



Hornchurch Cricket Club



NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2005

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

The coming season promises to be the most challenging to date in the club's recent history. To have finished last year with all our teams in the top division of their respective leagues was a remarkable achievement, a position we must now consolidate and build upon. I personally believe we have the ability and commitment in this club to rise to the challenges ahead and with it bring continued success.

On a cautionary note, we must not become complacent over our recent successes but build and learn from them. We must learn to ignore and rise above those who it would appear are out to knock Hornchurch Cricket Club. Their reasoning is indeed questionable. Everyone needs to be committed to playing to their fullest potential this season, if it means putting in those extra hours practicing or getting fit then take up the challenge.

As most of you will know in November last year Chris Drum decided to take a well earned rest from the game and therefore will not be with us (or anyone else for that matter!) this coming season, I think you will all agree he will be a big loss to the Club. I can still remember the excitement of three years ago when Chris, then a test match player, signed up. It is a great tribute to Chris that during his time with us he more than fulfilled his role at the club, not only in playing terms but as a model professional and outstanding ambassador for Hornchurch Cricket Club and the game in general.

It is a measure of the progression of the club that we are now able to attract such fine cricketers as Tony Palladino and Ian Flanagan, both of whom signed up in recent months. More about them and another returning player later on.

The success at national and county level of the Twenty20 form of the game has led the Essex Shepherd Neame League Committee to introduce a similar competition at club level for the coming season. I personally believe they have the format wrong opting for a straight knockout competition rather than a regional league basis. The latter format would undoubtedly be more beneficial to all clubs with guaranteed home games. If these were played during the week it would enable clubs to promote such games in their locality and schools as well as create some local rivalry. I feel an opportunity missed.

Our CRICKET for ALL continues its successful programme once again this summer. This has attracted a considerable amount of youngsters and the improvement in strength of all the youth teams is now testimony to that. Indeed, we are now running two Under 13XI's and two Under 15 XI's this season. May I also thank all those coaches who relentlessly give up a lot of time to the programme and in doing so can I encourage all other qualified coaches within the club to commit themselves to helping this important development in the future of the club.

Several years ago there seemed to be ongoing correspondence regarding disciplinary complaints against the club. Thankfully, the past few years have seen no such issues arise and it was pleasing to note that in the Leagues' overall statistics we are now rated in the top few, helped once again by our wonderful top marks for tea, well done Jackie. It must also be noted that the level of teas throughout the club are of the highest standard, so once again well done to all involved. The Harrow Lodge pitch gained the best marks in the

League. Given by the visiting umpires it's graded for such things like bounce, consistency and condition. Thanks to a lot of TLC by Chris Boniface the groundsman we can now boast the best pitch in the league. Enjoying the game played competitively in the right spirit is our clubs' intention and I therefore urge all players and members to do their part in upholding the excellent name we now have.

Throughout the close season the Management Committee have met regularly to plan for this seasons challenges and to sustain the clubs' position as one of the best clubs in Essex. With this in mind we will be launching a new selection of cricketing merchandise for both on and off the field. Chris O'Sullivan has kindly agreed to take charge of this and look out for further information.

May I conclude by once again by thanking all those who work tirelessly for the club throughout the year. The all round strength that exists at HCC is due to the 'off the field' support as much as the activities that go on 'on the field', you can't have one without the other. Can I therefore ask all members to support us in what we are trying to achieve. In the now famous words of Delia Smith – "Lets be aving you" and make sure Hornchurch Cricket Club not only consolidates in the top leagues but continues to progress in our aim to be the best.

Above all enjoy the coming season and I hope to see you all at Harrow Lodge.

Jeremy West - Chairman HCC.

PRE-SEASON MEETING

There will be a Pre-season Meeting of the Club on Sunday 10th April 2005 at the Pavilion, starting at 6.30pm prompt. It is also an opportunity to catch up with each other, meet any new members, ponder over last season and get enthused for the exciting season ahead.

CLUB WEBSITE

The Club website -

www.hornchurchcc.org

Have you looked lately? New information has been added.

Thanks go to Mike Renny for his time and effort.

If anyone is interested in becoming an additional administrator of the website and relieve some of the burden from Mike please contact him.

Additionally, if anyone has any comments or on the site please forward them to the Management Committee.

CLUB APPAREL

Cricket 'on the field' attire in the club colours complete with the HCC crest would make a good start to the season and are available in various sizes from Doug Shewring.

Old Style 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

New Style

Shirt £18.00
Trousers £18.00



Look out for a number of new Club related merchandise, including shorts, polo shirts, etc. Announcements will be made at the Pre-Season Meeting on the 10th April. Come along and see for yourself.

THE THOUGHTS OF CAPTAIN ROLLY

Well chaps, we made it!

It's only a few weeks till the first ball is bowled and the first run is hit. Are we ready? Not yet! Will we be ready? Most definitely!

Since my time as Captain of Hornchurch I cannot fault the commitment of the guys I lead out every weekend. I've been spoilt at times. To be able to look over your shoulder and see quality club cricketers, ex-pro cricketers and a test cricketer is amazing. Unfortunately the test cricketer, Chris Drum has moved on but we have a more than decent replacement. Drummy was a pleasure to play alongside. A truly honest and hard working cricketer..... but the slowest overate of any bowler I played with or indeed against. Something the bowlers need to be watchful of this season. I'm sure we will see him at some time over the summer and I will be the first to buy him a drink.....orange squash of course. I'm sure we all wish Chris well for the future.

The coming season will be a huge test for the club as a whole, individual teams and for me as a captain. The club has leapt into a new era with all teams playing at there respective highest levels. The club is constantly being talked about around the county, mostly positive I might add, we won't dwell on the negative. I just like the idea that we are being talked about.

All teams must continue with the positive attitude from last season as this year they will be tested to new limits, playing a standard of cricket that many have never experienced. Personally my abilities as leader will be tested. I have an amazing squad of talented players who could play Premier League at any Essex club, but choose to play at this club. My challenge will be to keep the team unit happy, encourage all the guys and strive to get the best out of each individual. If I can achieve this, then the team will perform to a standard that they, the club and I expect.

I welcome the new guys, Ian 'Bud' Flanagan and Tony Palladino. I played alongside Ian for a few years at Essex and he is a terrific batter, bowls decent spin and seam and fields extremely well. I don't know too much about Tony (I'm sure I will soon) except that you are no mug if you can take five wickets in a first class match. Both players are keen to represent Hornchurch and get involved in all aspects of the club. I also welcome back my middle brother Gary. He returns to us and is a great addition to the side. Personally, it will be fantastic to take to the field with my brothers again. It has been well over ten years since this last happened. So oppositions beware! It might get loud out there!

I look forward to getting back out there in the middle and mixing it with the 'big boys'. It's where we belong and have worked so hard to be. Despite all the critics we have made it to the Premier League and we intend to remain here for a very long time. It's the beginning of greater things for Hornchurch Cricket Club. Finally, good luck everyone, enjoy your cricket, but above all make sure we play within the spirit of the game.

Robert Rollins
Saturday/Sunday 1st XI Captain

MEMBERSHIP

If you have moved, are about to move, or have changed telephone numbers during the closed season, or indeed have not recently completed a membership form 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.

PAVILION USE

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

CRICKET FOR ALL PROGRAMME/YOUTH CRICKET

This years programme starts on the 16th May at the Harrow Lodge pavilion 6.30pm start. Monday evenings are for the 11's and under whilst Friday evenings are for 12's and over. With its continuing success and to allow the youngsters to show of their talents we have increased the number of Youth teams this year with an additional Under 15's and a full fixture list awaits them all. With this in mind we have set Tuesday evenings aside for Youth Team training. For those planning ahead the programme finishes on Friday 26th August.

THE NEWCOMERS

As mentioned previously we have two major newcomers playing in the higher teams this year – Tony Palladino and Ian Flanagan and we extend a warm welcome to both. Although Tony will undoubtedly play a part in the Essex County setup throughout the season we are hopeful he will be available for the majority of the League programme.

Ian as some may recall represented England in the Under 19 World Cup several years ago. He is now playing Minor County cricket for Cambridgeshire and therefore will be available to play for us this season. May I also welcome back Gary Rollins, brother of Rob & Adrian who played for us a couple of seasons ago. Gary is without doubt the fittest member of the Rollins clan and will make an excellent addition to our bowling attack.

We would like to welcome all newcomers to Hornchurch and hope the Club lives up to your expectations but above all you enjoy your time both on and off the field.

A FEW STATS FOR THOSE THAT MUST

There were twenty six hundreds last season, three less than last year.

A total of 154 senior matches were played last year – think of all those teas!

The Toss was won on 72 occasions 48% - nearly a 50% chance!

144 players turned out for the club last year – just think if they all become available at once we could have a long selection meeting and a fixture nightmare!

25,628 Runs in total scored – One hell of an innings!

Each Hornchurch wicket earned the club just over 29 runs apiece – 29.36 to be more precise

A total of 1095 Wickets were taken off the opposition – Easy if you bowl long enough (No names!)

Each Hornchurch bowler let 22.31 runs slip past for every wicket taken – some off one over!

Two Club Partnership Records were broken last season – 4th, 192* between J. Ely & R. Bannister
7th, 116* between S. Rowe & A. Church

WORKING PARTIES

As is usual this time of year there are a number of working parties to be organised to get both Harrow Lodge and Fielder Sports grounds ready for the season. If you can attend for a few hours over the coming weeks then can you please contact either Pat Sweeney or Doug Shewring. The roller awaits!

EARLY FIXTURES

April 16 th	1 st XI	Hartley Country Club CC	Away	1.30
	2 nd XI	Hartley Country Club CC	Away	1.30
April 17 th	2 nd XI	Hartley Country Club CC	Away	2.00
April 23 rd	1 st XI	Loughton CC	Away	2.00
	2 nd XI	Woodford Wells CC	Home	1.30
	3 rd XI	Goresbrook CC	Home	1.30
April 24 th	2 nd XI	Gidea Park & Romford CC	Away	2.00
	BL XI	Hutton CC	Away	2.00
April 30 th	1 st XI	Horndon-on-the Hill CC (L.Cup)	Home	1.30
	2 nd XI	Horndon-on-the Hill CC	Home	1.30
	3 rd XI	Chelmsford CC	Away	1.30
	4 th XI	Old Parkonians CC	Home	2.00
	5 th XI	Havering-atte-Bower CC	Away	2.00
May 1 st	1 st XI	T.B.A.	Away	2.00
	2 nd XI	T.B.A.	Home	2.00
	BL XI	South Weald CC	Away	2.00
May 2 nd	U16 XI	Ilford CC	Away	2.00
May 7 th	1 st XI	Wickford/Upminster CC (L. Cup)	Away	1.30
	2 nd XI	Wickford/Upminster CC	Home	1.30
	3 rd XI	Woodford Wells CC	Home	1.30
	4 th XI	Gidea Park & Romford CC	Home	1.30
	5 th XI	Hutton CC	Away	2.00
	6 th XI	T.B.A.	Away	1.30
May 8 th	1 st XI	Upminster CC (Nat. Cup)	Home	1.00
	2 nd XI	South Loughton CC	Away	2.00
	BL XI	Upminster 3XI CC	Home	2.00
	U11 XI	Upminster 'A' CC	Away	9.30
	U13 'A' XI	Ardleigh Green CC	Away	9.30
	U15 XI	Havering-atte-Bower CC	Home	9.30

The League programme for all teams starts on May 14th.

The National Club Cricket Championship starts on May 8th at Home against our local rivals Upminster CC, and providing we progress to the next round we play against either Brondesbury CC or Hertford CC on May 22nd Away.

The Evening Standard Challenge Trophy assault starts on May 29th Away against Hadleigh & Thundersley CC .

The conclusion of our initial ventures into the cup competitions is a match at Home against Waltham CC in the Bertie Joel competition on May 30th.

As you can see we have a full and congested fixture list and therefore require full availability. Can you therefore contact either Pat Sweeney or Dave Kiff with your early availability.

FREAK FIGURES

When he was a schoolboy at Brighton College in the 1880's S.M.J. Woods bowled an over in which he hit the stumps eight times with eight balls, but instead of producing a feat worthy of any bowler he emerged with a haul of only three wickets. His first three deliveries were no-balls, the fourth bowled a man, the fifth touched the leg stump and went for byes, the sixth and seventh bowled men and the eighth hit the stumps but once again failed to remove the bails and went for four byes.

CAPTAINS 2005

Playing officials for the coming season with contact details are as follows:-

Team	Captain	Telephone No.	Vice Captain	Telephone No.
Saturday 1 st XI	Robert Rollins		Luke Sweeney	
Saturday 2 nd XI	Anthony Sealey		Neil Adams	
Saturday 3 rd XI	Francis Baptiste		Danny Simpson	
Saturday 4 th XI	Alan Foxton		Graham Farquhar	
Saturday 5 th XI	Don Miller		Michael Rowe	
Saturday 6 th XI	Barry Bones		Doug Shewring	
Sunday 1 st XI	Robert Rollins		Luke Sweeney	
Sunday 2 nd XI	Francis Baptiste		TBA	
Britannic Lodge XI	Jamie Terrell		TBA	

“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:-

December

15 – J. Syms

75 – D. Walker

44 – J. Worham

January

26 – J. West

73 – Mrs Jo. Balmford

74 – I. Ede

February

93– J. Hillman

48 – B. Langstone

6 – R. Brooks

March

96 – J.N. Balmford

9 – P. Murray Snr

7 – R. Sen

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 Chris O’Sullivan or Jackie Cubitt.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

A few dates to put in your diaries:-

DISCO NIGHT	Friday 13 th May
CRICKET FOR ALL OPEN EVENING	Friday 17 th June
HAVERING SCHOOLS COMPETITION	Sunday 26 th June
RACE NIGHT	Friday 8 th July
HCC CLUB GOLF DAY	Wednesday 27 th July
HCC CLUB DAY	Sunday 31 st July
QUIZ NIGHT	Friday 19 th August
YOUTH PRESENTATION EVENING	Friday 9 th September
HCC DINNER & DANCE	Saturday 22 nd October

Fund raising events help sustain the club in a manner you have become accustomed to. So please support the above events in anyway you can. If you would like to help please contact Alan Mitchell.

THE GRAND MATCH OF CRICKET

Continuing our rake back through the archives here is an article looking back at a time well before we were even a twinkle in someone's eye. Even Doug wasn't even around to chase everybody.

A Grand Cricket Match for Five Hundred Guineas

To be played at Hornchurch in Essex, on Tuesday the 31st of July 1787, between Eleven Gentlemen of the Hornchurch Club, against Five Noblemen and Gentlemen of the White Conduit Club, and Six Gentlemen of the Moulsey Hurst Club in Surrey.

Hornchurch Club

R.N. Newman Esq.
R.B. Wyatt Esq.
J. Russell Esq.
R. Denn Esq.
Rev. Mr. Dupuis
Mr. Clarm
Mr. Davison
Mr. Remington
Mr. Grayham
Mr. Harvey
Mr. Martin (Bowler)
Mr. Wickham (Bowler)

White Conduit & Moulsey Hurst Club

Earl of Winchelsea
Sir P. Burrell
- Talbot Esq.
- East Esq.
- Drummond Esq.
- Botl Esq.
- Slater Esq.
Mr. Louch
Mr. Bedster
- Lumpy (Bowler)
- Davy (Bowler)

The wickets to be pitched at Ten O'Clock, and the Match played out.

You will notice that Hornchurch gave twelve names.

The above was inserted in the papers twice, but on its second appearance a further advertisement warned the readers that "The Grand Match of Cricket" was to have been played between the Earl of Winchelsea and the Hornchurch Club on Tuesday 31st July is put off to the Thursday following the 2nd August.

There were some very fine players in Winchelsea's team, including Lumpy, Bedster and a contingent of Old Etonians. The final result is not known but the Chelmsford Chronicle's report of the first days play indicates the strength of the Hornchurch Eleven:-

"Yesterday the Grand Match of Cricket for five hundred guineas between the White Conduit & Moulsey Hurst Club and the Hornchurch Club began playing at Hornchurch. The First Innings is as follows:-

White Conduit & Moulsey Hurst Club

86 notches

3 byes

Total 89

Hornchurch Club

92 notches

8 byes

Total 100

Bets were 2 to 1 on the White Conduit's at the beginning of play but very much altered in the evening in favour of the Hornchurch Club."

1787 saw the end of the White Conduit Club which merged with the new power in cricket – The Marylebone Cricket Club. Soon Essex clubs were playing against the ruling body and with some success. In 1790, at Lords and for 500 Guineas, Essex beat the M.C.C. by scores which totalled, for M.C.C. 247, for Essex 292.

The same year, at Hornchurch, the local club had to admit defeat by the M.C.C. after a match lasting two full days and terminating on the third 'about half past one'. Listed below are the names of the players from both teams, as set down in the advertisement announcing the game, which had the usual stake of 500 Guineas, together with the warning note at the end which all cricketers will understand:-

Mary-le-bone Club

Earl Winchelsea

Earl Darnley

Sir Peter Burrell

L. Col. Lenox

Hon. Mr. Bligh

Hon. Mr. Fitzroy

A. Smith Esq.

Mr. Louch Esq.

- Hussey Esq.

- Anguish Esq.

- J. Leicester Esq.

Hornchurch Club

R. Wyatt Esq.

J. Russell Esq.

R. Denn Esq.

Mr. Clark

Mr. Carr

Mr. Goldson

Mr. Remington

Mr. Oxley

Mr. Stephens

Mr. Clements

Mr. Martin

Note: No Dogs nor Horses admitted to the Ground

The previous year the Hornchurch Club had received a team from 'the Earl of Winchelsea's and Mr Bolt's Club'. This match we believe Hornchurch won by 6 wickets and was played for the modest prize money of 100 Guineas.

Just a little insight into a world gone by. Our thanks go 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yes folks, it's that time of year when the Treasurer sits and waits for you all to throw money at him. Seriously, we have a lot of bills to pay early season so can you please send your dues to Norman Balmford as soon as possible. For your information we have not increased either the Subscriptions or the Match Fees for the forthcoming season.

Annual Subscriptions	Paid by 31.5.05	Paid after 31.5.05
PLAYING MEMBERS UNDER 18 YEARS OR IN FULL TIME EDUCATION AT 1.5.05	£25.00	£34.00
OTHER PLAYING MEMBERS	£75.00	£100.00
NON-PLAYING MEMBERS	£16.00	-
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS Single	£7.50	-
Family	£12.00	
YOUTH MEMBERSHIP	£5.00	-
Match Fees	Home*	Away
THOSE AGED UNDER 21 YEARS OR IN FULL TIME EDUCATION AT 1.5.05	£4.00	£3.00
OTHERS	£8.00	£7.00

* - 5th & 6th XI, Away Fee applies

It must be stated that several members are still outstanding debts from last year. Whereas the Management Committee are tolerant to legitimate circumstance we will this year be pursuing those owing with vigour. Would you go down the gym and say to the receptionist – “I’ll pay you later”? I’m sure she will let you in!
NO PAY = NO PLAY!

SCORERS

As we reach the heady heights of the Premier Divisions it becomes more important we have the scoresheets correct. We are therefore looking for scorers at all levels. So if any member can think of, or knows somebody, possible a relative or an acquaintance who wishes to be involved in a progressive Club then please let Doug Shewring know. Teas will be provided and you will be rewarded handsomely (don’t tell the Treasurer!). So all you can eat, watching an afternoon’s cricket of the highest calibre and being involved in one of the best clubs in Essex – got to be onto a good thing!

NEUTRAL UMPIRING

Nottingham wicketkeeper Tom Oates was happy to become an umpire at the end on his playing career, but was not altogether acclimatized to the need for neutrality when, in one of his early matches, he was standing at the bowlers end and saw the batsman hit squarely on the pads. ‘Owzat?’ he shouted, filled with sudden excitement. ‘Out,’ said the bowler. And out it was as the batsman walked. Sounds familiar (no names!).

EDITORS COMMENT

We hope this newsletter has kept you up to date on Hornchurch CC ahead of the start to what should be an exciting and hopefully successful season.

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

