



## Local History Collection

### 11 - Frank D Turner, VP of Braywood CC

Summer 2021

Researched & written by Sarah Grace

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In the last newsletter it was mentioned that two Centenary celebrations had been missed locally last year due to the national lock-down. Had the centenary celebrations taken place at Braywood Cricket Club, we would certainly have mentioned one of our 'Retired' cricketers, Frank Turner.



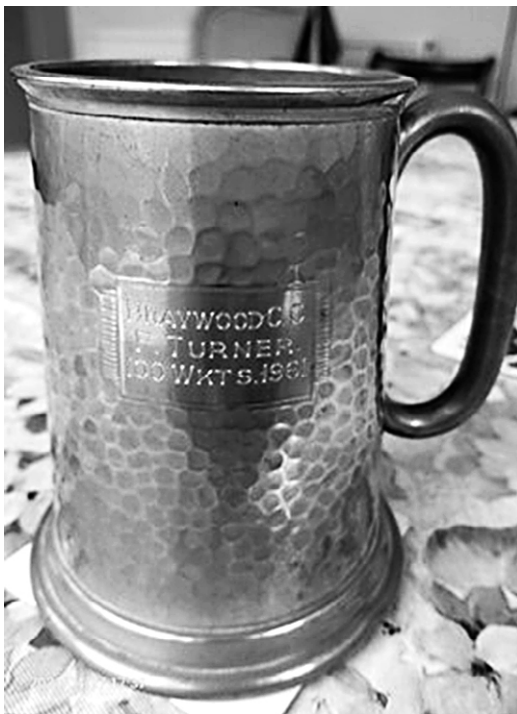
Frank was the first player in the Club's history to take 100 wickets in a season in 1961 at the age of 20. A feat that has only been achieved by 5 other players: R.Webb 1963, C.Knight 1965 (deceased), D.Hayward 1972, S.Langley 1985 (deceased) and S.Bennett 1992.

Frank was born in Petworth Sussex in 1941 and in 1946 moved with his parents to live in Oakley Green at the bungalow that was sited opposite Braywood School called Braywood Poultry Farm (now demolished). This was a 'simple' living bungalow with no electricity or flushing toilet!

Frank was first introduced to cricket in the late 1940's by the Headmaster of Braywood C Of E First School, Mr. Snow, an avid sportsman who enjoyed teaching Cricket, Football and Athletics. Mr Snow and his wife both lived and worked at Braywood school and he would take the students to the cricket field for Games lessons which included cricket, athletics and rounders. Braywood School students at that time stayed on until they were 12 years old before moving to a Windsor Middle School.

During the 1950's Frank would turn up to the club for practice evenings and matches. The club Pavilion was in those days located where the nets are situated now, in the top hand right corner of the field. It was a basic wooden building with no facilities and at the tea break players would walk to another small hut on the car park where the teas were prepared and sit outside even on cold or damp days.

In the 1950's Frank progressed to a playing member, along with a number of other contemporaries, and eventually he gained a regular place on the team, learning and developing his skill. Frank moved to live in Maidenhead in 1956 but still played cricket for Braywood CC for many years.



During 1961, Frank would usually be one of the opening bowlers, and it was this cricket season that he reached the remarkable feat of 100 wickets, an achievement that he is very proud of to this day. In the A.G.M minutes for 1961 it was mentioned that the team had played 38 games, won 20, lost 14 and drawn 4 and that Frank Turner was presented with a cup to commemorate the 100 wickets and also was awarded the Club Cup. The Election of Officers in this A.G.M. included: Patron - Col. C.R.Britten and President - O.G.N.Turnbull esq. (see OGAFCA magazine April 2021).

In the early 1960's the Pavilion moved to its present location, although very basic, there was running water and two elsan toilets! Funds were then raised by Playing members to build a new modern Pavilion by fundraising, door to door collections from residents, fêtes, grants and donations, which opened in 1970.

Many of the players at that time donated their skill and physical labour to get the building complete and this year the club is intending extending the clubhouse once again from September.

Frank also played at Boyne Hill and Burnham, and returned to Braywood CC and eventually Littlewick Green. Frank sends his good wishes to the club for the extension and the future, he mentions how proud he is to be a Vice President of the Club and has never forgotten that Braywood was where he started his cricket, such happy days and not forgotten. We hope to welcome him to the CC to join us celebrate the postponed centenary in 2022.