

Dave Willis says

Greetings to all you Priory Park Legends!

Sorry I'm not there with you all to celebrate this special occasion, I was truly privileged to be a part of Chichester Priory Park during such a successful period in its history, but more importantly for me was the immense kindness and hospitality that was shown to me from the time that I arrived in Chichester in April 1984. Those seasons spent in England meant so much to me both from the cricketing experience gained and the life's lessons learnt.

I don't want to single out specific individuals, but for all of you that know me, you are my friends for life and I will always cherish the time spent with you, and our great camaraderie on & off the pitch.

Some of my most vivid recollections from my time at the club are:

- Club cricket tours to Kettering & Devon
- Hosting visiting teams during Cricket Week in August, with stump races and drinking games afterwards
- Evil Edna's afternoon teas
- Practice sessions in the nets and a pint in the clubhouse afterwards
- My wonderful & generous host families
- Midweek Evening League games with wins in the Apps Cup and Echo Trophy
- Sussex League Champions in '84 & '92
- Sharing car journeys to away games, often sitting in the back seat with a coffin across my lap.
- The Real Ale and Jazz Festivals in Priory Park
- Suppers in the clubhouse after matches, thanks to the wonderful ladies at the club
- A quiet pint or two in the Park Tavern
- Sitting in the deckchairs on a fine, warm day or strolling around the Park's perimeter

I also often think of those members of the cricket club from the '80's & '90's, who sadly are no longer with us. So many great characters, who all played their part, in their own particularly way to forge together and build such a highly regarded cricket club in Sussex.

They were the essence of how we played cricket and were the pillars of the Priory Park "family" and to all the current players and associated members of the club, I wish you every success and trust that you will continue to build great memories that you will be able to reflect upon at the club's 200th year celebrations.

So, enjoy the lunch! Be proud, be loud!

Share the memories and share in the laughter.

Cheers to you all and here's to the club and "The Best Years of Our Lives"

Dyl