



Hornchurch *Cricket Club*



NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2008

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

As the 225th season of our historic club is upon us I am sure we can all look forward to it with great optimism. Although we experienced disappointment last year with three of our teams being relegated from their premier divisions, there were several very encouraging signs, which I believe puts our club in a good position for the coming season. In last year's Spring Newsletter I mentioned that commitment, togetherness and preparation were vital ingredients to making a successful team. Under new Captain Paul Murray's leadership, those qualities were clearly evident throughout last season. And in my opinion it resulted in the best 1st XI team spirit I can remember. Well done and keep it going.

Another encouraging aspect within our club has been the emergence of so many talented youngsters. Last year we saw Lee Benson, Billy Gordon and Lee Bones make their first team debuts and I am sure those and a number of others will make a significant contribution to our various teams this year.

Much to the disappointment of us all we have recently learnt that Cameron Nupier our overseas player for last year will not be rejoining us, sadly his father in law to be has a terminal illness and therefore he is understandably staying in Australia. Although at this stage we have not confirmed his replacement we are very enthusiastic about several possibilities. I am glad to say all other members of our 1st XI team squad are raring to go.

Several changes in the Captains of the various teams have again taken place and I wish them every success. Those who have been captain realise just what a time consuming and difficult job it can be, so please support them in every way and offer help where and when you can.

We are delighted to welcome Anson St George Cricket Club to our club this year. They are a local Sunday team that was formed back in 1952, and will be playing their fixtures this year at our Fielder Sports Ground. Anyone who has played against them will know what a great bunch they are and we look forward to a good and enjoyable relationship with them.

Thankfully, last year was the first year in my role as Chairman that I did not have to enter into correspondence with the league disciplinary committee and sincerely hope this will be the same this year. At the league meeting's disciplinary issues are always the topic of conversation and as players we all have a responsibility to uphold the good name of Hornchurch, and to not get involved in unnecessary confrontations. The league are imposing larger and more imposing penalties for indiscipline over the next few years so we need to be on our guard at all times.

Our Cricket for All Programme will again take place during the summer, in I hope better weather. Even with many cold and windy Monday evenings last year, well over 300 different children attended, and who knows with good weather we may have even more this year. Special thanks again to Paul Murray and the many coaches who regularly commit themselves to coaching, and in particular for overseeing our well attended winter indoor youth coaching programme, which has been taking place at Abbs Cross Sports Centre.

May I again stress the importance of all members playing their part in our club. We all have a responsibility to commit ourselves to playing regularly and supporting our club in all it does. I have always believed we are a special sports club, both on and off the field, and would wish everyone a most enjoyable season with bat, ball and the odd drink.

Jeremy West - Chairman HCC.

PRE-SEASON MEETING

There will be a Pre-season Meeting of the Club on Wednesday 9th April 2008 at the Pavilion, starting at 8.00pm prompt. It is 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 is back up and running thanks to the efforts of Jason Syms. We now have a system in place that will keep the site up to date with results and information on a weekly basis so don't forget to look.

www.hornchurchcc.org

If anyone has any ideas or can assist in the administration of the website please contact Jason or any member of the Management Committee

CLUB APPAREL

Cricket attire in the club colours complete with the HCC crest are available in various sizes from Chris O'Sullivan or Doug Shewring.

Old Style Shirts

Long Sleeve £16.00
Short Sleeve £15.50

Sweaters (All Wool)

Long Sleeve £47.00
Short Sleeve £39.00

Misc

Old Style Baseball Cap £16.00
New Style Baseball Cap £5.00
Sun Hat £8.50
Helmet Badge £4.75
Badges £1.50
Sweatbands £3.00

New Style Shirts

Shirt £18.00
Trousers £18.00

Training/Leisure Gear

T Shirts £10.00
Shorts £10.00
Track Suits £40.00
C4A T Shirt £5.00



There are a number of items at greatly reduced prices which will be available for purchase at the Pre-Season Meeting – first come, first served.

Contact Christine or Doug for details

CRICKET FOR ALL PROGRAMME/YOUTH CRICKET/NETS

This years CRICKET FOR ALL programme starts on Monday 12th May at the Harrow Lodge Pavilion, 6.30pm start. With its continuing success and increasing numbers we are looking for volunteers to assist in the mounting pile of paperwork. The following evenings have been allocated for training:-

Monday – U11's CRICKET FOR ALL PROGRAMME
Tuesday - U13's CRICKET FOR ALL PROGRAMME
Wednesday – Seniors/Others Net Practice
Thursday - U15's Squad Practice
Friday - U16 Squad Practice (5.30pm to 7.00pm)
1st/2nd XI Squad Practice (7.00pm onwards)

All Training starts at 6.30pm unless otherwise stated

The Club has put a number of new coaches through the grading system & these will be available throughout the week at all levels.

225 & STILL GOING STRONG

This year sees the Club reach the landmark date of 225 years in existence. There are plans to celebrate this marvellous achievement by holding a Cricket Week. It will be held week commencing 11th August and will involve both Senior and Youth teams including a Twenty 20 competition. There are a number of matches currently being planned and final details will be displayed shortly. Look out for further information during the season.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Now the season is a matter of days away, I'm looking forward to a successful season. I'm always positive at the start of the season but i truly believe this is going to be the season we gain promotion back to the premier league. I am very happy with the squad of players i have to pick from, from last year. We have gained the services once again of Chris Sains a former longstanding member of HCC. He will bring experience (brains??) and strength to the middle of the batting order.

On the bad side unfortunately Cameron Nupier our overseas player will not for personal reasons be with us this year. Both Jeremy and myself are working together to try and gain the services of an overseas player of similar calibre (which is going to be difficult we know) not only the benefit of 1st XI but to strengthen the coaching staff as well.

I'm am looking forward to a number of youth players looking to push for regular first team places this year. Billy Gordon, Lee Benson and Lee Bones in particular having all made there debut's last season.

I would like to thank Tom Fulcher of Diamond Cabling who has been kind enough to sponsor the first team squad for the coming season.

May I take this time to wish everyone a successful season, and look forward to seeing you all soon.

All the best - Muzza

MEMBERSHIP

For clarity, here is a brief guide to HCC membership:-

Our CRICKET FOR ALL programme is free to all of those who attend. No charges of any kind are made for the use of facilities, coaching or any other aspect of the Monday and Tuesday evening sessions.

It is only when you start playing for youth teams that any membership fees are payable. When a player begins playing regularly in any of the youth section teams, they will be offered YOUTH membership (£5 per year). This continues until they begin playing regularly in senior cricket (Saturday & Sunday teams). When this happens they will be offered JUNIOR membership (£20 per year if paid before 31st May). This entitles them to the same selection rights as senior members of the club. Junior membership of the club continues whilst in full time education or under 18. Once past full time education or your 18th Birthday JUNIOR membership automatically becomes SENIOR membership. (£60 per year if paid before 31st May).

If an adult wishes to join the club then they fill in an application form and provide a deposit of £10 to be given TRIAL membership. Completed forms should be given either to their respective Captains or the Membership Secretary. They are then assessed over a short period and then if suitable offered SENIOR membership. TRIALISTS have the same selection rights as senior members during the trial period.

Hope this makes it all clear.

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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yes folks, it's that time of year when the Treasurer rubs his hands in anticipation of all that money rolling in. 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 the Subscriptions and Match Fees have not changed since last year, for clarity:-

Annual Subscriptions	Paid by	Paid after
	31.5.08	31.5.08
PLAYING MEMBERS UNDER 18 YEARS OR IN FULL TIME EDUCATION AT 1.5.08	£20.00	£26.00
OTHER PLAYING MEMBERS	£60.00	£80.00
NON-PLAYING MEMBERS	£16.00	-
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS Single	£7.50	-
Family	£12.00	-
YOUTH MEMBERSHIP	£5.00	-
Match Fees	Home	
THOSE AGED UNDER 21 YEARS OR IN FULL TIME EDUCATION AT 1.5.08	£5.00	For playing both games over the weekend a reduction of 50% of the Match Fee
OTHERS	£10.00	is applicable on the second game
YOUTH TEAMS	£3.00	

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 even more vigour than in previous ones. We will be naming and shaming those individuals who still owe. The Club Policy is clear:- **NO PAY = NO PLAY!**

DISCO EQUIPMENT

During the course of last season there were several items of Disco equipment left in the Clubhouse. If anyone knows anything about this then please contact Doug Shewring.

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 especially Fielder Sports grounds ready for the season. The first party is arranged for 7th April 10.00am start. In the coming weeks can you please contact either Doug Shewring or Mick Droy if you are attending.

WINTER NETS

There are Nets organised at the County Ground Chelmsford each and every Friday evening until the 11th April. Start time is 9pm. Contact Doug Shewring for places

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.

CONGRATULATIONS

At last seasons Youth Presentation Evening the following youngsters were awarded for there efforts throughout the season:-

<u>U11 Team</u>	Manager – Tony Medlock
Joe Durrant	Batter of the Year
Kieran Scarlioli	Bowler of the Year
James Medlock	Most Improved Player
Joe Durrant	Player of the Year
<u>U13'A' Team</u>	Manager – Michael Rowe
Daniel O'Sullivan	Batter of the Year
Michael Wade	Bowler of the Year
Frankie Jacobs	Most Improved Player
Alfie Cossington	Player of the Year
<u>U13 'B' Team</u>	Manager – Ben Spray
Matt Mullen	Batter of the Year
Jordon Braidwood	Bowler of the Year
Reece Powell	Most Improved Player
Tommy Walpole	Player of the Year
<u>U15 Team</u>	Managers – Steve Durrant/Pete Evans
Billy Gordon	Batter of the Year
Ronnie Saunders	Bowler of the Year
Luke Edwards	Most Improved Player
Ahsan Freed	Player of the Year
<u>U16 Teams</u>	Manager – Barry Bones
Billy Gordon	Batter of the Year
Danny Durrant	Bowler of the Year
Ronnie Saunders	Most Improved Player
Danny Durrant	Player of the Year

In addition, there are still a number of unclaimed trophies for Senior Cricketers and these will be available at the Pre-Season Meeting. Alternatively, contact Doug Shewring.

CAPTAINS 2008

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

Team	Captain	Telephone No.	Vice Captain	Telephone No.
Saturday 1 st XI	Paul Murray		Anthony Sealey	
Saturday 2 nd XI	Myles Wells		TBA	
Saturday 3 rd XI	Martin Hayward		Barry Bones	
Saturday 4 th XI	Alan Foxton		Michael Rowe	
Saturday 5 th XI	Chris James		Ben Spray	
Saturday 6 th XI	TBA		TBA	
Sunday 1 st XI	Paul Murray		Anthony Sealey	
Sunday 2 nd XI	Barry Bones		TBA	
Britannic Lodge XI	Paul LeViscount			

YOUTH TEAMS

Team	Manager	Telephone No.
U9's	TBA	
U11's	Tony Medlock	
U13's	Steve Durrant	
U15's	Myles Wells	
U16	Barry Bones	

EARLY FIXTURES

April 12 th	1 st XI	Hartley Country Club CC	Away	1.30
	2 nd XI	Hartley Country Club CC	Away	1.30
April 13 th	2 nd XI	Hartley Country Club CC	Away	2.00
April 19 th	1 st XI	Gore Court CC	Home	2.00
	2 nd XI	Gore Court CC	Away	2.00
	3 rd XI	TBA	Home	1.30
April 26 th	1 st XI	Horndon-on-theHill CC (L. Cup)	Away	1.00
	2 nd XI	Horndon-on-theHill CC	Home	1.00
	3 rd XI	TBA	Away	1.30
	4 th XI	Harold Park CC	Home	1.30
April 27 th	BL XI	South Weald CC	Away	2.00
	U16 XI	Hutton CC	Home	2.00
May 3 rd	1 st XI	Woodford Green CC/ (L. Cup) West Essex CC	Home	1.00
	2 nd XI	Woodford Green CC/ West Essex CC	Away	1.00
	3 rd XI	Horton Kirby CC	Away	2.00
	4 th XI	South Woodford CC	Home	1.00
	5 th XI	Hutton 6XI CC	Away	1.30
May 4 th	1 st XI	Upminster CC (National)	Away	1.00
	2 nd XI	TBA	Home	2.00
	BL XI	TBA	Home	2.00
May 5 th	U16 XI	Ilford CC	Home	1.00

The Shepherd Neame Essex League programme for the top five teams starts on May 10th with the opening opposition as follows:-

1 st XI	-	Ilford CC	Home
2 nd XI	-	South Woodford CC	Away
3 rd XI	-	Five & Heronians CC	Away
4 th XI	-	Five & Heronians CC	Home
5 th XI	-	Hutton CC	Home
6 th XI	-	TBA	Away

Note that all League matches start at 1.00pm

For the Evening Standard Challenge Trophy we have been drawn against Gravesend CC away at the old Bat & Ball Ground – a place where in days gone by we have had many a good game. The fixture is to be played on May 11th 1.00pm start. The winners will be taking a trip to Reigate Priory CC on June 15th.

The earliest fixtures for some of the Youth XI's are:-

April 27 th	U16's	Hutton CC	Home	2.00
May 5 th	U16's	Ilford CC	Home	1.00

May 11 th	U13's	Gidea Park & Romford CC	Away	9.30
	U15's	Harold Wood CC	Home	9.30

The U9's fixtures don't start until July with the U11's campaign not commencing until 1st June with a fixture against the old enemy Upminster.

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.

SCORERS/TEA LADIES

It is a directive from the league that all 1st XI sides have a scorer with point deductions if not present. We have of course this covered with the ever present Mrs Went, but should there be a time when she is not available we will need a stand by. 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. 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!

Whilst mentioning Teas, as you are all aware we offer the best teas in Essex, nay the country. These culinary delights are prepared by Jackie who would like a little help so if you know of anyone who is willing to assist then please contact overworked Jackie Cubitt.

HARROW LODGE GROUND

Whilst rummaging through my drawers – not a pretty site I can assure you, I came across an old postcard showing different areas of Hornchurch & Upminster. The centre picture shows Harrow Lodge Park before the Cricket Pavilion was built. As can be seen, the affectionally renamed 'Dougie Shewring' stand existed.



Whilst on the subject of Harrow Lodge, we were during the winter, granted planning permission by the Council to extend and refurbish the net area. Work will start towards the end of May. This will significantly enhance the practice arrangements and we are sure these facilities will be enjoyed and benefited by all.

Costing in excess of £35,000 our thanks go to Cleanaway who have awarded the Club a grant to assist in the funding of this project.

BOURNEMOUTH 1998

Can it really be 10 years since we embarked on that infamous tour to Bournemouth where Dean Skipper came of age?

As promised in my last Newsletter here is an extract from the after tour brochure:-

“DAY No1 - Sunday

We all arrived at the Clubhouse at the designated time, all except guess who? Yes, you’ve got it – Vishal, who arrived half an hour late with another one of his feeble excuses. So feeble in fact that we can’t remember it.

After breaking the world record for the amount of cricket gear, clothes, golf clubs and people in one car (Joe’s), and armed with excellent directions, we headed off towards our destination, some via Rainham to collect forgotten footwear. It was agreed that we would all meet at Fleet Services for some light refreshments. This we all did without mishaps, although Joe did take a detour into Fleet to admire the scenery.

We arrived at the Parkfield hotel at approx 3pm and Ark’s started to allocate rooms, then panicked because he didn’t think that there were rooms for Ben and Mark who were travelling down later that evening. After unpacking we headed for the beach – a short walk for most, except Whitlock who moaned that it was more like a marathon. Still he thought he had found heaven en route – a pie shop, only to be disappointed to find it closed.

A few drinks were consumed on the pier and after a while we decided to return to the hotel via the ornamental gardens, where Whitlock carefully discards Tommy Fletchers cap into the fast flowing stream. A bystander attempts to rescue the cap, fails, but nearly goes arse over apex in the process, much to the amusement of all present. Skipper then jumps into the stream to help, quickly followed by Tommy who was ably assisted by Sean Perry (“only a slight nudge” he said!!). Tommy finally rescues his cap but ends up completely soaked, with his trainers smelling for the rest of the week, and indeed may still do.

Time for munchies – Italian was the consensus, a restaurant was found, one that several people returned to night after night just to admire the waitress, who we believed to be Spanish, although it didn’t seem to bother Lofty – what do points make?

After eating some went on to a nightclub whilst the remainder retired to a local hostelry the Litten Tree where we were joined by Ben and Mark for a few jars. Whitlock in his infinite wisdom starts to smoke a cigar and spends the rest of the evening coughing his rather large lungs up, as well as turning a rather interesting shade of green. Skipper and Bones start to chat up these two local girls, Bones gets blown out rather quickly, however, Skipper has better luck and takes this girl back to the hotel for more than Horlicks. Marc ‘the nose’ Horton overstretchs himself on the alcohol front ably assisted by his roommate Joe and a bottle of tequila.

Ian Adams, aka Big Time decides to do his bit for entente cordial by chatting up a lovely girl from Kazakhstan, only to be knocked back by a lack of understanding and communication – he couldn’t understand her and she didn’t want to speak to him.

Matt decided to start an argument with his bedroom door using his head as a weapon, subsequently lost and was patched up by Nursey Dave.

Finally, on this quiet uneventful day the sight of Sean dancing in the hotel lounge gradually discarding his clothes was something only the hardened can take. Whitlock did however learn that taking the mickey out of Sean whilst he has a leather belt in his hand is something not to be repeated, as Sean whipped Marc so hard that he was heard squealing like a pig and unable to sit down for several minutes. Marc was also heard to be shouting “red rat, red rat” in his sleep”

To be continued..... – yes it gets worse!!

The above has of course been edited for obvious reasons but look out for more events over the next few Newsletters, in particular that “Jooster” moment.

INDOOR SUCCESS

Over the winter the Britannic Lodge Indoor Team have gained promotion to the Havering Indoor League Division 2. Congratulations to all who participated.

THE REST IS HISTORY

Peter Edwards the Club's Historian has taken a well earned rest for this Newsletter – he is currently working on more material based around the 225th Year Celebrations. If however, anyone has any information relating to the history of the Club please contact Peter or any member of the Management Committee.

“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 past winners are:-

March'07

90 – Bob Joyce
99 – Cyril Wolstenholme
45 – Ann Storey

April'07

2 – Danny Persaud
45 – Ann Storey
68 – Mike Renny

May'07

41 – Gloria Davies
90 – Bob Joyce
72 – Pete Edwards

June'07

66 – Graham Pope
42 – Jane Balmford
67 – Rob Allen

July'07

8 – Don Miller
25 – Mrs J. Taylor
44 – Bob Coombe

August'07

38 – D. Rose
17 – Mick Church
54 – Mark Ede

September'07

67 – Rob Allen
10 – Graham Pope
95 – Jason Syms

October'07

26 – Jeremy West
90 – Bob Joyce
67 – Rob Allen

November'07

77 – Jackie Cubitt
37 – Ben Collins
59 – Barry Bones

December'07

92 – Norman Balmford
56 – Dave Millie
12 – Alan Mitchell

January'08

63 – Joe Defreitas
14 – Brian Rose
42 – Mrs J. Balmford

February'08

94 – Mrs Wade
15 – Jason Syms
4 – Jeremy West

March'08

83 – Steve Durrant
69 – Graham Pope
29 – Kevin Selby

There are a few numbers still available so why not have one.....two...or.....

To obtain a number contact Chris O'Sullivan or Jackie Cubitt.

EDITORS COMMENT

We hope this newsletter has kept you up to date on Hornchurch CC ahead of what we hope will be an historic year – the Club's 225th and a return to the Premier League.

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

