



## Newsletter - AUTUMN 2003

### CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

As we reflect upon another completed season, our 220<sup>th</sup> to be precise, we do so with a great sense of achievement. Season 2003 will probably be recorded as our best to date with regards to honours, with four out of the five Saturday teams winning their respective leagues with games to spare.

Resisting the temptation to write pages (I'll leave that to others) I take this opportunity in highlighting several significant points of the past season.

As most of you are aware this time last year we spoke with a local established Hornchurch based club – Britannic Lodge, about a possible merger. The details were quickly ironed out and now a year later we reflect upon a most successful arrangement. The fact that I am not aware of one negative comment is testimony to the calibre of players Britannic Lodge were fortunate to have in their club. See further on in the newsletter for the thoughts of one of the Britannic Lodge players.

On the playing front the merger had a great deal to do with the success of our 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> XI teams. All teams were considerably strengthened and we were easily able to regularly put out a 6<sup>th</sup> XI playing friendlies, highlighting the depth we now have in the Club.

It fair to say that our 1<sup>st</sup> XI under achieved last year, particularly with the talent available. However, being promoted the previous season saw us up against stiffer opposition with little margin for error and now having established ourselves in the league for a year I am sure with the existing team and the up and coming younger members of the squad we can focus on getting promoted to the ultimate Premier League.

The Sunday sides proved to be the “breeding ground” for the Clubs’ younger members with our first year in the Shepherd Neame Jeff Rodriques Memorial Trophy competition for the Under 15/Over 40’s, coupled with the Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> XI proving a match for teams from around the South East in the various cup competitions.

Our “Cricket-for-All” youth coaching programme continues to go from strength to strength. Over two hundred and fifty different boys & girls attended the various weekly coaching sessions throughout the summer. It was most encouraging to see so many talented youngsters emerging. My thanks go to all involved.

The Opening Evening in June was quite incredible, brilliant weather, superb food, burst drains and James Foster, the England and Essex Wicketkeeper batsman entertaining the masses, A truly memorable occasion.

With success inevitably comes hardwork and commitment. Fortunately, within our club we have many who continue to provide just that. When thanks are due it is easy to leave someone out so I purposely will not name anyone in particular, however, that does not reduce the sincerity of our thanks to the many who contribute so much to the success of the Club.

The ambitions of our Club are as strong as ever. Within the next few months much hardwork is needed in planning for the 2004 season. I know all members of the Management Committee are totally dedicated and committed to taking Hornchurch Cricket Club to even greater heights. However, the expression “Rome wasn’t built in a day” is relevant, please accept change for the better, be patient, and above all play your part. We cannot achieve our goals without everybody being involved in some way.

May I conclude by thanking our Sponsors Grove & Dean, Sportmatch, The Jack Petchey Foundation as well as our numerous advertising sponsors all who provide significant and welcome financial help to enable the Club to achieve it’s aims.

I hope you have enjoyed the season as much as I have. For the first time in many a season I have escaped the mischievous finger of fate from “umpire” Doug Shewring (although I’m sure he has claimed other victims!).

Please make every effort to attend the Annual General Meeting. If I do not see you there may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

- Jeremy West - Chairman HCC.

### MEMBERSHIP

If you have moved, are about to move, or change telephone numbers during the closed season, would you please inform Lance Malkin as soon as possible. This will enable us to send important information to you in the future as well as keep our records up to date.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This is on Sunday 7th December 2003 at the Pavilion, starting at 6.15pm prompt. Major decisions regarding the future of the Club are made at this meeting so it is imperative that you attend. You are reminded that under the Club's rules if you haven't paid your annual subscriptions (those that haven't have been written to) you are not eligible to vote.

### THE THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN SYMS

As possibly the last chairman of Britannic Lodge CC I looked at the merger with Hornchurch with an open mind and an element of anxiety. However, the transition went very smoothly and the result went beyond anything we could have hoped for. Everyone at BLCC was warmly welcomed at Hornchurch. I think that all the players have raised their levels and are now proud to be part of a successful club.. Even the biggest sceptic was pleasantly surprised. From day one I knew we had made the right decision. The whole Hornchurch set up was exactly what we hoped could be achieved at BLCC, but that was not to be. I am glad the name of BLCC lives on and that the merger has benefited all.

After a very successful year on and off the field the former Lodge members are looking forward to further success and with the plans of the current Chairman and Committee I'm sure greater still is just round the corner. – J, Syms Ex-Chairman BLCC

### CLUB WEBSITE

The Club website -

[www.hornchurchcc.org](http://www.hornchurchcc.org)

Although not always as upto date as time permits, please keep checking as there will be new features appearing shortly.

Thanks must go to Mike Renny and Robin Sen for their time and patience.

If anyone has any comments or on the site please forward them to the Management Committee.

### 2003 SEASON

For those interested in statistics the following are a few provisional highlights of the 2003 season:-

Senior Matches Played	- 170
Won	- 82
Drawn	- 25
Lost	- 55
Abandoned	- 8

## League Positions

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	- 8 <sup>th</sup> (Won 6, Lost 6, Drawn 4, Abandoned 2)
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	- 1 <sup>st</sup> (Won 13, Lost 2, Drawn 3)
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	- 1 <sup>st</sup> (Won 14, Lost 1, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1)
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> XI	- 1 <sup>st</sup> (Won 11, Lost 0, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1)
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> XI	- 1 <sup>st</sup> (Won 10, Lost 2, Drawn 2,)

## General

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	- Won 6, Lost 6, Drawn 4, Abandoned 2
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	- Won 16, Lost 4, Drawn 4
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	- Won 15, Lost 2, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> XI	- Won 13, Lost 4, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> XI	- Won 10, Lost 2, Drawn 4, Abandoned 1
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> XI	- Won 2, Lost 4, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	- Won 10, Lost 5, Drawn 1
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	- Won 5, Lost 10, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1
Britannic Lodge XI	- Won 3, Lost 15 Drawn 4

Highest Innings for	- 299 for 6 vs Brentwood, Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
Highest Inning against	- 311 for 3 vs Harold Wood, Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI
Lowest Innings for	- 59 all out vs Tennyson, Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> XI
Lowest Innings against	- 45 all out vs West Essex, Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> XI
Most Runs	- 1489, Sibby Shah (1367 - John Ely, 1225 - Andy Stallard)
Highest Individual score	- 200*, Sean Perry vs Old Southendians, Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> XI
Total Hundreds	- 29
Total Fifties	- 120
Most Hundreds	- 6, Sibby Shah (4 - Andy Stallard, 3 - Andy Roberts)
Most Fifties	- 9, John Ely (8 - Sibby Shah, 7 - S. Davis, Andy Stallard)
Most Overs	- 390.3, Francis Baptist
Most Maidens	- 78, Francis Baptist
Most Wickets	- 65, Francis Baptist (46 - Chris Drum)
Best Bowling	- 8 for 53, Graham Farquhar vs West Essex, Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> XI
Total 5 Wkts	- 23
Most 5Wkts	- 3, Jason Syms
Most Catches	- 19, Andy Stallard (14 - Martin Hayward)
Most Wkt Victims	- 24, Paul Murray (13 Ct 11 St)

U17 Matches	- Played 1, Won 1
U16 Matches	- Played 4, Won 2, Lost 2
U15 Matches	- Played 7, Won 4, Lost 3
U13 Matches	- Played 12, Won 9, Lost 3
U11 Matches	- Played 6, Won 4, Lost 2

It must be noted that there were a massive 29 hundreds and a staggering 120 fifties scored this year, a record for the Club. Special mention must go to Sean Perry who only scored a mere two hundreds last season but they were mighty ones – 200 not out and 168 not out. The former being another Club record. Sean has now moved to Devon and we wish him well for the future – watch out around those boundaries.

A full breakdown of the Club Averages will hopefully be available at the AGM.

## CLUB APPAREL

Cricket attire in the club colours complete with the HCC crest would make an excellent Christmas present and are available in various sizes from Doug Shewring.

### Shirts

Long Sleeve £16.00  
Short Sleeve £15.50

### Sweaters (All Wool)

Long Sleeve £47.00  
Short Sleeve £39.00

### Caps

Baseball Style £16.00  
Sun Hat £8.50  
Helmet Badge £4.75  
Badges £1.50



## BIZARRE INFO

A line in the scorecard at Lords in 1933 between Middlesex and Somerset:-

H.W. Lee      c. F.S. Lee      b. J. W. Lee 82

All three were of course brothers.

## THE GROUND

The gradings issued by the Shepherd Neame Essex League have been published and a great improvement in the Harrow Lodge wicket has resulted in the Club attaining 3<sup>rd</sup> position out of the whole league. We were awarded 16.00 points behind Billericay (17.20) and Colchester & East Essex (16.33).

The Fielder Sports Ground square has by accounts from the Britannic Lodge members improved ten fold with it now under the control of the Club groundsman Chris Boniface. Chris believes that with further "TLC" it can still improve.

Our thanks go to Chris for his excellent groundmanship on both squares throughout the summer. We are sure that having a consistently well prepared wicket to play on has contributed to the Club's success.

## CLUB OPEN EVENING

The Hornchurch Cricket Club 'Cricket for All' Open Evening with James Foster of Essex CCC and England took place on Monday 23rd June. James was on hand to answer questions from an eager audience of around 100 children attending our pioneering 'Cricket for All' scheme. With the 'mums and dads', club officials and playing members also in attendance the event attracted an audience of around 200 people!



James fielded the questions like a seasoned pro and kept all entertained with his insightful, honest and amusing answers. James also presented the first 2003 recipients of the Jack Petchey award with their framed certificates and stayed to sign countless autographs for the massed ranks of children all keen to meet the Essex and England star!

To mark the occasion club Chairman Jeremy West presented James with a Hornchurch C.C. Club jumper embroidered with the club crest. All of the officials of the club and players (young and old alike!) would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to James for taking time out of his undoubted busy schedule and for entertaining us all so thoroughly!



The whole event was enjoyed by all present and we wish to thank all who made an effort to make the evening such a success.

### UMPIRES AND SCORERS

The Shepherd Neame Essex League have embarked on a campaign to recruit Umpires and Scorers to stand in the

lower team matches. Players have a responsibility to know the laws of the game so why not come along and get a better understanding of the lbw law instead of using the philosophy - if it hits your pads you're out (mentioning no names!).

Courses are held at the Pavilion every Wednesday during the winter . Anyone interested should contact Doug Shewring or Norman Balmford for further details.

### A COUPLE OF OLD STALWARTS

#### K.C. Scolding

Essex County Cricket Club recently awarded Ken a trophy for 25 years of Loyal Service to Hornchurch CC. Obviously at 88 years of age it was not an award for his fast bowling or for opening the batting, but for service behind the scenes (or screens!)

His award was for 25 continuous years, but Ken's dedication to Hornchurch Cricket Club goes back much further than a quarter of a century.

Ken, born (we believe) 26<sup>th</sup> October 1915. He attended Eltham College and it was as an Old Elthamian that he moved from Chislehurst to Hornchurch and it was at a Committee meeting at the Harrow Lodge pavilion, Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 1948 elected a member of the Club.

Prior to cricket at Hornchurch Ken was a paid up member of the Second World War. He was in the RAF and during the latter part of hostilities was transferred to glider operations. On 24<sup>th</sup> March 1945 he could be seen piloting his craft and it's cargo towards the Rhine. Having landed, next came the tricky bit. The one problem with gliders is that once you've completed your mission you have to make your own way back to good old Blighty. It's been said that after a good day at cricket and a better evening in the pub (the Pavilion didn't have a bar) he had more trouble getting back from the White Hart than he did from the Rhine.

Ken would be the first to admit he was no superstar with bat or ball, but he was a good captain with the best of his work being done in the Pavilion (at the bar!). After a few years as Vice Captain of the Sunday XI he became Captain in 1955 and continued into 1956 when he also took over the Treasurers post from Alf Scott. This position he occupied without interruption until 1975. In between time he was Club Chairman from 1972 to 1975, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Captain 1957 to 1964 and had various Vice Captain positions later on.

During this period Ken and the ever young Katie did much entertaining. A day at Parkstone over the Christmas period was a sheer delight. The large entrance hall welcomed you with an equally large fireplace, plus an equally large barrel of bitter. On one occasion Ken was unable to obtain his usual quota of festive logs. Visitors were greeted with a blazing fire made up not of logs – but wooden toilet seats! This really was a “Bum-per” Christmas.

In recent years Ken has assisted with the 100 Club, preparing the Club for all manner of Social evenings, and catching the “little bastards” (his name for Colts and Junior Members) who had not paid their subs.

So in just a few lines you can see why K.C.S. received a loyalty award. As always Ken and Katie will be at the Annual Dinner and Dance. Give a handshake of congratulations, he would like that, but not if you owe him money.

On behalf of all past and present at Hornchurch CC well done Ken, a prize richly deserved.

Note: There is a museum in Leeds named “The Second World War Experience”. Inside there is a tape recording recalling some of Kens’ experiences.

### C.T. Perry

With Ken recently celebrating his 88<sup>th</sup> year we turn our attention to another “golden oldie” – Clifford Perry who celebrates his 90<sup>th</sup> year this year. Cliff, now living his retirement in Birchington, Kent, was for many years a very active member of the Hornchurch cricket scene.

His role for many years was that of 1<sup>st</sup> XI wicketkeeper and was a delighted recipient of the fielding cup in 1950. Cliff was elected a member on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 1933 and apart from the interruption of the Second World War gave proud service behind the sticks to the likes of the fast bowlers Tom Mitchell and Alec Selet. His name often appeared in the local paper for some rather high scores at the foot of the batting.



It was interesting to note that when the Club moved to Billet Lane they played in front of Cliffs wife Topsy’s former home. This, the large house that stands alongside Langtons, was the former home of Mr & Mrs J.R. Robertson both past Hornchurch Presidents. Topsy’s brother C.T. Smith was also a Hornchurch regular.

When the 1983 Club Bi-Centenary arrived Cliff and Topsy donated a pair of inscribed pewter goblets. These were initially presented to them by the Club on the occasion of their wedding. They still reside behind the bar in one of the glass cases.

On behalf of the Club many happy returns when it arrives and we look forward to hopefull seeing you at the Lodge during next summer.

Our thanks go the the Club Historian Peter Edwards for the above. If anyone has anything they think may be of interest or importance to the history of the Club they should contact Peter.

### WINTER COACHING & TRAINING

The winter coaching and training sessions are currently being finalised and will start in January (so don’t eat too many mince pies at Christmas!), dates, times and venues will be advised separately. Keep looking on the website.

### INDOOR COMPETITIONS

The U13 played their first ever game against Braintree in the winter competition at the Indoor School, County Ground Chelmsford recently. Batting first they accumulated a total of 61 all out, taking time to get used to the pace and format of the game. Braintree couldn’t cope under the pressure and were bowled out for 46 with an excellent bowling display by Danny Durrant. Good luck for the rest of the competition on yet another venture within the Youth setup of the Club.

Both Hornchurch and Britannic Lodge are involved with Indoor Cricket during the winter and we wish all teams success.

## BIZARRE INFO

A most outrageous claim is for the most runs scored off one ball in a match. A game took place in Western Australia in December 1893 between two local sides. The opening delivery was hit into a three-pronged branch of a tall jarrah tree. The fielding side appealed for "lost ball" but were overruled by the umpire who said it was not lost because it was still in view. The Captain of the fielding side went for an axe to cut down the tree but no axe could be found. Someone eventually brought a rifle and the teams best shot was deployed to shoot down the ball. After several failed attempts, down came the ball, no-one thinking to catch it. The batting side meanwhile had accumulated 286 runs from this one hit and subsequently declared. Unfortunately the side batting second couldn't repeat the feat and lost.

## PAVILION USE

Members are reminded that the pavilion and it's facilities are available for private functions. Any bookings should be made with the Club Secretary, Jackie Cubitt.

## "100 CLUB"

The 100 Club exists to provide much needed funds for the Club and also gives members and friends a chance to win prizes. Draws take place on a monthly basis at the Pavilion throughout the year, with the summer draws taking place on a Saturday evening whilst the winter one takes place at the monthly Management meetings.

As the title suggests there is a maximum of 100 numbers in each draw and each number costs £12 per annum - only £1 a month. There are three prizes each month £20, £10, £5 with two bumper draws in June and December of £100, £50, £20. Recent winners are:-

### May

56 – D. Shewring  
78 – D. Shewring  
66 – G. Pope

### September

68 – M. Renny  
82 – G. Farquhar  
66 – G. Pope

### June

33 – M. Edwards  
24 – G. Pope  
35 – B. Lee

### October

48 – B. Langstone  
31 – P. Sweeney  
85 – P. Morris

### July

67 – N. Pyper  
85 – P. Morris  
78 – D. Shewring

### November

7 – R. Sen  
77 – Mrs J. Cubitt  
12 – A. Mitchell

### Aug

13 – J. West  
42 – Mrs. Jo. Balmford  
63 – J. Defreitas

There are eight numbers still available so why not have one.....two...or.....  
These are:- 3 43 52 58 59 83 86 92.

To obtain a number contact Brian Storey.

It is proposed that the existing Britannic Lodge scheme will be amalgamated into an expanded "100 Club" next year. More news in the next Newsletter.

## EDITORS COMMENT

The Management Committee, would like to take this opportunity in wishing all our members, parents and supporters a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and let's hope that next year we can have a clean sweep of trophies.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the next proposed issue of the H.C.C. Newsletter, then please contact Don Miller.

