

The Bluesletter # 12

9th Oct 2021

Life after lockdown.....

Re-booting the club after the last year has not been easy process and in the weeks since most restriction were lifted in mid-July we have been fighting a long list of complications and challenges as long as your arm!

Purely in terms of the facilities, the clubhouse and grounds there has been much to get through; from testing the water systems for Legionella to replacing two main security shutters, from repairs to the external rendering on the building to installing new floodlights on the green astro, new security contracts and new catering providers and then finally a new gas cooker/interlock system and most recently, a new bar refrigeration unit. In 'normal times' this would represent a years' worth of repairs/renewals – the problem for us, is that it has all happened in two months, when at the same time we have experienced severe restrictions on our cash flow as we work to re-establish income streams that have dried up over the last year.

But... we are making progress and slowly the club is getting back to normal and the outlook is certainly a positive one. Our thanks to all members, guests, visitors for being patient during this time and we hope to see you back at the club soon

All change in the kitchen

One of the most significant changes over the summer was our catering partner. As mentioned in Bluesletter #11, after 8-9 years at Timperley Kerri & Hayley have decided to move on to other things. We wish them all the best and hope they'll call in and say hello when they can – the end of a catering era!

But... of course this presented and opportunity to go in another direction and after a wide search, advertising in local and social media 6-7 small businesses expressed interest before we eventually reached agreement with 'Alfies'.. and we've asked Suzy & Mike Abraham s to say a few words to introduce themselves...

'From forming the idea in January 2020 of running a meal prep and catering business, we opened as Alfie's Healthy Eating in October 2020. Though many changes had to be made due to the pandemic, we didn't let it discourage us in opening the business. Since opening we have been providing healthy meal plans to our customers throughout Greater Manchester. The company name was an easy choice for us and named it after our son Alfie.

Looking to the future we hope to extend on the great work Kerri and Hayley have already done at Timperley. Once we find our feet and settle, we will look to open during the week, offering a bar menu, evening meals and a variety of themed evenings.

We look forward to meeting you all....'

Suzy, Mike & Alfie



Alfie's are now into their third week at Timperley and starting to get to grips with it all. We've purchased and installed a brand new catering oven, upgraded the gas system and, as the world tries to get back to normal, have seen a definite increase in booking enquiries to hire the function room. It's a new start for the club and for Alfies, please support them, call in and have a 'toastie' and look out for some foodie themed nights to come...

The Great Timperley Auction



Back in the summer of 2020, we had an idea that an auction of items donated by members and local businesses might be a useful way of bringing in some much needed revenue at a time when all other ways of raising funds were pretty much off the agenda. It staggered us all when it raised approx £6,500.

In 2021 we thought it was worth giving it another shot although we knew that circumstances had changed and we'd have to work a little harder if it were to succeed. A small team was formed to help promote the idea and so we should say thanks to Alan Rommel (Lacrosse), Niall Scott (Hockey), Kirk Malone & Phil Westwood (Football) who badgered, flattered, and persuaded local businesses and members to donate to the auction. The auction itself closed on 7th August and eventually raised £6,100 for the club which will be ring-fenced and put towards the refurbishment of the decking next Spring.

We are starting to think ahead to if and how we might repeat the auction in 2022 and so if you might be interested in being part of the team, please drop a line to info@timperley-sports.com

Update on bar operations and some 'not so good' news.

Sadly, it's not all good news – everyone will have seen in the media that there are product shortages, supply chain issues along with staff shortages (particularly in hospitality) that all seem to be compounded by a combination of pandemic & Brexit issues. These issues are very real and effect us all in our personal and professional lives and so it goes without saying that we are not immune and having to be patient and adjust accordingly.

You might be aware that one of the bar refrigeration units has failed and whilst it goes without saying that we are working as quickly as we can to get a replacement, we have seen that both the cost and delivery / installation have been duly affected. The consequence of this is that we can't properly control the temperature of the bar cellar and so we've had to take the decision to temporarily suspend the purchase of cask real ale because it is quite literally, a waste. This is just one example of a problem that seems typical of the 'new normal'... but there are others and most, tend to result in increased costs, as suppliers pass these on to their customers, energy and food being very obvious examples we face together currently.

This is also true of our brewery, Carlsberg Marstons who introduced a wholesale price increase at the beginning of June this year. This coincided with the re-opening of the club and the TSC Board decided it would be correct to delay any changes until later in the summer and focus on getting members back to enjoying use of the club. We subsequently embarked on a review to help our understanding which took into account a number of factors:

- No increase in the pump price at TSC since Spring 2018 (in fact 2017 on Carlsberg's own brand products).
- Since 2019 the wholesale price of draught products, (beer/lager/Guinness/cider etc), has risen on average by 11-15% per barrel. Packaged/bottled products the rise has been slightly less, though still on average between 5-10%
- A sample survey of some known local retail outlets tells us that that the TSC existing pump price compares quite favourably, on most draught products.
- The introduction of the new membership card system and switch to a 10% discount off bar products offered to full members over 18.
- VAT, temporarily reduced within the hospitality sector during the pandemic, is returning to its previous level.

After discussion at the recent TSC board meeting it was agreed, albeit reluctantly, that we have no option but to adjust our bar retail prices which will help bring the club back to a move stable financial footing. In so doing, we also want to take advantage of the flexibility the new membership card system brings and ensure that there are real benefits to being a member of the club.

These price changes have been delayed until **22nd Oct 2021**, to allow as many members as possible to sign up to the new system, activate their member account and take advantage of a 10% discount on bar products

Club membership

The big push over the last few months has been to get our new Club Management System (CMS) - including online membership, subs, cashless payments and bar tills - up and running and we are

nearly there with around 1000 members signed up and paid using the system. Thanks to everyone who has got signed up so far.

The focus has primarily been on Playing Members and they have been made aware of how to do this by their respective section chairs or membership secretary about how to access the new system...

We now need to complete the roll out and include **Non Playing Members** (formerly known as 'social members' of TSC, who still need to pay their 2021-22 Annual Subs and activate their online membership account. Linked to the switch in the clubs legal status to a Community Benefit Society, everyone is required to formally join the club and this will enable you to benefit from member bar discounts and in the future pay your subscriptions easily online and by direct debit.

Follow this simple step by step guidance on how to sign up to membership and pay subs on the new TSC CMS system

<https://www.timperley-sports.com/news/how-to-join-or-pay-for-your-202122-non-playing-membership-2653997.html>

The new system is totally stand-alone from the Club or Section Pitchero websites - so make sure for membership or to access your membership account that you always go to <https://timperley.first-sports.com/>

Any queries or problems with signing up for membership or paying please contact Jo Page, TSC Membership Officer timperleytc@gmail.com

Member forums / drop in sessions.....

On the **21st October at 7.30pm** you are invited to our first Members Forums session. As life returns to a new normal and the time constraints of busy schedules becoming a fact of life again it is even more important for our Members and board to be in close contact as we seek to recover our position and move the club forwards. These informal monthly sessions are intended to be an innovative way of sharing information, gathering feedback and opinions and helping promote events throughout the Club. Please join myself, Shelagh and other Members of the Board and we look forward to seeing you there,

Jarrold, Chair, Timperley Sports Club.

The 300 Club..... make sure you are 'in it to win it' !!



The big winner of the many times rolled-over snowball last month and a whopping £475 was Fiona Inglis from Ladies Hockey. Fiona says that 'the fame and fortune hasn't changed her' and she won't be moving away.

Seriously. Throughout the various lockdowns and restriction of 2020 one success factor was a resurgence in interest in what was then the 200 club and which has now been enlarged to accommodate all of the new numbers purchased. At £4 per month paid by DD it is an easy way of supporting the club and enabling us to re-invest in our facilities.

To join as a regular member of the new 300 Club please contact our Promoter, Nick Burnett at nick@theburnetts.co.uk or via telephone on 07703-784911.

When contacting Nick please let him know;

- a). How many numbers you would like in the monthly draw (£4 per no per month) and
- b). If you would prefer to set up your payment using your own ONLINE banking system or by using a PAPER Standing Order Mandate Form

If you use online banking, the easiest way to set up your regular payment to the 'TSC 200 Club' account is to set up a Standing Order directly yourself. (Note, although it is now a 300 Club, the name of the bank account remains unchanged)

The 300 Club account details are;

Name : Timperley Sports Club – 200 Club

Account no : 5 2 0 0 5 4 7 7 Sort Code : 08 – 90 – 00

Nick will provide you with your 300 Club unique personal reference number so we can recognise your payments. This will be sent by email to you for you to add as a reference on your SO.

If you have any question, contact Nick who will talk you through the process of setting up a DD and ensuring you are 'in it to win it' every month.

Once again thanks for support the club in this way.

The First Centurion.. ?

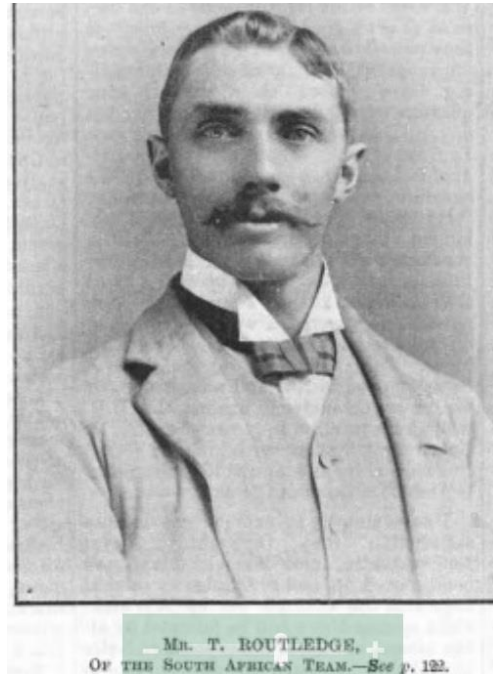
Our in-house Cricket archivist has been busy again. Gary Fisher thinks he may have unearthed the first Timperley CC player to score a century..... and he was a handy player

On June 10th 1889, a 'T.Routledge' scored 104 not out for Timperley 1st XI against Broughton. As Gary can't find his name referred to again, this could be the first, and only time, he played for Timperley.

There was a TW Routledge born on 18.4.1867 in Liverpool and who played for both Northern CC and Birkenhead Park CC and in that same year, 1889, we know that he played for Northern CC in matches in July and September.

Of course it may be a complete coincidence, but 'Routledge' is not a particularly common name and it does coincide with 'TW' playing in the area in the same year as a 'T Routledge' played his only ever game for Timperley scoring a century. We will never probably know for sure whether this is the same person and if so, how he came to play as a 'guest' in that one game.

Later that year, TW went out to South Africa in time for the season there and in January 1890 played his first first-class match for Cape Town Clubs against Natal, in Cape Town. T W Routledge then went on to play for South Africa in four test matches between 1891 and 1895. He was known as a hard-hitting batsman with a strong defence.



On the 1894 South Africa tour to UK, along with three other Transvaal players in the South Africa squad, he came over in advance and played two matches for Northern CC on 12th and 14th May. He also played for Northern CC on 9th June (when South Africa had no match) and again, on 25th August and 8th September after the South Africa 1894 tour was over.

He would later pass, aged 60 at 9 Billingham Avenue, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, County Durham on 9 May 1927. Clearly that 104* for Timperley, was a vital stepping stone along the way to a brief but colourful cricketing career.

Lacrosse season get's off to a winning start...

With an extended break from the late finishing Summer Lacrosse League, which both Timperley Men's Teams won outright, September sees the return to a full Lacrosse calendar at Timperley.

Timperley has already experienced success, with Timperley Men's Team convincingly winning the annual Bath8 Lacrosse Tournament and Timperley U18 Women's team dominating at the inaugural Stockport 6s tournament.



There has been a great deal of International and County Lacrosse recently, with the recent Home Internationals and Lancashire vs Cheshire; Timperley has been well represented. Currently we have 22 Senior Players involved with England Lacrosse, Wales, Scotland and Lancashire County. A great achievement and testament to all the players hardworking and determination.

England - Tom Bracegirdle

Wales - Joe Harris & George Harrison-Church

Ireland - Patrick McGowan

England U21 - Ed Loveland, Luke Frahill-Jones, Dan Flisk, Oli Lee, Marius Robinson & Angus Gilchrist

Wales U21 - Harry Alty

Lancashire Women Seniors - Maisie Axon, Nicola Swallow & Lucy Ford

Lancashire Men - Joe Harris & Dan Flisk

Lancashire U17 Boys - Cai Alty, Jack Dearden, Ben Edwards , Angus Gilchrist & Jim Hartley

Lancashire u15 Boys - Noah Brennan, Sam Ginger, Ben Lawton, Luca Read & Owen Shuttleworth

Football is back, and its live !



We are enjoying a busy & enjoyable return to League and Cup competitions with a record number of teams turning out across Stockport Road, Walton Park, Wythenshawe Sports Ground and Partington Sports Village. Our Sunday sessions at the Club for the younger ages remain really popular and despite waiting lists being in place for many ages/ teams there are opportunities -especially where a budding Parent coach is involved!

Our long-awaited Wildcats sessions commence this autumn giving girls aged 5-11 with no prior football experience and specially curated environment and introduction to the beautiful game.

A Flying start to the new Hockey season....

Flying start to the season for Hockey !

After all challenges of managing hockey within the Covid guidance the Summer proved a fruitful return to competitive matches for the hockey section with two national titles bagged in July! The Men's 1's won the England Hockey Plate and the Ladies Over 45's picked up the Masters Plate trophy. Winning continued in pre-season with both 1st Teams losing out to Bowdon in the Cheshire Cup Finals picking up the two more CHA Runners Up Shields for the Clubhouse and the Ladies 1 won the National League Clubs Div 2 Clubs Pre-season Tournament at Beeston In September.

All the preparation has delivered the results with the league season back under way with the Men's and Ladies 1 and 2's winning all their opening games and topping their Divisions ! Lets hope winning ways continue! We host home National League matches every weekend 16th November and all members are welcome to come down to the club to watch the games! See www.timperleyhockeyclub.com for fixtures and match times.

The Hockey section has also been selected as one of the first 37 clubs nationally to be work towards accreditation as a Talent Centre - that is part of the new structure to replace the current EH Player Pathway - this is a great opportunity for the club to develop the quality of coaching for our young players and gain national recognition for the quality of our junior programme.

Finally, hockey nationally has undergone a major governance change over the past 12 months including a full league and association reorganisation which is keeping everyone busy on and of the pitches with the new IT system! If you're looking for the hockey fixtures or results go to <https://gms.englandhockey.co.uk/fixtures-and-results/> or the hockey website for updates and match reports <https://www.timperleyhockeyclub.com/> or follow @timperleyhockey on social media



Timperley HC, Ladies and Mens 1st XI squads, above.

Diary

Some dates to note.....

Sun 21st Nov Hockey former players lunch followed by National League match.
Sat 27th Nov Hockey Race night
Fri 10th Dec Timperley Sports Club Hon Life Members / Vice Presidents Dinner
Sat 11th Dec Lacrosse 50th Dinner
Sat 18th Dec TSC Xmas Party

Finally....

Whilst we believe we are starting to come through the pandemic, the coming winter season, will still require some difficult decisions to be made. The Board and management of your club always work hard to make the right choices for the long term. We ask for your support, understand and tolerance of others but above all, stay safe.

Your Timperley Sports Club Limited Board

Alan Holdsworth, Shelagh Everett, Nick Burnett, Richard Knill, Bob Page, Haroon Bangee, Phil Hartley, Jarrod Sykes, Mike Welton and the TSC Staff Team Jane Ashcroft, Mike Olin, Andy Horsfield and Col Taylor

Stay in touch.....

<https://www.timperley-sports.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TimperleySportsClub/>

<https://twitter.com/TimperleySport>

