice and Alex Leivesley took the fifth wicket of the afternoon courtesy of a sensational catch from Foster, but Mersey Rose were struggling to stem the flow of runs and had no answer to Clayton's belligerence. An inspired spell of bowling from Andi Page at the end saw him take three wickets in 13 balls, including an outstanding diving caught and bowled. Page also held an impressive catch at slip off Ramu's bowling. When Clayton reached his half century the hosts declared on 246 for 9, an impressive score that set a challenging target to put it mildly.

The challenge was made more difficult by the quality of Nantclwyd's fielding. While Rose's inexperience contributed to their own problems, it is fair to say that the hosts fielding was quick and sharp. What is pleasing is that players tried to bat positively, and Ian Mosquito, Andrew Foster and Jake Vaughan in particular looked to score runs and play their shots while Anna Page and Dave Trenner provided stubborn resistance.

There remains work to do on our batting but the team is a work in progress and we are taking steps forward with every game.

What is obvious is continuing improvement in bowling and fielding. After a bit of a shaky start in the field things got better - much better - and Rose were only one wicket away from bowling out the opposition. A lot of chances were created, another sign of how far the team has come in a short time. There were probably three candidates for catch of the season and a sensational run out, as well as solid keeping from Jake Vaughan.

Player of the match: Andi Page



Dave Trenner

OUT 4 CRICKET

TOURNAMENT REVIEW 2026

Mersey Rose's softball team took part in the 2026 Out4Cricket tournament, which was held at Sutton Coldfield Cricket Club on Sunday 14th June.

This was the largest Out4Cricket tournament so far. In the softball section, four teams were competing: Mersey Rose (Lancashire), Western Force, Birmingham Unicorns (Warwickshire) and Norfolk.

It was Norfolk's first time at the event.

Unlike the 2025 event, which was a knock-out competition, the format this year involved a group stage with every team playing the other in a 12-over game. The two top teams then progressed to the final.



Mersey Rose 71-3 (Net Score 256)

Western Force 73-2 (Net Score 263)

Western Force won by 7 runs

The first game of the day saw Mersey Rose take on Western Force. Put into bat, Rose made a tentative start and suffered a setback when Anna Page edged to the wicketkeeper. The third pairing of Dan Barrowcliffe and Aaron McKenna played positively and found the boundary several times but unfortunately Dan was caught and Aaron was run out, the loss of five runs per wicket eating into much of the progress made. The final pair of Andrew Foster and Andi Page added 40 without further loss, helping Rose post a decent net total of 256.

Mersey Rose needed early wickets and they got them, the first in truly bizarre fashion when one of the Western Force batters was given out for hitting the ball twice. When Dan Barrowcliffe also struck, Western Force were in a bit of trouble but momentum swung back their way when big hitters in their third and final pairings made significant contributions. Despite some good bowling from Andi Page and Andrew Foster, Rose couldn't find a third wicket - and were perhaps unlucky not to. It was a close game and very competitive game that was decided by fine margins.

Birmingham Unicorns 111-3 (Net Score 296)

Mersey Rose 73-2 (Net Score 263)

Birmingham Unicorns won by 33 runs

Mersey Rose won the toss and opted to field. Birmingham Unicorns got off to a flying start with the first two pairs batting steadily to add almost 50 runs in the first six overs. Mersey Rose did manage to pull themselves back into the game with three wickets - one from Heidi Page and two from Andrew Foster - but Dean Chilton-Davies scored an extraordinary unbeaten 37, including seven fours and a six, to help Unicorns to a formidable net score of 296.

In reply Rose scored steadily but couldn't keep up the required run rate and ultimately were unable to get near the required total despite purposeful batting from Andrew Foster and Ian Mosquito.

Norfolk 113-2 (Net Score 303)

Mersey Rose 80-1 (Net Score 275)

Norfolk won by 28 runs

The final game of the afternoon saw Mersey Rose playing unbeaten newcomers Norfolk. Rose lost the toss and were asked to field. There were chances to make an early breakthrough and on another day Andi Page would have taken a straightforward catch behind the stumps and also the second opportunity off his own bowling.

Mersey Rose eventually took their first wicket courtesy of Alex Leivesley (above), but neither that nor a run-out late in the innings could pin Norfolk back. Instead of being dependent on a big-hitter they batted solidly throughout and posted a daunting target.

Mersey Rose also performed creditably with the bat and posted their highest score of the day. Dan Barrowcliffe (17), Andrew Foster (16) and Andi Page (13). Andi was helped by Heidi Page who made her own positive contribution and ran for four from a straight drive (helped by a misfield). Only one wicket fell and Rose gave a good account of themselves, albeit in a losing cause.



Norfolk extended their winning run into the final where they defeated Birmingham Unicorns. In the hardball final, Unicorns beat Graces to win the competition for the first time.

In addition to the cups for the winning teams, awards were given to the best players in each competition as determined by the umpires. The best player in the softball event was deemed to be our own Heidi Page, whose outstanding bowling and fielding impressed everyone watching. She is shown below receiving her award from Richard Evans, Warwickshire Cricket Board's Cricket Development Officer.

Many thanks to Out4Cricket for organising the event, to Sutton Coldfield CC for all their work on the day and to the umpires. It really is a privilege to play cricket with umpires of such calibre overseeing the games.



MANCHESTER

LGBTQ+ CRICKET

COACHING SESSIONS

Lancashire Cricket Foundation in partnership with Out4Cricket has organised a series of cricket taster events for the LGBTQ+ community.

The sessions are open to anyone (18 years and above) from the LGBTQ+ community or allies who are interested in cricket regardless of ability or experience level.

📍 Sugden Sports Centre, Manchester M1 7HL

Dates: 16/06, 30/06, 14/07, 28/07, 11/08, 25/08

Time: 7pm - 8:30pm

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**CRICKET IS A
GAME FOR ALL**



#HERGAMETOO | @HGTCRICKET

ABOUT US.

#HerGameToo was founded by a group of passionate football fans aiming to kick sexism out of football. Following on from the success within football, the initiative branched out into the world of cricket and #HerGameToo Cricket was formed.

We strongly believe cricket is a game for all, and we have began working closely with clubs at all levels to ensure women are safe and welcome in the game.



Our team have all experienced and/or witnessed sexism within cricket, whether in person or on social media. Across the sport, sexist abuse and attitudes are deep rooted and it is a problem that has been ignored for too long. It leaves many shocked to hear that it is still a huge issue for many women in cricket.

OUR AIMS.

- SPREAD AWARENESS AND PROVIDE EDUCATION FOR ALL ON SEXISM WITHIN CRICKET.
- CREATE REGULAR CONTENT TO CHAMPION WOMEN IN THE GAME (PLAYERS, STAFF, OFFICIALS, FANS, ETC.)
- DEVELOP STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH CLUBS, TRUSTS AND COMMITTEES.
- HAVE A PRESENCE AT CRICKET GROUNDS AND CLUBS TO CREATE A SAFER, MORE WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT FOR WOMEN.
- CONTINUE TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST SEXIST ABUSE.

TO REPORT.

Go to www.hergametoo.co.uk/report to report sexist abuse within cricket. This can be done anonymously.



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PLAYERS WANTED

MERSEY ROSE RECREATIONALS CRICKET CLUB



Mersey Rose is a friendly, inclusive cricket club committed to promoting social, friendly cricket

We have a Sunday hardball team that also plays occasional midweek T20s

We also have a softball team aimed mainly at people new to cricket and disabled players

We welcome people of any age, gender, experience or ability

We are also open to members of other clubs who would like to play friendly cricket

Cricket is a game for everyone and we are a club for everyone

We train every Friday at Wavertree Cricket Club,
£15 4HU, 6.30—8.00pm

www.merseyrose.com

CLUB NEWS

MARTIN SNAPE

Martin Snape (right) is out of action following knee surgery and sadly will not be able to play this season.

Martin, a founder member of Mersey Rose Recreationals, has also stepped down from the committee, although he has agreed to continue to serve until a replacement can be found.

Anyone interested in joining the Mersey Rose committee should contact Anna (club secretary) at merseyroserecs@gmail.com



NEW ARTIFICIAL WICKET

A new artificial wicket will be laid on the former football field opposite Wavertree Cricket Club during the week commencing 29th June.

The ground is owned by the council and will be managed by Wavertree. It will also be a huge boost for Mersey Rose as this will serve as our ground going forward, making it easier to arrange fixtures and having a place to call home.

CHARITY MATCH

This year's charity match will again be in aid of Sahir, Liverpool's oldest LGBTQ+ charity, which has been our charity partner since 2024.

Sahir offers one-to-one practical and emotional assistance for individuals and families living with or affected by HIV. It also provides confidential and inclusive support for refugees and asylum seekers, works to challenge stigma and works nationally to address health inequalities.

This year's charity match will be away against Leeds Kites on Sunday 26th July, the day after Liverpool Pride (of which Sahir is a key organiser). Players involved in the game are invited to help our fundraising efforts. Match fees from this game will also be donated to Sahir.

HIGHLAND GAMES

Heidi Page will be competing in the Bridge of Allan Highland Games in August in order to fundraise for the club. Thank you Heidi!

CHARITY MATCH

IN AID OF

Sahir

WELL PROUD



V



Sunday 26th July 2026

at Calverley St Wilfrid's CC

LS28 5PY

Start time: 1.00pm

SCAN TO DONATE



Cricket. Community. Pride.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

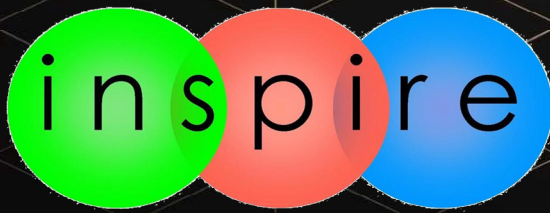
FIXTURES 2026

HARDBALL TEAM

DATE	OPPONENTS	VENUE	RESULT	PLAYER OF THE MATCH
24th May	FRODSHAM	Moor Lane		Alex Leivesley
31st May	SALFORD CHARGERS	Sandown Lane		Isaac Lockett
9th June	ORMSKIRK OCCASIONALS	Memorial Fields		Alan Hitchmough
21st June	NANTCLWYD	Leyland Oval		Andi Page
5th July	SALFORD CHARGERS	Egerton Park		
19th July	LORD ROCKINGHAM'S XI	TBC		
26th July	LEEDS KITES	Calverley St Wilfrid's		
9th August	BIRMINGHAM UNICORNS	Melson Mem Grd		
16th August	WALSALL UNITY	Montford Road		
30th August	FRODSHAM	TBC		

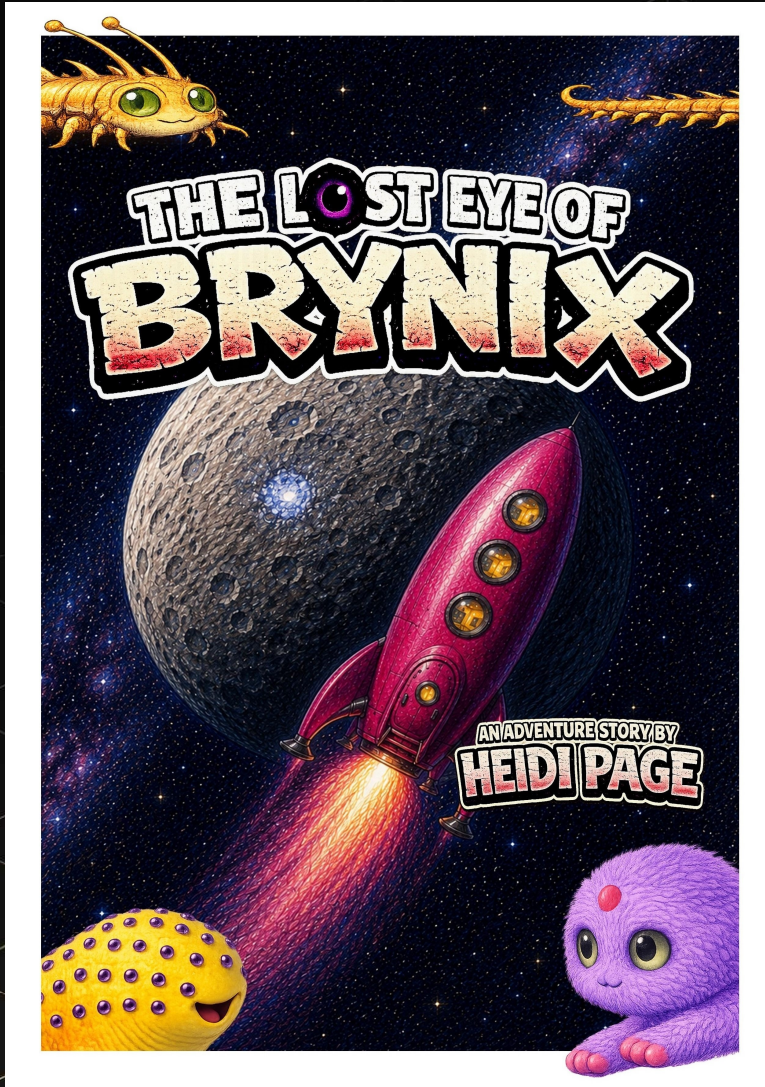
SOFTBALL TEAM

DATE	OPPONENTS	VENUE	RESULT	PLAYER OF THE MATCH
14th April	NEWSHAM PARK	Newsham Park		Anna Page
27th May	NEWSHAM PARK	Newsham Park		Ian Mosquito
14th June	WESTERN FORCE	Sutton Coldfield		Andrew Foster
14th June	WARWICKSHIRE	Sutton Coldfield		Heidi Page
14th June	NORFOLK	Sutton Coldfield		Dan Barrowcliffe
TBC	FLEETWOOD HESKETH	Sea Cop		
TBC	LORD ROCKINGHAM'S XI			
TBC	WAVERTREE	Sandown Lane		



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Meet Brynix, a bright yellow creature who lives on the frozen dwarf planet Ceres. She's not like you—she's slug-like, she can survive temperatures colder than Antarctica and she has seventy incredible eyes that let her see in almost every direction at once.

But when Brynix loses one of her precious eyes, her whole world changes. With only sixty-nine eyes left, she feels incomplete. So she does something amazing: she sets out on an adventure across the solar system to find it.

A heartwarming tale of friendship, courage and adventure from the edge of space written by Heidi Page, aged 10, who has been fascinated by the dwarf planets of the Solar System since she was 4 years old.



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It's important to log incidents of sexism & misogyny, whether it's online or in person.



REPORT IT

www.hergametoo.co.uk/report



OUT CRICKET

www.out4cricket.org.uk