

## Essex ICC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Report 2015

Following relegation from the County Championships Premier Division last season, the Essex 1<sup>st</sup> Team played Division 1 this season, finishing in third place behind winners Middlesex and runners up Buckinghamshire. Many thanks to Caroline Westley in this her first season as team manager, which she has summarised in the poem which follows.

Eric Richardson

We were back down to division one  
But we weren't gonna let it affect our fun  
As a strong Essex squad we were determined to win  
Well that's what the team were told by the new captain

With our full squad out for the first Saturday  
Everyone was ready to get up and play  
Three 7-3 wins gave us a good start  
Everyone had fought, mind, body and heart

Basil came in and stepped up to the first team  
He played hard and fought and fitted in like a dream  
The rest of our regulars all did their job  
I'm sure we made those three counties sob

The second weekend saw some missing faces  
We needed some youngsters to fill these spaces  
Viknesh came in and took on the task  
And did everything a captain could ask

Tougher matches and opponents over the 2 days  
Pushed us harder and harder in so many ways  
Ending the weekend in third was great to know  
For the final weekend we were ready to go

The last weekend came round very quick  
But some of the team were busy or sick  
Massive thanks to Nic Waller who helped me out of a bind  
Anyone know of any young players we might find?

The team did great with plenty of winning  
For me as the captain I couldn't stop grinning  
But with Buckinghamshire still left to play  
It would all come down to the final Sunday

Ending in third place, we stay where we are  
To being promoted, we weren't very far  
So another year we have in division one  
But as an Essex team we will always have fun

So thank you to all the team who took part  
Everyone played great right from the start  
Lynne, Emma, Ging and Nicola too

All the regulars of the team, dedicated through and through

For the men it was a mixture of new and old  
A thanks to Basil and Viknesh for coming into the fold  
And as always Brunning, Frye, Joel, Danny and Eddie  
They continued to play well, solid and steady

So as the captain this year it has been stress and fun  
But for now that's another season done  
We will continue to practice ready for next year  
So Essex continue to be a team that people fear