

BEHIND THE BAR - MR T'S BLOG

BARMAN'S CORNER – 5th October 2014

A pattern has developed.

Quiet start to the week, then builds and builds. Weightwatchers are threatening to double in size and have already booked their Chrimble Party.

On Thursday we held Ella's birthday party. A few drinks for the adults, party games and cake for the children. Perfect. And the best thing was that Ella had a brilliant time. Happy birthday young lady. Thursday night also brought the return of the Pool players. Dave, David, Pete, John and Alan have been knocking around together since school. Now, in their 70's and 80's, they play bowls in the summer and pool in the winter, twice a week. It was good to see them kick off the pool with an argument over the toss. Wonder how long that argument has been going on?

On Friday we played host to the spectacularly successful Chester & District Midweek Cricket League Presentation Night. As ever, organised by the wonderful Axons, this season's winners were shoe horned into the Club. The biggest and best yet. Graham Thorpe proved to be an excellent storyteller and perhaps even more surprising, an even better mimic. His Goochie was good, but his Geoffrey was quite remarkable. It was fascinating to learn that as a Test Match batsman he altered his technique, in order to bat more like a man he looked up to, Brian Lara. Not many people reach the level Thorpe did, very few then completely change their outlook and skillset in order to develop. Fascinating.

On Saturday it looked like the 2nds were to record a victory against the top of the League, but they let a 2 goal lead slip to draw 2-2. Could have done with another worldy from Michele. The 1sts beat Tarporley Vics whilst the 3rds got thumped.

We then got ready for the Junior Football Sections Comedy Night. Tony Roscoe was marvellous. Very funny. Clever. Gentle. His audience, however, were a little afraid of him. Never mind, you were great Tony, thank you. As ever, great thanks go to Jayne and Jackie for organising it (even though there children are no longer Juniors.) And of course your MC for the evening, Dave K. Fun times.

Sunday was steady, with quite a few watching the football bonanza on the telly. Best news of the day was that young Jamie Brown (Old boy of both sections) had become a father. Well done to all, and welcome Nancy, we look forward to meeting you.

News of my forthcoming adventure is now abroad. I'd like to say that I have been overwhelmed by the offers and information I have received from Australia. There are some crap things happening in the world, but never forget that the vast majority of people are good. Very good. Bloody marvellous. I have had offers to stay from people in Australia that I don't even know. I haven't been within 5,000 miles of the continent, and people are being so kind. People are the greatest fun.

It all goes on at The Club.

See you there.

Mr.T.

BARMANS CORNER - 29TH SEPTEMBER 2014



On Tuesday punters received a pleasant surprise when the Football Club President made a rare appearance. We did stay open longer than usual as the match on the telly lasted nearly all night. Unusually for a pure drama, the good guys didn't win.

On Thursday we had another couple of meetings but, of course it was the weekend when things got busy again.

Friday was Junior Cricket Presentation Evening. A great night. A nice night. A warm night. It gave the opportunity for the coaches to let the players know how well they had performed. It gave the opportunity to the Captain (who I repeat has been magnificent) to outline how the juniors were impacting on the successful senior sides. And, it gave the chance for The Spearhead to say how good the coaches had been. Marvellous. Well done, Reg. This was followed by a Dave Killoran Quiz. Brilliant. Ended in a tie. Quelle surprise! Well done the Killas!

On Saturday the 1st team got beat for the first time on the new pitch. The 2nds gained a creditable draw at St. Helens. The 4ths won at Ramblers, but the 5ths went down. The night was good fun. A combination of footballers (killer pool and beer pong) and an Oli Law leaving do led to a lovely, buoyant atmosphere. Good times, being had by good people.

Sunday was quieter, with the regular crew enjoying Europe's Rider Cup victory.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 22ND SEPTEMBER 2014

As I've said before, it all goes on at The Club. In the last 4 days we have had the story of life in reverse.

On Thursday afternoon we held a wake for a local family. The lady was 99, a good innings by anyone's standard. On Thursday night we had the return of the Royal Engineers Veterans. Sadly, there numbers are declining. Every cloud has a silver lining and I was able to pick up wins for a line and a full house on the bingo. Housey, housey! I've found a sport I'm good at.

On Friday we moved to the middle age years by hosting a 40 year olds birthday party. The very lovely Ruth has had a difficult time of it recently and, with the help of good friends and family and a live band, was able to enjoy a brilliant night. Lovely people having a lovely time. Happy birthday lovely Ruth.

The next great step in life (in reverse) is marriage. So on Saturday night we held Fiona and Jay's wedding reception/party. The couple had married in Rome 2 weeks ago, this was the party for friends and family. Congratulations to everyone involved. Again, lovely people having a lovely time. Phil Dougherty provided the hog roast (must be the 4th in the last 2 weeks) which, as with all the food at the Club, was top drawer. Great to see Ben and Grace, (Easter Sunday wedding) great night. Well done folks.

The following day, we had Rocky's Christening. His Mum tells me he is definitely not going to be a boxer. But, you can't imagine him as a librarian or an accountant. It just wouldn't be right. Again, nice people having a nice time. Rocky was the star of the show, he smiled at everyone all day. Good lad, Rock.

From the end of life to the beginning of life in 4 days. It all goes on at The Club!

We are of course, a sports club, and, it is only with the co-operation of the members that we can successfully hold such events, for which I thank you all. That completes another circle as we of course have to pay for the upkeep and development of our wonderful facilities. Indeed, the footballers returned full time on Saturday and it was great to see them. However, it wasn't a good day on the pitch. The 1st team got

beat at Newton. The 2 nds lost at Neston, whilst the 3rds drew 2-2 (and 2 men sent off). The 4ths were beaten by their old adversaries from the Ramblers. Things can only get better. They will. Jack Delgado is to stop drinking for the whole of October. He is doing this for a very worthy cause. Please see him for further details and support him. This is not something I want to encourage, but in this case we make an exception. Give him all the support you can. On Saturday we were also able to show the first episode of the Lee Dixon Show on sky sports 2. If you haven't seen it, we have it recorded. A great watch. Lee and everyone else was a credit to our Club on national TV. You'd have thought Jack Williams had been media trained and somehow Sky even made Ticey appear to be human. Marvellous!

Finally, the very final cricket game of the season took place on a sunny, Sunday afternoon, as the Under 12's took on Neston in the Under 12 cup final. Fittingly for such a momentous season there was drama. The game see-sawed all afternoon. Both teams looked as though they'd won it. Both teams (obviously) looked like they'd lost it. The game was tied and both teams agreed to share the Trophy. Always leave'em wanting more. A near perfect end to a near perfect season.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 17TH SEPTEMBER 2014

Has a Chester team (in any competition) ever won a National Competition? Well, it has now. For the players , members, officials, friends, girlfriends, mothers,fathers, brothers,sisters, wives and wags Tuesday was , (in the words of Lou Reed) a perfect day. Many, many special moments. The captain, all day and in everything he did was inspirational and yet self-deprecating. A true leader. Who has ever heard of 16 for 0 from 2 balls? Bloody brilliant! The massive red moon over the far stand. 3 hours non stop singing. Everything and everyone connected with the Club can look back on a special, special achievement, on a special, special day. When discussing the business with the wonderful, sparky lady who ran the bar at Northampton, one of our members asked her if they had Christenings during important matches. It was music to my ears when she told them that , 2 weeks ago, during a 4 day County match they had catered for an Indian wedding party of 500! Everything about the day was perfect. Even the team we had beat in the semis were singing songs about Rolo. Special!

On Wednesday we played host to a wedding party that was eventually dominated by the acts of a Polish chap, who didn't really know anyone there. Funny old night!

Nets and a meeting ensured a few people were around on Thursday. Friday was no more than steady.

Saturday however, was legendary. The firsts massacred Oxton, but didn't win the league despite recording more wins than anyone else. To be fair Hyde beat us twice and our congratulations go to our friends in the east of the County. The 2nds lost to an embarrassed Macclesfield. But, the 3rds won, and won the league. And the 4ths won, and won the league. Congratulations to everyone involved. Saturday night in the Club ended in carnage. But not before the captain and the Club captain organised a truly wonderful occasion. The inclusive togetherness of our Club could not have been illustrated more than the celebration of the T20 National champions at the success of Fishy and Steve's teams. Bloody marvellous. In true Hollywood style I had no idea about the Ron Fleet award. More people kept coming in to the room. Josh, our Aussie, fast bowler, friend, coach, grounds man spoke beautifully and emotionally about his time in Chester. Harry started the singing (it used to be Dave) and eventually it all ended in a large mess. Carnage ensued. You wouldn't expect anything less on the last Saturday of the season. Except , that our heroes had one more game to play. As the wonderful captain put it in a message to his players. If heroes in the bar the previous night, were going to turn into passengers the following day, then they need not bother turning up.

Everyone turned up. Wallasey were absolutely walloped. We won by about 180 runs. This is a very, very good team. Many, many congratulations to all of you. As the Club Captain likes to say, these are the salad days.

It's time to say goodbye to Josh. As a groundsman he has been immense. As a coach he has been special. As an opening bowler he has been very, very good. As a teammate he has been above and beyond. As a customer he's been pretty good. The point is, the lad has put in. He has given his all for the Club. We are better and stronger for your presence. Thank you Josh Henderson. CBHCC will always be part of you, and, you will always be part of us. Thank you. Safe journey and good luck for the forthcoming season.

Loads of functions next week.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 10TH SEPTEMBER 2014



As we head to Northampton, it does beg the question, what happened to East and Westhampton?

The Club was used as a meeting place all week. On Monday we had the Taxi drivers, Deva Handball and a cricket management meeting. On Wed we had our weightwatchers and the football lads in the evening.

B.T. were there all day Thursday. While the Junior footballers met in the evening. There must be some very well organised ventures going ahead.

Saturday was splendidly successful. The 2nds and 4ths won at home, whilst the 1sts and 3rds completed a full house with away wins. The 3rds and 4ths go in to the final weekend of the season at the top of their respective leagues, knowing that wins will secure 2 titles. Exciting times. The footie lads drew , whilst the 2nds had a comprehensive cup victory.

The sun shone on the righteous the following day as we hosted another large christening and the Cheshire Cup final. The christening people were ensconced in the room well before the cricket began. Nice people having a nice time. The plan had been to clear a space in the room for the tea interval, however, as Macclesfield steadily lost wickets we began to realise that we needed a plan B. So, we decided to set tea up,al-fresco, on the lawn in front of the 3rd team changing room . What could be more perfect than tea on the lawn. Very English. The side duly completed a 10 wicket victory and thus a hat trick of Cheshire Cup wins. This is a very good cricket team. A great start to an exciting week of finals. Obviously a little bit of celebrating was in order. But these lads have further victories in mind, so no one was going over the top. The under 18's got beat at Warrington in their play off, but they had done well to get their. There are some good young players in the team and will be stronger next year.

So , to the final week of the cricket season. With Leagues and Cups to play for I'm sure next Saturday will be huge in the Club. Come and enjoy it !

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 1ST SEPTEMBER 2014



Quiet during the week as all midweek cricket has once again come to a close. So many thanks to the Ship Victory, the Academicals, Harry Graves CC, The Bridge 'A', Saughall, The Bridge 'B' and all their opponents. You all seemed to enjoy your sport this season and thank you for supporting the bar. We look forward to seeing you all next season.

The weightwatchers upped their game with two meetings in the week. But without a function on Friday, things were a little too quiet.

Saturday was really steady all day. With home and away matches finishing at very different times and with the footie lads coming back and a spectacular match on the telly, there was a buzz and a murmur all day. Nice atmosphere. During the afternoon I noticed our resident hairdresser taking ice out of his wine and soda. As this was a little unusual I quizzed him on why he was doing this. He informed me that the ice was too cold. We'll try to provide warmer ice in the future. Terribly sorry. A major highlight was the first appearance of Noah Rowlands. The lad caused quite a stir, even Josh's Mum noticed that her lad was looking quite 'clucky'. It was touch and go whether he would hand Noah back to Amy.

Sunday was steady again. Liverpool's win over Spurs brought a few in. Whilst outside we played host to the Over 40's finals day. So sides from Alsager, Cheadle, Toft and Urmston competed for the Trophy. Toft were comfortable winners in the final against Urmston, for whom, due to a series of age related injuries, it was definitely one match too far. I did, however, notice that there seemed to be a number of very young looking 40 year olds playing throughout the day. Meanwhile the 3rds returned unsuccessfully from their semi final and then the 1st team returned victoriously after defeating Oxton, in the Cheshire Cup semi.

So just the small matters of the League, the Cheshire Cup and the National T20 competition and the Echo Final to play in the next 2 weeks.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 27TH AUGUST 2014

Brilliant start to brilliant week. In front of a decent crowd the long awaited clash between The Bridge 'B' and the Spital Vaults (jumpers for goalposts cricket) finished in chaotic perfection. Needing 2 to win off the final ball, last batsmen Russell Clark was hit amidships. Being disorientated he 'accidentaly' stood on the ball as the non-striker made his ground. Whilst pandemonium broke out Russ sprinted to the other end. Sharp practice or complete fluke, you decide. The match was tied. Arguments between the Pubs can now rage all winter. Complete chaos. Bloody marvellous. Cricket was the winner.

On Tuesday the Ladies secured a convincing victory.

Wednesday was quietish.

Thursday brought a narrow victory for Bridge B against Bridge A. Once again discussion will be lively through the winter months.

The next night we celebrated Mark Sadler's 30th. Our favourite DJ, Timmy ' Magic' provided the sounds and everybody enjoyed a few scoops. Sad to report our un-named Friday night barman didn't make the grade and will shortly be dispatched to the Colonies.

Major frustration on both pitches on Saturday as both teams worked hard to raise decent totals, both then had the oppo 9 down, both then couldn't winkle out the last man. Meanwhile at Nantwich the 1st team demolished their hosts. Perhaps entirely predictably the footie team went to Vauxhall Motors (who had so far smashed all opposition) and won. Top result chaps. That's the bench mark now.

Sunday was a success for The Club on many levels. First and foremost congratulations to the cricketers who are now through to the last 4 of a National competition and all that, that entails etc (live on Sky Sports on Tue 9th Sept). Well done everyone.

Congratulations to Olivia who enjoyed her Christening with 140 friends and family in the Clubhouse.

Thank you to the players and supporters of Northern C.C. who were impeccable despite their obvious disappointment. It was nice to meet you and great to catch up with some old chums. Thank you to the members of our cricket club who were 'pushed' out of their own club and yet didn't complain. A great, great day was had by all. The Christening family appreciated what you did. Everyone had a drink. We won. And, the Club did decent business.

Meanwhile our newest recruit enjoyed and benefited from her steep learning curve. Thanks to Liz, Claudia, Stephen and Hannah, you were great. Later that night Claudi was on a train to Edinburgh as part of her dissertation is being published in a book. I think she had to go and sign a few copies. Or something like that. She doesn't eat bread, you know.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 20TH AUGUST 2014



This week, things started quietly but built to a tumultuous climax. Marvellous!

On Monday there was no Ship to sink.

Tuesday brought a Title decider in which Alvanley Acorns defeated Saughall in the midweek league.

Watched a bit of weight the next morning and then in the evening a few of the football lads returned after their (now traditional) defeat at Blacon. We know things will improve.

Thursday was the last night of the Hendo's. Bye bye Uncle John, Alex and Ash. Always good to make new friends. Travel safely.

Friday brought Tracey and Keir's wedding night. Once again the room was transformed. Everything was golden this time. The food was wonderful as usual. Really nice people having a really nice time. Many

congrats to you both, you have started in fine style. I should also report that the new member of staff is improving.

Saturday brought 4 wins. A full house. £2 per pint. The 2nds and the 4ths absolutely mullered their opposition, whilst the 1sts and the 3rds had to work hard for their wins. Josh, Jordan, Oli Law and Sam Munroe turned out to be the stars of the day. Exciting times. This is where the tough need to get going. (B.Ocean 1979) In an improved performance the footballers were again defeated, though this time at Cammel Lairds. Things will improve.

On Sunday we hosted Gabriella's Christening. She was as good as gold. The family were lovely and all had a happy and relaxed time. Meanwhile the Ladies were beaten by Oakmere who duly won the League, cue celebrations. Meanwhile, the rest of us were glued to our electronic devices to follow the Dons' reports from the midlands where the Club duly smashed both Stone by 80 runs and Barnt Green by 8 wickets with 8 overs to go, to reach the last 8 of the national T20 competition. This was an all-round great day for The Club. The big guns fired, the support was magnificent. Despite large absences in the bowling department the skipper managed to combine what resources he had in a magnificent manner. Well done skipper. Oh! And Shane became a star! Bloody marvellous!

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 16TH AUGUST 2014



Steady old week, obviously though, with added odd bits. Always different.

On Monday the Under 18's qualified for their own finals day at the expense of Runcorn who showed that they had a couple of quality cricketers. But, as usual Guy and Harry batted them out of the game.

On Tuesday and Wednesday we played host to Cheshire and Yorkshire Under 17's. This is always a bit of a strange competition. It's a 2 innings match, though most of the points are gained through a first innings lead. As Chesh had the upper hand they were afraid to press home their superiority on the second day to complete what would have been an outstanding victory. In stead they ended up 20 short with 5 wickets in hand. Very strange. There were a couple of other odd sights. Yorkshire had an opening bowler who ran in from 2 yards in front of the sightscreens and a bright green parrot or parrakeet flew from the tree in front of the Clubhouse.

On Tuesday the Ship were scuppered again whilst the following night the Bridge were happy and glorious. And we also said hello to Josh's Uncle John, brother Alex and sister Ash.

Thursday was a decent night in the bar as both the other Bridge team and Harry Graves celebrated their final matches of the season.

The Clubhouse was transformed on Friday for Sarah and Andy's wedding reception. Great moment when the bride walked into the room and just said "wow", when she saw how it looked. Sam dressed the room, Phil Doc supplied wonderful food, High Frequency provided the music and the guests had a ball. Congratulations you marked the happy day splendidly.

Whilst this was going on the cricket team demolished New Brighton in the Echo semi final. Skipper Dixon did a reasonable impression of Lazarus to guide his team home.

Cricket returned to the Club the following day. Huge congrats are in order to both the 3rds and 4ths who went top of their respective Leagues on Saturday. The 2nds went down in a good contest with soon to be crowned Toft. Whilst the 1sts comprehensively outplayed their opponents to go 2nd in the League. Exciting stuff. All to play for. Once again Mark Rowlands scored a ton. As I keep saying, the lads in a bit of form. Good luck to Amy who is due anytime now. Sunday was v quiet. The planned BBQ didn't happen and the exciting 20/20 final in Birmingham didn't take place due to the inclement weather. (Does anyone know how Birmingham's football team got on?)

This will only lead to a massive fixture pile up as the season draws to a conclusion. Obviously with a few weddings and christenings thrown in to make the whole situation impossible. We'll find a way.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 5TH AUGUST 2014



So the busiest week ever, was followed by the quietest of the summer.

On Monday The Ship was sunk by The Bridge. But, the next day The Bridge fell. Chester Taverners match was cancelled on Wednesday. While Saughall lost their unbeaten home record on Thursday.

The big 'hole' in the week was caused by the cancellation of Friday's function. Normal service will be resumed with a couple of weddings on the next 2 Fridays.

A successful Saturday was looking unlikely when all cricket was abandoned due to the monsoon that hit about 1.00p.m. However, half an hour after I'd let Claudia and Stephen know that their services wouldn't be required a bus load of thirsty scouse footballers turned up 'out of the blue'. Rescued by St. Saviours, you can't make it up.

On Sunday a further cricket match was cancelled as Bollington decided they couldn't raise a team to play a Cheshire Cup quarter final. Poor show indeed. However, we did have cricket with a tri-cornered ladies competition between Cheshire, Lancashire and Wales. The Red Rose county proved too strong for the others despite the considerable efforts of Chester's Ali Cutler. Further discussion then took place further into the night, when we discussed how long it would take to play a one armed golf tournament. Heady stuff!

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 29TH JULY 2014



It's official. The biggest week, ever! Thanks to you. And thanks to all the hard working staff. You've all been great.

No Ship was sighted on Monday.

And so the madness really began the following day when we hosted the Oldfield Junior School Prom, whilst the 2nds were beaten by Neston in their T20 quarter final.

On Wednesday we watched a little weight, it was an unusually poor week for the watchers. We then had the Cherry Grove Junior School Prom (with added Party Dance Girls). In fact, as this began mid afternoon it should be pointed out that we catered for 2 Junior School Proms in less than 24 hours. A feat previously

thought as impossible. Bridge'A' just valiantly failed to knock off 180, whilst Harry Graves did knock off 220, off the last ball. Spectacular stuff on both pitches.

The run fest continued the next day as our own 1st team marmalised the Comp leaders, Ormskirk. Mark's 'ton' was special, the lads scoring a few runs at the minute. However, tight bowling and effective fielding completed a complete, all round performance. The challenge is to consistently attain that standard. Meanwhile on the back pitch the Bridge 'B' avenged their defeat of the previous week by thrashing the overwhelmed Taverners.

Friday was the last of the Junior Practice nights. The success of these nights can be measured in 2 ways. One is obvious, by the number of youngsters playing throughout the sides on Saturdays. The other can also be measured by the refreshment consumed by their parents. Therefore a massive thank you is due to all the coaches and especially Lord and Lady Killoran. Marvellous. We then hosted the M & S Hog Roast Social night. This was a big, big night. The companies employees let their hair down. The format was simple, yet v effective. Pimm's on arrival, music played through an I-Pod, through our system, a hog , a further drink or two and relax. And they did. Well done folks.

The week continued with another Full House. All 4 sides won, comprehensively. The 1st teams away demolishen of 'the Grapp' was watched by a v large Chester contingent who had turned out to meet the football club, President. He doesn't get to many matches at the moment , so it was great to see him ,and, I hope that it did him good to see so many old friends.

Just when the week couldn't get any bigger or better, it did.

Sunday was awesome! We were untested in our Semi Final against a poor Oxton side. (You had to feel compassion for the Filers.) Whilst on the other pitch Grappenhall got the better of Hyde. Both teams brought large groups of supporters. Fair play to all of the Hyde contingent who ,while I'm sure they were disappointed ,were extremely magnanimous in defeat. So on another wonderful day the final was played out to a large crowd. It would be fair to say that for 3 quarters of the game Chester were outplayed. But Oli Law, Jack Williams, the skipper and his brother and Hendo, Mark, Warren, Guy, Francis, Matty and Seamus wouldn't give in. Just when defeat seemed inevitable, they came surging back. Funny old game. Spectacular day. Thank you to everyone for their contribution. Well done to the players for providing such great entertainment. Sport at its very best. After the presentations and a few quick shandies the Captain again led from the front by getting all his men and supporters to follow him to The Bridge. Unusual, yes. Something not to be encouraged, but as a Club we had to honour a long standing booking, for Carly Beattie's Mums

surprise 50th. Thanks to everyone for their cooperation you were very generous in vacating the premises moments after such a fantastic day. This act was greatly appreciated by the family. Well done and thank you. Another reminder of the quite wonderful spirit that is present at The Club. At present we now hold every Trophy its possible to win. Marvellous.

As you know, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 21ST JULY 2014



The Ship sank, again. Whilst the Ladies beat Didsbury for the second time in 3 days to reach their Cup Final.

On Wednesday we watched a bit of weight.

On Thursday the Bridge fell, whilst Saughall laid claim to being the most successful side playing at the Club this year, as they have played 7 , won 7. Fair play. You can't do better than that.

Again, it was the weekend when things really picked up.

On Friday, we had a joint Nomads/Cricket Club Dinner Dance. To me this is good news. To me it is all one Club. We are all striving to provide either football or cricket of the highest quality for generations to come. And obviously to make the Club a fun place to be. Phil D provided the food. The traditional heads and tails bingo provided extra funds , along with the very successful auction. Thank you to everyone involved. And on a very, very hot night the mighty Kings of Wervin played for 2 hours. They were really, really good fun. There were people dancing all over the room and on the balconies. Thanks lads. Most tactful quote of the night. When I asked Liz how bad my guest spot with the band was, she said that she couldn't possibly comment, because she worked for me. Bless her, she must really like her job. Everyone had a Ball, thanks to everyone involved. Happy days indeed.

Thunder, lightning, hail, frogs etc occurred in the middle of the night and all matches except the 1st teams crunch match with Hyde were cancelled. A reduced match took place and an enterprising opposition took the honours. Well played Hyde. Aside from the match top marks must go to Doctor Dunbavand who took care of Khalid Sawas who took ill during the afternoon. And, Darren Berry, the Hyde skipper has developed the most desirable and fantastic of skills. Mystic Darren has won every toss this season. International standard tossing. A very enviable ability, indeed. Saturday as a whole remained pretty steady, with a number of the lads taking the opportunity to let their hair down and relax. Fair enough lads, you've deserved it. Which brings me to the erstwhile captain of the 3rds, Mr. Fish. He came 46th out of thousands in the Tour de France first leg last week, despite 2 punctures and a chain malfunction. Many congrats Mr.Fish. Your magnificent celebration was deserved.

On Sunday we had Isabella Desormeaux's christening. Both the Littler and the Dessie families took over the Club as though they did it every week. A lovely day ensued, top music in the background provided by the top DJ, and a live set by the very talented Anthony Kluge (McBusted) , ensured the occasion was marked , and, Isabella seemed to have a ball. Well done everybody.

There is a massive story breaking at The Club .At the now traditional end of season party (Sat Sept 13th) we are to be entertained by " The Great Alberto". Alberto is a South African cricket professional, of Italian descent, and professional entertainer, and will have spent the day at Chester Races, with 27 other members

of Cleator Cricket Club. I'm promised Alberto will stay sober enough so that he can entertain you all that night. You couldn't make it up.

However, I've saved the best 'til last. (Special thanks to VP Maddocks .) Many, many congratulations are due to the Under 15's who have brought in the first Trophy of the year, as yesterday they won the League. Brilliant. Really well done Ali Monroe and the lads. Its been a real team effort. Marvellous.

As you know, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 16TH JULY 2014



We started the week with a very warm wake for a local family who were most appreciative of our efforts. In the evening The Ship finally sailed to Victory. While inside we had the fantastically successful Deva Handball Award Ceremony. The club has gone from strength to strength in recent years. This was attested to, by the number of International players present. However, it will be interesting to see how they progress, as they are about to lose the two main driving forces of the Club. They all know that these coaches will be all but impossible to replace. Good luck guys. You know the way forward. I'm sure some other stars will emerge.

On Wednesday we began the process of issuing Club Cards to members. If you've paid, you'll get one. Both the Old people (the over 40's) and the Bridge Inn, lost. Nevertheless, changes at our neighbouring public house were very warmly received. Earlier in the day, the weightwatchers recorded a record weight loss. Congratulations ladies.

On Thursday we had hundreds of folks using our facilities. First of all, the Tory Party used the site as campaign HQ for the bi-election. Next the simply wonderful Boughton Belles had their presentation ceremony. Again, this is a group of special people who put on sport for the benefit of others. Well done Mrs H. Great to see that my occasional Sunday afternoon assistant picked up an award. Top work Mi-Mi! Meanwhile outside HGCC won again, whilst out on the front the 1st team absolutely battered Toft. How do you chase 227, in 20 overs?

The good weather brought the return of massive numbers for junior cricket. And, yet again, hundreds of folks enjoyed our Club on Saturday. First of all, Joanne organised a surprise baby shower for Amy. Amy, didn't have a clue. The girls enjoyed, the afternoon, evening and night. Marvellous stamina ladies, great performance. There were yet greater performances out on the pitch, as the 1sts absolutely demolished Bramhall and 4ths comprehensively clobbered Warrington. Disappointingly both the 2nds and the 3rds got beat. I'm sure they will both bounce back very quickly. And of course there was much more as Ross, Josh and Dave K hosted the inaugural Indoor Olympics. Brilliant fun for all the family as competition ranged from a very dodgy egg and spoon race, competitive cracker eating, indoor skittles, wheelbarrow racing. Competition reached an absolute peak as Harry got beat buy Martha in the sack race. Well done everybody, brilliant fun.

Sunday was quiet. Only one junior game, which we lost and a Ladies game which we won.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 7TH JULY 2014

In terms of the Bar, this has been the quietest week since April. BUT, boy oh boy, it's all been going on. I go away for a couple of days and all hell breaks loose. So, between Tues evening and Friday morning, we have lost 2 players, we have tried to play 3 matches on 2 pitches. Carlsberg tried to deliver everyday I wasn't there. And a man thought I was the best person to contact about "a groaning branch" at 7.30a.m. on Friday morning. And this doesn't even scratch the surface. The world went mad! At this point I would like to absolve your lovely, yet slightly other worldly staff. They, as ever, were very good. They have cleaned everything while I was away. So thank you lovely Samantha, clever Claudia and ever so slightly mad Lizzie. You all 'done well'. As for the rest of you, "God help you".

On Monday the Ship sank again.

On Tuesday, the main question was, 'would you recognise someone you hadn't seen for 40 years. I didn't. My old chum did. This left an odd impression. But, honestly, he had changed so much. I couldn't understand how he could recognise me. A lovely, lovely feeling, we had a proper conversation and still had many things in common. But, I wouldn't have recognised him in a million years. Odd. Funny. Bizarre. Human definitely.

Wednesday was when the Club tried to fit 3 into 2.

On Thursday we hosted Cheshire U12's against Lancs U12's. And on Friday, as Junior cricket was cancelled due to the inclement weather, we discussed, what colour polar bear hair is.

At this point we must congratulate our staff once again. Very clever Claudia gained a First in her degree and our newest recruit gained a 2:1, though he already has a top job lined up, and must remain nameless. Many congratulations to you both. They're still, the pair of them both lovely and bonkers. Marvellous!

The weather relented and cricket resumed. The 2nds lost while the 4ths drew. However, the 1sts demolished Neston while top marks must go to Steven Treen who captained the understrength 3rds in the always most trialling of circumstances, Macclesfield 3rd team, away. Well done Steve. This will have been difficult, yet you commanded the team magnificently. There are always certain standards to maintain when you captain a Chester team and I understand you did it perfectly. Congratulations Treeny. Saturday night was really

lovely. There was nothing organised and yet there was such a relaxed atmosphere in the Club. Club people enjoying the Club.

On Sunday we experienced 4 seasons in 1 day. Had a Christening. And a very young Xbatters team (again well captained by the experienced Steve Treen) took on a strong Kirkdale team. Although the lads lost in a good contest, there were a number of proud parents watching on. Well played the Xbatters. It looked like fun.

It almost goes without saying. It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 1ST JULY 2014



Once again the Ship weren't victorious. And once again our national football team were inglorious, at least they managed to hold the mighty Costa Rica to a draw. Happy and glorious, oh dear.

On to more positive matters. The lovely Weightwatchers people began classes on Wednesday morning. They are an honest bunch and we welcome them. I have long wondered how far one walks when going about one's duties on the Bar, well now I know as I have purchased a pedometer from them. Interesting. So, on Wednesday evening I can tell you I covered just over 2 miles during a fairly inactive fielding display for the Over 40's. However, the match with Upton was more notable for the unfortunate end to the proceedings when one of our players got involved in a tangle with one of their players. Inglorious once again.

Thursday was busy on the Bar (4•1 miles) and this was undoubtedly aided by two cracking games of cricket outside. Saughall beat the Academicals in extraordinary circumstances off the last ball, while Chester Taverners recorded their first victory in 2 years by defeating the Bridge B team. At the end of the day all sides agreed (as our old friend Jamie Brown) used to say, that "cricket was the winner". Well done everybody (Harry Corbett).

On Friday morning I received a text message from our newest member of staff who would prefer not to work that evening as he wished to attend a function at another venue. I was quite happy to oblige in these circumstances, however, it certainly adds to his uncertain start in his new position. I'm sure there's more to come. (6•2 miles)

Saturday, day, was quiet as the weather was uncertain. Both home teams did well to get their matches going. As the 2nds went down to the lovely Macc the "mighty" 4ths were rewarded with maximum points with a supreme performance against Irby. Newcomer Rob Morris massacred the bowling and enterprisingly they were able to declare after 35 overs. A wise decision in the end as they won with 9 balls to go having fielded for 53•5 overs. Splendid effort chaps. Meanwhile the 3rds were rained off whilst the 1st team were enjoying cordial relations with their good chums at Oxton. Nuff said.

Saturday night was fun as we enjoyed the wonderful Dan Riley and marvellous Francis Robson as they picked up their guitars and played and sang for us. Dan's "Outcast" cover and Francis's "Jack Johnson" were particularly memorable. Then Dave K handed out song sheets while he sang and played many old "faves". The evening was further embroidered by a succession of guest artistes Fishy, both Dixons, the inimitable Taff and the Doc. Pride of place amongst these guests, however, had to go to Ed Cotterill with his fantastic

Ding-a-ling. Club people having fun with Club people. Thank you all for your efforts. You were all magnificent. Bloody marvellous.(8•6 miles).

The weather improved on Sunday, which was just as well as we had a Cheshire Cup match with Alderley Edge and a Christening. Thanks for everyone's co-operation as we enjoyed a successful day on both fronts. The Christening party certainly marked the occasion with a long, long session and the 1st team hung on to their Trophy with an excellent display. Despite missing a few players, some of the senior players came to the fore with both commanding and when it got a little tough in the second half, characterful performances. Well done chaps. A splendid all round performance by the team. To be fair when the going got tough, the tough got going! (9•3 miles).

As you know, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 24TH JUNE 2014



The glorious weather continues and we continue to be stacked out. Monday brought defeats for the U13's and the Ship Victory, which were counter balanced by the victories for the U18's and Over 40's on Tues and Wed. There was an unusually odd and unsavoury incident during the Old Mens match that involved 2 members of the opposition. 'As the firemen rushes in from the pouring rain', very strange indeed. On Thursday we had a defeat for the Bridge and a win for HGCC. Our glorious boys out in Brazil went down as well which now leads on to '50 years of hurt'.

It was probably fortunate that the Friday function was cancelled at short notice as it would have been a bit of a squeeze. With the Junior cricket still growing (8,000 this week) and a 2nd XI Cup Match, Friday was ridiculously full anyway. (Of course we'd have coped.) So inevitably we had to begin training a new staff member. No names as I'm sure he will improve, but the newcomer made a spectacular start. During his first transaction the former Leeds University student was gently reminded by his customer (and mother and father of one of the Under 7's he was about to coach) that the pint of lager should be in a plastic container

as they were going outside. No names, but our first team all rounder then began to pour the lager (by accident) all over the bar floor. At this moment, he then swore twice in front of his customer. When I gently pointed out it was best not to swear in front of the customer, he then retorted with 'oh sh1t'. At this he then left to resume his coaching duties, leaving a puddle of lager on the bar floor. You'd have thought that 'things could only get better' but on his return, when asked by a small boy for a cup of water, the ex Upton and Oxton off spinner actually asked "where do I get the water from?" It's fair to say that more training is required. As you can see from picture the sun shone on the righteous as the 2nd team duly despatched Middlewich.

Saturday brought more joy for our sides. The 1st team absolutely massacred Marple by 201 runs. This doesn't happen very often in cricket. It also meant that Jack had taken 11 for 17 in the space of 48 hours. In addition to playing a match of sorts in the Amphitheatre. All v unusual. Fishy's army won again with youngsters to the fore. 4ths won again. Only the 2nds not managing to bowl out Marple 2nds meant we fell just short of the full house. Happy Days!4

On Sunday we had the fantastically successful Junior Football Presentations. Brilliant day. A really, really well done to all the coaches and managers who have provided sport for youngsters, always maintaining it was done in the correct Nomads way. In particular massive congrats to Stevie Mann and Mark Lawrence who have coached and developed young footballers over a long period. Both are stepping down and will be much missed. Top effort guys.

As 'my friend the sun' continues to bless us we look forward to another action packed week.

As you know, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 17TH JUNE 2014



Non-stop. Thousands of people using the Club. This is what we want!

Monday , Ship Victory, though not victorious. Tuesday U18's beat their chums from Christleton. On Wednesday the Over 40's were far too powerful for Caldý. One observation is that the Don is keeping the wicket better than ever before. Now this is remarkable for a number of reasons, not least he hadn't done it for 5 years and the fact he's now 73 years old. Tremendous, old boy. Thursday was busy. A combination of Nets, a Bridge Inn game and the start of the World Cup and a football team reunion led to a bumper night.

The continued good weather brought huge numbers for the Junior practice. This next Friday we will also be having a function at which the Kings of Wervin will be playing. It's going to be v v busy. As ever your patience and understanding will be appreciated.

Saturday was wonderful. The 2nd team won again in a wonderful nailbiter. Bobby Evans returned to form with a commanding century, but it will have been completely forgotten if Keggyman hadn't taken the catch off the second last ball. Funny how emotions can alter so quickly. Is it only sport that can do this? Fishy's army cemented their place at the top of the league with another masterful performance. However, for the second week in a row the 1sts and 4ths went down in their away matches. Saturday evening was relatively quiet but things got busier as we moved towards England's opening match. Anticipation was huge as our brave boys attempted to overcome their old adversaries, the Azzuri. They will have heard the roar in Brazil when Sterling's shot hit the side netting in the first minute. A really, really good game of football ensued. Obviously people were disappointed with the eventual result, but there is every reason for hope. Come On.

Up the Boro. Football's coming home. Let's put the world in motion, Back Home. Ingerland! We all love him too, that's World Cup Willie!

On Sunday we had the largest crowd at the ground for some considerable time as we hosted the Cheshire v Herefordshire Cup quarter final. We were blessed with good weather and wonderful cricket. It's not often you knock off 302. These lads did it in such a controlled manner. Really well batted lads. A memorable performance in a match that once again illustrated the massive 'ups' and 'downs' that this sport can bring within such a short space of time. I took a tray of drinks into the Herefordshire dressing room at the end of the match. They were absolutely devastated. Or as they say in sporting parlance, 'gutted'. Good luck in the semi's to James Duffy and his boys. Marvellous! From the Club point of view everything seemed to go swimmingly. People had plenty to eat and drink. The ground looked a picture. It was also very noticeable that when everyone was gone there was no litter. Spotless. Well done everybody. Thank you. We'll see you all again.

As you know, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 9TH JUNE 2014



The week began with a very kind donation from Russ Clarke. We have a fabulous facility. It is expensive to maintain. We work hard to develop it, so when someone makes a donation it is gratefully received. Thank you old boy.

Monday brought the Chester City Community Forum in which Councillors give members of the public opportunity to air (moan) their views (gripe). Always interesting, it is a real chance to have a say in the running of the City, yet precious few turned up. Once again our Councillors showed patience, restraint and understanding. Good on 'em.

On Tuesday we hosted another funeral. Phil Dougherty's food was sumptuous as usual and the family told many stories and marked the occasion. Last week I had reason to pop in to the hospital. My next call was to Dutton & Hallmark , the Funeral Directors in Hoole. As soon as I walked through the door the undertaker told me that he'd just been talking about me. Sure enough my business card was in the middle of his desk. Was this just coincidence? Had the hospital been in touch? Spooky, scary or just one of those things. Perhaps it's best I don't dwell on that.

On Wednesday we had the Chester & District Sunday Football Presentations. As ever, the lads come in, have a pint, get there medal, have another pint then disappear. It fits and it suits us just fine.

Thursday was completely different. We had David Lloyd speaking at the Club. To be fair he's just about done it all. Ex- Lancashire, ex- England, ex- Accrington, ex- umpire, ex- England Manager, now Sky's favourite pundit. Bumble was exactly as you thought he might be. Some funny stories, honest views , decent impressions and could tell a joke. Came across as a nice bloke, who had always done his best. Can't say fairer than that. Well done Chris, Jim, Lee, Phil and all those who contributed to make the evening the success it was.

On Friday, the 1st team Cup Match was cancelled and because no one had told Dave Killoran , numbers were down for Junior practice as he had told the under 11's it would have to be shelved for the week. Shame.

Unusually, the week ended on a bit of a whimper with all cricket being abandoned on Saturday due to the weather. The lads tried to make up for it by waxing Bobby's once hirsute back and ten pin bowling. That reminds me. Our 'Magician' from BHGT, has got a gig. A star is born. You saw him at the Club first.

Junior cricket on Sunday was also unusually quiet. The Ladies got beat in a cracking match.

As you know, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 26TH MAY 2014



Well, let's try and take stock of another extraordinary week at the Club.

On Monday the Ladies cruised to victory. On Tuesday the Under 18's were always in command against Haslington. On Wednesday it rained and all play was washed out.

Thursday, brought the return of the Royal Engineers, significantly down on numbers. They enjoyed the night, despite Tommy and I scooping significant victories in the Bingo. I keep telling you, I'm good at it. It's my new sport. I laugh in the face of people who think it's complete luck. Ha!

Friday was lovely. Friday was David Robinson's funeral. I have never been told by so many people how much they had enjoyed a funeral. It was a special day. Just about everything was right. George was so relaxed in the manner in which he spoke about his father, whilst the approximately 500 strong congregation looked on with awe. We all saw David so clearly in his son. It was revelatory. It was cathartic. It was healing for the assembled, grieving crowd. David's College pal had a wonderful voice. I couldn't help think how hard it was for Becca and Tom to perform that wonderful version of 'Let it Be'. Couldn't help but think that it was David's last joke to get all the Tory Councillors present to sing 'the Red Flag' as he was carried out.

You had to smile. And back to the Club. Relaxed, loads of bikes in the bike rack, lovely food. Strange how David's hat moved from table to table as he would have done. Seemed so right that the evening brought hundreds of youngsters to Junior Cricket. There was so much love for the whole family. Things will be tricky for the family and for lots of people who have lost someone who they could always talk to. And yet, David provided us with another lovely day to remember. So, when you think of David, smile. He made a difference to a lot of people.

Oh how he would have loved the weekend. On the back pitch there was a routine thrashing by Fishy's all powerful 3rd team. But the two matches on the front pitch were brilliant, we won both, but the matches could have gone either way. Having bowled Alderley Edge out for 152, our 2nds were reasonably confident, but at 100 for 9 we were in deep, deep mire. Cometh the hour, cometh the man, so having already taken 5 wickets Sam Mallows marched to the crease to win the game. And he and the completely focused Adam Dunbavand duly did. Bloody marvellous. Everyone enjoyed the match and our good friends from the Edge were extremely gracious in a defeat that must have hurt. Unfortunately defeats in the away matches for the 1sts and the 4ths brought us back to earth.

On Saturday night we had bought the Froch/ Groves fight. Another success, a good crowd watched an enthralling contest. Generously, contributions made by everyone matched what we had paid to get the fight so everybody was happy and we will do the same again. Thank you everyone that contributed. Thank you Powelly, Fishy and Hughie for making the night a success.

Road re-surfacing of Filkins Lane led to a little bit of chaos on Sunday morning, but we all managed in the end. Junior games in the morning were followed by the Cheshire Cup match with Elworth. Very few would have guessed that Bobby Evans and Ross Dixon were to be chief executioners with 3 and 4 wickets respectively. However, at 100 for 7 the game was in the balance against enthusiastic opponents who sensed a bit of giant killing. Cometh the hour, cometh the man as our Bob strode to the wicket. Fair to say, he doesn't bat no.9 very often. He seemed completely unfazed and prepared to wait for the bad balls that duly arrived, which he then dispatched to the boundary. There's only one Bobby Evans. Our opponents competed magnificently and were very happy to engage in their persiflage. Elworth looked a good team. Good luck to them for the remainder of the season. They made some friends today. The match was complemented by Isla's Christening. Once again everybody enjoyed the occasion. Phil Dougherty's kitchen had a great , busy day. We had a full Club most of the day. Happy days. Well over a thousand people have enjoyed our wonderful facility this weekend, for so many different reasons.

One final note, not everyone will be aware that David Robinson was very instrumental in the development of the 'new clubhouse'. Just another reason to say 'thank you, David, ' you made a difference!

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 26TH MAY 2014



A quiet week, (Wednesday was steady) exploded at the weekend, despite the atrocious weather.

On Friday, despite every effort, junior cricket had to be abandoned. Puddles all over the ground. However, we still had Bernards birthday party. There weren't as many people as we'd hoped, but it was a memorable occasion. His lovely wife, Pam had arranged everything. A good time was had by all, I think. When the disco finished (and you probably don't get too many of them at an 80th) it was rather like being in downtown Bangkok. The chatter was loud and obviously completely foreign to Clauds and my ears. It was unusual, it was exotic, it was different. As an aftermath, as they had catered for 120 I can report that I am currently living off Thai food. It's wonderful.

The big day arrived. By 2 o'clock all matches were off. What to do? Would we have an audience for BHGT? Would the performers be so far gone that they couldn't make a show? Our fears were unfounded. We brought the show forward to 7 o'clock. The acts were just fine. On the contrary, they were bloody brilliant. Dave Killoran, Bobby Evans, Warren Goodwin, Francis Robson, Ross Dixon, Guy Dunbavand, Jeff Fleet, Mark Rowland, Steven Ogilby, Oli Law, Joe and Harry Killoran, Lee Dixon, Jeremy Jordan, Jim Gillson and the man from the street, Tim Spauls, Josh Henderson and The Don, you were all magnificent. It took a lot of bottle to do what you did, and you did it triumphantly. Thank you all. You were all winners, because the audience loved the show. You all won. Perfect, Club people, enjoying the Club at its best. Bloody marvellous. It is

fascinating to observe how hardened sports people become quivering jellies just before they are asked to go on stage. Yet, fair play, they did it. Not only did they do it, they nailed it. I hope everyone enjoyed the experience. A pretty good night.



Again the weather wasn't good on Sunday, nevertheless it didn't prevent us from having another busy, busy day. Unusually we had 2 events at once. Charlie Fleets 12th birthday party and a Christening Party. In a wonderful show of acceptance and understanding both parties seemed to have a whale of a time. Am so glad that everyone enjoyed the day. And thank you for your co-operation everybody.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 19TH MAY 2014



In the week before BHGT we were again incredibly busy.

The week began with John Thistlewoods' funeral. It was horrible, it was fantastic. It was raw, it was nice. Ian and Richard spoke magnificently at the Crematory. Ann and Tina spoke beautifully in the Club. Tales of 'Johneroo' could only make you smile. Very sad and very lovely. The family and friends of Mr. Thistlewood were wonderful all day. Well done everybody.

And then, we got the truly awful news about David Robinson. I and many, many people didn't realise that he was ill. It was nearly too much to take. Again, life just seemed wrong, so unfair. Our thoughts and prayers and best wishes extend to Monica, George and Alice. David devoted a great deal of his considerable efforts to make things better for other people. He made a difference to a lot of people. We will miss him badly.

On Wednesday the Over 40's convincingly despatched Oxtou . Rumours of their demise have been exaggerated.



Thursday was v busy as the 1st team smashed 250 against Warrington. It was an unfair contest and you had to feel a little sympathy for the Wire. Meanwhile on the back pitch 'The Bridge' (minus plan A) were beaten by Alvanley. However, 2 full balconies kept the Bar very,very busy.

Friday was one of the busiest nights of the year. First of all the fantastically successful Junior Cricket brought hundreds. Then we had the Nomads Presentation Night. Organised by Dan and Jake (music by Timmy 'Magic') , the night was a resounding success. As usual, it was an opportunity for captains/managers to rip the piece out of their chums. Congrats to Jack Delgado who was awarded player of the season. Congrats to everyone, a great night.

Saturday was even better. First of all the Under 16's won their Cup Final. 4-4 at the end of extra time, they eventually succeeded 13-12 on penalties. The tension must have been unbearable. Bloody marvellous. The under 18's 3-1 Cup Final victory may have been tame by comparison. Nevertheless more silverware was added to the collection.This team has been together all the way through the age groups and have developed all along the way. Bloody marvellous again. Days cannot get much better for young Harry. After winning a Cup Final at the Deva Stadium, he and his Mum then raced to Bowdon where he picked up 3-20 as he and the grumpy Aussie destroyed the opposition. Roy of the Rovers and Alf Tupper didn't have many better days. Not only did the 1st team win, but the 2nd team, the 3rd team and the 4th teams also won. A complete full house and of course beer at £2 per pint in Clubhouse. Happy days. We look forward to many, many more days like this. Fabulous! In addition, for some reason the 4ths football team then had their own presentation ceremony. Powelly's presentation was as ever, tip-top. And the afternoon got under way with a round of 17 Guinness's. A happy time was guaranteed for all.

Sunday at the Club was quiet. However, at Neston the 1sts comfortably beat them in the National KO. Whilst Warren scored a century and took 3-1 as the County beat Shropshire. A result that just about guarantees a quarter final place. A match that will be played at our own ground.

A week that started so difficultly, ended so spectacularly. I'm reminded of the words of the ex Junior football chairman. Nothing lasts forever, but the Nomads (and the Cricket Club) will go on for ever.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 13TH MAY 2014

Very busy week. Loads going on. But did you know that the Delgado's used to babysit the Killorans. Apparently they were very good at some computer game but didn't realise that Jack was some kind of master and used to get really angry coz they couldn't beat him. Maybe its not just in the genes. The Club at its absolute best without realising it.

Bloody marvellous.

Really busy week started with a 1year old's party. Gareth and family had a great time, so happy days. However, the mood darkened a little when the stripes came from 0-3 down to draw against the reds 3-3. Oh dear. Oh dear.

On Tuesday we played host to a Piercey 60th birthday party. Lovely night. Fun was had by all.

Wednesday brought 3 cricket matches. The Uni won. But the match (due to weather delays) went on longer than imagined, which led to problems with the subsequent fixture. I'm sure there's more to come.

On Friday we followed Junior Cricket Practice with a charity function on behalf of the Neo natal Babygrow Appeal. Again, exactly what we want, very nice people having a very nice time, all conducted by The Baron. In an unexpected twist the Don won some lovely facial product and Josh a lovely little notebook in the raffle. Got to be in it to win it. Many congrats chaps. Don, your skin is looking lovely.

On Saturday we had another successful day on the pitch. The 1st team obliterated the Grap with a very professional performance. The 2nds drew. Whilst the 3rds went top of the league with a hard fought victory over Cheadle Hulme. The 4ths were unfortunately washed out. Things still going v well. There will be a few more bumps. But so far so good.

Due to inclement weather all cricket was cancelled on Sunday, nevertheless Helen and her friends and family enjoyed a lovely family christening. Their understanding of the situation was magnificent as Liverpool fans entered the Club in hope. They didn't get what they were after, but were supplied with large amounts of sausage rolls and Christening Cake. Well, we couldn't do any more. Well done Helen.

Again, hundreds, maybe over a thousand people have enjoyed our Club, this week. Bloody marvellous.

Not everything goes well. The under12's lost their Cup Final. But we'll fight and compete and do the best that we can.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 6TH MAY 2014

As the countdown to Boughton Halls Got Talent continues we have been considering what happens when a man wearing a camouflage jacket walks in front of a man in a hi-viz jacket. Do they both disappear?

The week started with a spectacularly busy Monday. Junior cricket and football. 1st team footie, as the lads disappointingly finished their season with a defeat. Whilst the Bridge sank the Ship Victory without trace.

On Tuesday we played host to the very successful Cheshire Over 60's cricket team who lost by 3 runs to their counterparts from Lancashire. The Lancs bowling must have been very straight from the Tarvin Rd End as our chaps unfortunately succumbed to 5 lbw's from that end. Very strange! It wasn't all bad though as a local business that sells hearing aids is interested in sponsoring them. What?

Friday junior practice seems to have grown again. Great to see so many youngsters enjoying sport. On this coming Friday we are hosting a charity event on behalf of the Neo-natal Babygrow appeal. Your consideration and support will be appreciated.

Saturday brought the Clubs first defeat of the season when they were well and truly hammered by their chums from Hyde. Perhaps they didn't see them coming. The seconds meanwhile played a really good game of cricket against their counterparts from Hyde. Maestro Edward Roberts certainly did see them coming during his completely masterful 129 not out. Newcomer Francis also performed beautifully with a delightful spell of bowling. The match ended as a draw, but both sides could have won it at the end. Meanwhile on the back pitch Joey Des also scored a hundred as the 4ths beat Ashley. An Ashleyan also scored a hundred, so well done to the new Groundskeeper, must be doing something right. The 3rds were in trouble in their titanic top of the table clash with Neston until the return of Fish Spin. Well bowled skipper!

All round another good day.

On Sunday we hosted Junior teams from Oxton and Neston. All the lads seemed to enjoy two closely fought contests. Fair to say these lads were in good hands as Messrs Wundke, O'Brien and Varey (D) looked on. Just what young Carpenter may have said to young Fleet as he hit him on the pads for the 13th time is anybody's guess.

We then hosted Rosa's christening party. She certainly enjoyed it along with her many friends and relations. On the pitch outside the Crossbatters competed with the gregarious Yorkers. Fun was had by all.

Hundreds of people have enjoyed our facilities this week.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 28TH APRIL 2014

The week has been overshadowed with the very sad news of the untimely death of Club Captain John Thistlewood.

Father, Grandfather, Stalwart, Medium Pace Swing Bowler, Hard Hitting Batsman, Gentleman, Umpire, Scorer, Dignified, Friendly, Gracious, Uncomplaining, Generous and thoroughly good man has left a legacy at our Club on how you should conduct yourself on and off the pitch. It seems scarcely credible that it's

barely a month since John was installed as Club Captain. An honour of which he was so proud. That night, despite his discomfort he sang with a world renowned male voice choir. A week later John painted the 'numbers' for the back pitch on Ground Force Day. The week after he entertained family and friends at the Champagne reception that marks the beginning of the cricket season. All the time, giving, so that others could enjoy. This was the mark of the man. We will all do well to remember this, it helps make our Club what it is today. A thriving community that many, many people enjoy. We will miss John and our thoughts are with his lovely family and his many special close friends. Thank you John.

Although, such a sad day, it was fitting that the Club was at its best on Sunday. The 1st team beat New Brighton on the front pitch, the 3rds demolished Tattenhall on the back pitch. Whilst the biggest drama unfolded on the bottom pitch where the Under 13 footballers were playing Upton in there Cup Semi Final. 2-2 after full time. 2-2 after extra time. 4-4 after 5 penalties each. Parents nerves were shredded. Finally Nomads prevailed. But spare a thought for the Upton lads. Such tension. A truly memorable occasion. Brilliant.

Highlights of the preceding week included the 1st team's very friendly encounter with their good chums from Newton. The match ended 2-2 and I'm sure the lads swapped shirts and phone numbers at the end of the contest. The manager is considering whether to appeal against his sending off. News also reached the Club of 2 senior members of the Club engaged in healthy and vigorous activity in Handbridge. Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear!

Friday Junior cricket practice was abandoned due to the return of bad weather, but this wasn't going to spoil the fun to be had at Neil Hughes's 30th birthday party. The family produced a wonderful spread, it was as though they did it every week. A thoroughly good time was had by all. Well done folks. The 1sts went on to defeat South Liverpool 2-4 to secure 5th spot in the League. A truly remarkable achievement when you consider the position they were in, 3 months into the season. Well done Caddy. The Vets also managed to round the season off with a win, so there were plenty of smiling faces around.

The cricketers continued there powerful start to the season. The 1sts, 3rds and 4ths all won comprehensively, whilst the 2nds displayed considerable character in hanging on for a draw. So far the Club have played 11 matches this season. Won 8 drawn 3. So far so good. A long, long way to go.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 23RD APRIL 2014



Busiest and bestest week of the year so far, started well with Junior Cricket and the 3rd teams final match of the season. The lads in the 3rds have benefited from their winter break and finished the season in promotion form. They celebrated (as you do) with a few beers in the Club and then back to their shared 3rd team house. Well done lads, if you can start next season with that team spirit, it will be a season to be enjoyed. One member is about to endure a tricky operation. Good luck. On Tuesday we played host to a touring under 14 team from Noo Joisey. These guys were so obviously having a good time. 'Don't you just love the way they talk'. They were having fun, intrigued by cricket, their parents / coaches sank a few scoops very quickly but their dinner table was booked for 7.30 so they reluctantly left. (And sat on their bus in Filkins Lane for 45 mins as it got blocked in, presumably with legs tightly crossed.) Thanks for coming, we had a nice day. We thought Good Friday may be quiet for Junior Cricket. We were wrong, the place was packed again. Marvellous!

And so to a spectacular weekend. First of all the 1st team made thoroughly good friends in a 1-1 draw with Newton. They quickly get chance to cement this new friendship when the 2 sides play again at the Club on Wednesday. Oh what fun!

The unfettered enthusiasm shown by the cricketers in pre-season was let loose in a truly awesome start to the season. For details see website. But, the sides scored 320, 300, 295 and 253. All sides completely bossed their opponents in such a powerful manner that their opposition were all reduced to hanging on for draws. Pride of place has to go to young Jon Hedgecoe who scored 200 runs in the first week of the season (he

got 50 on Sunday as well). You've set the bar boys, now continue. So far so good. Not surprisingly, The Bar was busy, most of the day. We look forward to a lot of fun. One date for your diaries is May 24th when we will be hosting the return of the spectacular success that is Boughton Hall's Got Talent. Acts already booked include Steve Coppack, Jordan Clark, Tommy Evans and the kitchen staff. It will be an action packed, fun filled night, but I do need more acts. Please let me know as soon as poss, the more the merrier. I know there's plenty of Talent. So come on down and give it a go. The following Saturday we are planning on buying in the Froch v Groves fight as long as we know it will be supported.



And so to the busiest day of the year so far. Very considerably Dave Fishers 3rd team completely smashed Oxton's 3rd team, in time, so that there was no clash with Ben and Grace's Wedding. Phil Dougherty and his team and family and friends of the happy couple were in at 8•00a.m. in order to 'dress' the room. And what a truly wonderful job they did. The room looked spectacular. It does scrub up rather well. Ben and Grace had decided to do it 'their' way. Phil D's Hog Roast was magnificent (though I personally thought it was a mistake by the Chef to give it a name) and the 150 couldn't eat it all. Oh, yes they were crammed in. But, Ben and Grace were so relaxed about this, so that all their guests were too. Or perhaps, that was the effect of their welcome drinks, 60 glasses of Cava and 60 pints of Guinness. As I said, they did it their way. The speeches were made, Alex Dee's Band started up, the bride sang brilliantly with them and then the next surprise of the evening. The firework display. Breath-taking. Bloody marvellous. Very loud. Alex then started his second set and they danced the night away amongst a sea of happy faces. Thank you Ben and Grace, we enjoyed it too.

Finally, thanks to Liz, Claudia, Sam and Anna who worked so, so hard without breaks from 3•00p.m. until 1•00 a.m. on this wonderful Easter Sunday. Your efforts are appreciated.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 14TH APRIL 2014

In a week where we have been reminded very clearly that perhaps we shouldn't take sport so seriously, honestly there are things more important, there's been plenty going on at the Club. A midweek Cricket League Meeting, a 1st team demolition of local rivals Christleton (3-0) and Junior Cricket Signing On Night for starters. It all goes on at the Club, you know.

Saturday may well have been unique. We had both 1st team football and 1st team cricket. Disturbingly the 1st team football match was abandoned early in the 2nd half, when the opposition goalkeeper did something odd to his neck in an innocuous incident. We all wish him well and were all reminded, if necessary, of the risks we all take every week. But, that's what we do. It's a buzz. Jumping out of the way of some psychopaths tackle or hooking a ball off the end of your nose. It's exciting. It's why we do it. Bloody marvellous. The 2nds were without a game, whilst the 3rds won again. The 5ths were beaten after extra time in a cup semi. Football doesn't get much worse than that. Except that Chaddy ended up in Hospital and that Richie Barnes ended up with further injury problems. C'est la vie. The cricketers won comfortably in a bit of a miss match, though most of them managed to do something, it led to a crowded bar in the early evening when we were trying to convert the room into an intimate dining experience for the friends and family of Jill Sherwin, who was celebrating her 70th birthday. Well many thanks to everyone, including the Spalls, the Farleys and the Morreys for being so understanding. Within 30 minutes, our new customers believed they were walking into a top class restaurant. Thank you everybody for your cooperation. And I can tell you it was appreciated by all. Our guests had a great time.

Sunday seemed to bring confusion. For the first time ever we experienced a Phoenix Lunch. Manfully Roger attempted to keep the Champagne Reception together. It was a difficult task. Nearly every number drawn brought money to a non existent winner. As the number of football supporters in the room increased so did the financial remuneration. So when the high roller was finally drawn most people in the room said "who"?. Well many congratulations, you have to be in it to win it, and all these people support the Club.

Meanwhile Reds beat Blues, Blues beat Whites and Amber and Gold beat Red and White Stripes. Meanwhile our Cricket Ladies were defeated by a County Select Eleven and our men defeated the men from Weaverham. The cricket matches were watched / supported by a good many people but special mention

needs to go to 2 lovely ladies from Oakmere who supported the Bar fantastically well, all afternoon. It was a pleasure. Great performance ladies.

We also said welcome to Josh Henderson who has travelled from Queensland to represent us this summer. Welcome Josh, I'm sure it'll be fun.

Finally, I return to my initial point. This has been a week of reflection, a week when we remember that there actually are more important things than sport. One of our own rescued a 90 year old lady from a house fire. The fact that Cameron just thought ' it was the right thing to do' made it so, so right. Very well done young man, keep doing 'the right thing'. I give you this weeks Nomad of the week, Cameron Farley!

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 7TH APRIL 2014

The week began when the 2nd team (uncharacteristically) beat bottom of the league Upton. A successful penalty exorcised the previous Saturday's last minute miss. Macca celebrated this by hacking down an opponent and getting sent off. This of course led to a suspension which meant that he could help Anna celebrate her birthday. Questions may be asked.

The cricketers then started practicing in Thursday nights rain. Meanwhile the fathers Maddocks and Wyatt took up their summer residency.

On Saturday morning the cricketers led by Club Captain John Thistlewood helped around the ground in the now annual cricket force day. Brilliant work by everyone. Any assistance is greatly appreciated and helps make Your Club even better. Great work folks!

Unbelievable, Seamus got 2 horses in the Club Grand National Draw. Unbloodybelieveable because they only came 1st and 2nd. A very popular win!

The 1st team lost in the league for the first time in a long time. The 2nds reverted to type and got beat by a team near the bottom of the League, whilst the 4ths and Vets both returned to winning ways.

In the evening we played host to a Dee High School Reunion for the class of 86. Although they didn't get the numbers they had hoped for, those that were present had a great time. It was interesting to observe, as you would not have guessed that these folks were of the same age. Time had been kind to some, but by no means all.

On Sunday we had a very family Christening. The venue was enjoyed by all once again. The Don took up his place to watch the Toffees thrash the Gunners. As the beer slipped down he was then in a position (at the first table through the door) to go through the match with all Liverpool supporters as they came into watch their match with the Hammers. The Reds, duly won so everyone was happy.

As always, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 31ST MARCH 2013



As expected , last week was the busiest of the year so far. TV footie (blues beat reds and reds beat stripes) brought folks in , early in the week. The Pool chaps brought their own music for Thursday, but the week really took off the next day when we played host to the Rhos Orpheus Male Voice Choir. The whole evening was a fantastic success. First of all, many thanks to Chris Fleet whose idea it was in the first place. With 120 enjoying a 3 course meal and with 45 in the band, space was limited. Jim Gillson shed his gardening clothes to become the MC. Jim held the evening together and dramatically boosted Club funds by successfully accumulating auction items (there was only one item at the beginning of the evening) and then obtaining

useful prices for them all. The Choir played their part as people paid to sing with and conduct them. It was great to see John Thistlewood enjoying the night so much. Due to his health issues John intended to 'pop in' for 10 minutes to show a face. So, 5 and half hours later, after being installed as the new Club Captain, the meal, conversation with good friends old and new and singing with a world famous choir and having a beer, John went home. A great night was had by all. Well done the Rhos Orpheus Male Voice Choir. They'll be back. Probably just before Christmas. Stay tuned to this channel.



A good afternoon on the pitch (the 1sts won, 2nds drew, 3rds won, 4ths lost, 5ths won and Vets couldn't remember how they got on) was then followed by the Annual Hot Pot. Again we had 120 sitting down for their meal. Chairman Smith (g & t) got things underway, by providing a little background to our guest speakers/highly toned athletes. First up was the Custodian of the Vets nets and prominent solicitor, Graham Smith (2 bottles of Becks). Graham spoke beautifully and gently pointed out some of the shortcomings of some of his colleagues. Next we had Hughie Curtis (Guinness) prompting, poking, guiding and prodding Bob Delgado (ECG).I'm sure Hugh will get thumped shortly. Bloody brilliant. Very, very funny. At this point I mentioned to Chairman Smith how well things were going. He reminded me that they were at this point last year. Steve Daley was completely different to last years guest. He came across as a very nice chap and his self deprecating style was well received. Another great night. Well done Tom Cairns.



Clocks forward, back in the Club by 8•00a.m. to set up for the largest Christening Party of the year/mothers day/creepy crawly show / Liverpool and Everton on the telly. The room at 11•30 was dressed beautifully by 2•30 it was trashed. Still, loads of people using our facilities having a great time. No snakes left this time.

Onward and upward.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 24TH MARCH 2013

Quiet week. Nice weekend.

Things only started to get busy on Friday, with the lovely Boughton Belles fundraising evening. Auctions, guess the number of sweets in a jar, skittles, slightly dodgy bingo (no. 92 came out !) , music quiz, dingbats, heads and tails, nearest the whiskey bottle and balancing a 20p on a lemon in water as well as a raffle were all part of the nights entertainment. A successful night was had by all. Well done ladies.

Through the canyons of your mind, on to the ventricles of your heart to Saturday.

A very successful day for the Club and in particular Jack Delgado. Jack scored the only goal of the game in a dreadful local derby with Upton. In the end, the result was the only thing that mattered. The lads still haven't conceded on the new pitch and they should be proud of their efforts. They will play better and lose. The 2nds were playing a team near the top of the table so obviously won. Very predictable. Savvy is pulling his hair out at the consistent inconsistencies. The 3rds felt robbed in a 1-1 draw. The 4ths won again. The 5ths won again, this time only 1-0. While the Vets, unusually were absolutely thrashed, generally agreeing that they missed Graham Smith in the nets. Overall a splendid day. Back to Jack Delgado's wonderful day. Jack likes a little flutter and appears to be very successful. On Saturday he had picked 4 matches. He had to name the winner in each match and all teams had to score at least once. This bet came up for him about a month ago. As the results came in Jack had 3 results correct, but at Middlesbrough (whilst both teams had scored) the score was level. The game was running late, and there were to be 5 mins of extra time. In the 93rd minute, Middlesbrough hit the Q.P.R. post. From the resulting goal kick the Boro centre half passed it back to the keeper, as the ball wasn't going to quite reach the keeper, he came out to hoof it down field. However, the ball took a massive bobble. The keeper completely missed and not even Bobby Zamora could miss from 3 yards as he ran on to the ball to secure Jack another small fortune. Happy days. Happy Jack! Bloody marvellous!

On Sunday we had a large family, smiley friendly christening. Young Jess had tested everyone in church but was good as gold in the Club. As always.

Next weekend should be the busiest of the year so far. The Rhos Male Voice Choir on Friday. The Hot Pot on Saturday. And a huge Christening (with the Creepy Crawly Man) on Sunday.

Plus, don't forget the clocks go forward.

There's a free pint for the first person to sing this week's guess the song contest.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 17TH MARCH 2013

As the weather warms up so does the Club. On Monday we had a Cricket Midweek League Meeting. If you don't turn up you get docked points. It's a hard school.

On Thursday we hosted the Royal Engineers Vets. As usual, lovely people, lovely night. Liz is so rubbish at bingo, false call on a bottom line. If you could embarrass her, this was close. Truth be told ,she's absolutely bobbins at Bingo. Interesting moment when the outgoing Social Secretary said to the new Social Secretary, on the microphone, in front of the assembled throng, would you like to say a few words. In a classic speech, the new Social Secretary, tersely said, " NO". Classic. I'm sure things will be interesting. An unsociable Social Sec. Always different.

The continued good weather brought great results on Saturday. The 1st team beat Vauxhall Reserves 3-0. This is a total of 10-0 on the new pitch. To be fair, they won 7-1 on the last match on the old pitch. These lads are in form. Wonderful bit of parenting. As the Captain was involved in a meaty challenge, the caring and compassionate advice from his father on the balcony was to "bite his chuffing head off".(actually, he didn't say chuffing) . The 2nds drew 0-0. Pride of place probably goes to the 3rds who beat Orange United 1-0. Well done lads, bloody marvellous. Pip pip! The 4ths beat Ramblers 4-1, while the Vets won comfortably with the Chairman in exhibitionist form.

Saturday night was a lovely 40th birthday. Very family. Very nice. To be fair, the karaoke singing was much better than usual. DJ Stella was much better than average and you couldn't tell that she'd given birth only 3 weeks ago. Many congrats DJ Stella.

On Sunday we had a few people in for the all north western clash between Man U and Liverpool. It was very noticeable that, just about everyone was a Liverpool supporter. We all have to experience the bad times to fully enjoy the good times, so come on lads, stay with your team. Come on Boro!

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 10TH MARCH 2013

We started the week with a lovely funeral. We do, do a lovely wake. Families and friends can relax. There was a buzz in the room as people reminisced of happier days. I sometimes feel we are at our best when we can help people on their most trying of days.

The week then continued as last week, famine then feast, then a lovely Sunday.

After Chester's excellent performance on the telly on Friday, we experienced another bumper (cor, crikey,yikes etc.)

Saturday. The day didn't start too promisingly as the 1st team got beat by Blacon in the semi-final of the cup. It was a poor display and the lads knew it. Meanwhile the 2nds disappointingly drew with Neston Nomads. The 3rds didn't have a game and obviously the 4ths won again. The Vets are going through a sticky patch and were uncharacteristically grumpy after their 3-2 defeat. To be fair the lads eventually mellowed, though it took them a couple of hours of concentrated 'mellowing' to get there. At the same time a group of cricketers were concentrating quite hard on their pre-season training (very mellow by 7 o'clock).

In the evening we played host to the lovely family and friends of Paul and Marie Hymes, to celebrate Paul's 50 th. They did. Quality approved Guinness was consumed in large proportions. A good time was had by all. Well done folks and congratulations to young Paul. It's nice to have youngsters about the place.

On Sunday the sun shone and various people wandered in and out. The FA Cup brought its excitement and England clobbered the Welsh. Bob, was very gracious in defeat. Very strange.

Let's see what this week brings.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 3RD MARCH 2013



Feast or famine. A Biblical reference, but that's the way it's always been. Quiet week, followed by fantastic Saturday and steady Sunday.

C'est la vie.

Never mind the rest, Saturday night was bloody marvellous! Well done Mark Powell and Tom Cairns. Take a bow, the pair of you. Wonderful success. Who would have thought that a Race Night and Curling would have proved so successful? Bloody marvellous! Everyone went for it. Everyone had fun. As I've said before, nice people having a nice time. Well done to everyone for creating such a lovely atmosphere. Even more bloody marvellous! Fair play to Sean Chadwick who after becoming a megga winner / owner, then donated his fortune straight back to the Club. Bloody marvellous! Lots of great people having a great time.

This all came after another good day on the pitch. The 1st team beat Cammell Lairds 4-0, with an imperious hat trick from Jack Delgado. Bloody marvellous. The 2nds were playing a team at the nether regions of the league so obviously lost, despite missing a myriad of chances. C'est la vie. The 3rds lost, but of course, the wonderful 4ths won 4-0. These lads are in some form. The 5ths, of course won again, while the Vets were gutted (in more ways than one) to go down to a late goal.

Sunday brought a lovely Christening, lots of young people, illustrating their future personality. Nice people, having a nice time. Own music, own food, Sunderland getting beat. Happy days.

Saturday was really fantastic. Bloody marvellous.

You are all welcome. All the time. Enjoy your Club. It's yours to enjoy.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 25TH FEBRUARY 2013

1904 CHESTER NOMADS AFC

PRESENTS

A NIGHT AT THE RACES

Saturday 1 March 2014 @ Boughton Hall Downs
TOTE opens at ~7:40pm; First Race off at ~8:00pm
Entry to the Course: £6

Tickets available from Team Captains & / OR the bar and, if purchased before the day, include a drink on arrival, a Bacon or Sausage Buttie (or vegetarian option**) & entry into a prize draw*

* Bottle of Becks or Peroni, dependent on availability.
** Please confirm vegetarian dietary requirements / preferences when purchasing

NOTE: Punters can still pay on-the-door on the night BUT will not be guaranteed 'free' refreshments

A CNAFC PRODUCTION MMXIV

Quiet week 'til Friday.

Can you believe there are some people who haven't seen the film, Airplane? Shirley not.

Not quite iconic. Very close to becoming legendary. Dave and Linda's family quiz on Friday was bigger and better than ever. There aren't many quizzes that have a music round where different people sing-a-long with the music round. Loads of lovely families having fun. As usual 2 teams were tied at the end, as usual the winner was decided by throwing a shuttlecock into a bucket. As usual it really didn't matter who won. It was fun. They then introduced the new sport of Speed Raffle. Cunningly they sold the same number and colour of raffle ticket out of similar books. So, when a number was called out, there was duplication. Who ever got to the dance-floor first had choice of prizes. There were some great match-Ups, including not-so-big as he was Tom and Wayne. Top quality sport. Surely. And yet there was more, children's' entertainer Mr. Fish organised a rather large game of Killa (apparently named after Dave). Things eventually got competitive, as they always would, and somehow Dalat was the eventual winner. The rules seemed to have

been slightly bent. Nevertheless Dalat Gulzar currently holds 2 titles at the Club. Not only is he the Killa champion but also the Disco Dancing Champion of the Club. Many congratulations young man.

Hip hip hooray. It stopped raining. All matches were on. And what a return. The 1st team, 1-0 down at half time, scored 4 in the first 10 minutes of the second half, to complete a 2-4 victory. Predictably, as the 2nds were playing the top of the league, they recorded a comfortable 2-0 victory. The 4ths won 6-2, the 5ths won 3-1, while the Vets drew 1-1. It was good to have a busy bar again. Surely, happy days are here again.

Saturday night brought the friends and family of Tony and Alison Whitley to celebrate their recent wedding. A good night was had by all. Well done everybody, nice people having a nice time, we like that.

Next week brings the Race Night. Get involved. It's fun.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 17TH FEBRUARY 2013

Best match of the week on telly at the Club, without doubt was the Chester v Halifax match on Thursday. Brilliant finish, obviously, but the best team won. Everything was positive. The good guys won in the end.

Again the weather was truly dreadful, an old man got blown into Claudia's garden on Wednesday, and once again all matches at the Club were cancelled. The 4ths played and won on the 3G at E.Port, but that was it. Deva Handball used the Club on Saturday night to entertain the Irish U16's girls team. The biggest surprise was Linda Killorans encyclopaedic knowledge of the current rap music scene. She knows them all, from Simon Templar to Billy Rascal and everyone else in between. And, it is nothing to do with having teenage boys. Very strange.

On Sunday we hosted a surprise 40th wedding anniversary party. Obviously they knew it was their wedding anniversary. They didn't know that all their friends and family were waiting for them at the Club for a party, complete with 3 course meal. It went down well. A nice touch was that the original bestman was there to give a reprise of his speech. Lovely afternoon.

Next week brings the return of the Champions League. Big matches on the telly. Let's hope the weather improves, the lads are starting to go stir-crazy. They need a game.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 10TH FEBRUARY 2013



January wasn't a good month for business. Only one footie match didn't help. We need more functions. Too many Friday nights in the next month are clear. To paraphrase Lord Kitchener, YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

As per recent history, the early part of the week was quiet. On Thursday we had a wake for a well known and popular family. We hope that they will soon be able to recall happier times. If such things are possible, this was a lovely affair. Time to celebrate a life, well lived.

Friday brought a spot check by the Guinness Man. As I was cleaning the lines at the time, it was a good start to his spot check. No sign of yeast. Sparklers in soda water. A demonstration of the perfect pour. And there we are. A Guinness approved supplier.

Friday night brought the cricketers back into the Club. They have already started netting. Numbers are high. Hopes are high. Early days but the enthusiasm is wonderful. Unlikely as it seemed, Fishy proved himself to be extremely adept at being a children's entertainer. With a combination of heads and tails bingo and 'play your cards right', he kept the younger element excited for the early part of the evening. We then got down

to serious karaoke. Lee's team v. Warren's team. But only after the star performer. Tacey on top form again. Follow that! Well to be fair everyone did. The captains led from the front, and special mention has to go to Francis (a new member from Loughborough) who stood up in front of a room full of strangers and sung beautifully. The lads got balls. Fair play to the new lad. An excellent and very early start to the cricket season Well done Jim Gillson, well done Mr.Fish.

Once again all footie at the Club was cancelled. Still only one game this year. The 4ths beat Old Convocation 10-1 on the 3G. Smug grins all round. It turned out to be a decent day on the bar. A Liverpool match followed by 2 Rugby matches and the Welsh derby kept people glued to the telly.

Although quiet on Sunday, there was always a few people around as the Everton match was followed by Manchester Uniteds latest trial.

Always different (some regulars were made aware of a recent booking). Always different. You couldn't make it up.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 3RD FEBRUARY 2013



O.k. So if I've got this right. Yesterday was Groundhog Day. Therefore, it follows that today must also be Groundhog Day. In which case I would recommend that you find an American bookmaker and put a sizeable chunk on a large victory for the Seahawks. Simple!

Tuesday brought a few people in to watch the local skirmish between 'reds' and 'blues'. Which in turn, was enlivened by Dave Killoran not understanding the rules of his own game. All part of the fun. Once again the rest of the week was pretty quiet. Probably just as well that we didn't have a 'function' on, on Friday, as we had a complete 'black out' between 8.15 and 9.45p.m. Would have made things a tad tricky.

Again, due to waterlogged pitches, all matches at the Club were cancelled. The 3rd teams unbeaten run goes on! However, with admirable foresight Jewsbury Cup matches were organised on 3G pitches. The 6ths were well beaten by the 5ths. Whilst, predictably controversy reigned in the final minutes of the contest between the 4ths and the Vets. It appears that the 'Ronaldo effect' has finally reached this level of football. The sides ended level at 1-1. Vets not very happy.

Saturday was completed by a 50th wedding anniversary. An event that doesn't happen too often and so well worth celebrating. And they did. Nice people, having a nice time. Well done to all, for their organising.

Sunday was once again relatively quiet. Notable for the absence of the usual crowd of lunatics. Apparently Jeffwee is turning over a new leaf, and so was taking his brother and Yvonne out for a meal to begin this new passage in his life.

This week brings a Friday night disco with the added ingredient of Fishy's play your cards right. As ever I'm sure it will be fun.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 27TH JANUARY 2013



I'm still trying to get to grips with this modern technology and it appears these reports are being read all over the place. I have it on good authority that messages are being received by John This as far away as deepest, darkest Guilden Sutton. Please let me know if these messages are being picked up any further away. Holy radio waves Batman!

As suspected the week was remarkably similar to the previous week. Quiet during the week, a tumultuous climax on Saturday night and then a very quiet Sunday.

Due to waterlogged pitches, all matches at the Club were cancelled once again. This means that only one match has taken place at the Club throughout the whole of January. Do you know that the 3rd team are unbeaten since Dec 7th. This has made for very tough trading conditions for our business, which is of course is to provide a friendly and relaxed and yet vibrant place for our sporting heroes to engage in their after match rituals. If there are no matches, then our business becomes challenging. However, we do provide a perfect backdrop for those people who wish to celebrate special occasions such as Stuart Hope's surprise birthday party for his wife. She thought she was going to Moules a go-go. Friends and family had a brilliant time. Well done to everyone for keeping the secret. Even the DJ was good. He played what people wanted to hear and dance to. He wasn't too loud and you could even hear what he was saying. Congratulations to everyone. A fun night.

On Saturday afternoon a very competitive game of pool broke out between the football and cricket sections. To say the least it was competitive. The footballers won on a black ball game when Jake McCallum took advantage of Tommy Evans's mistake. A 4-3 win to the footballers, though the game could have gone either way. Special mention to Jeremy Jordan for his masterful finish. Nearly all the contests went down to the last ball. I'm sure this will be repeated.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 20TH JANUARY 2014

Seriously, could anyone explain the enduring popularity of Cliff?

The nature of our business was illustrated perfectly this week. We were very quiet Tues, Wed, Thurs and Fri (no function).

Saturday wasn't particularly busy as once again all matches at the club were cancelled due to waterlogged pitches. And then, to celebrate Laura's 30th we had probably the busiest 4 hours we've ever experienced on the bar. While Phil Rees played his tunes and offered karaoke, Laura's friends and family seemingly could force enough down. Claudia who was expecting to finish at 8.30 finally left at 1.00a.m. She had taken a record amount by a single person. Thanks v muchly Clauds. Meanwhile, for those sides that did play, there wasn't a great deal of success. In fact considerable heartache. The 2nds felt robbed, losing to a goal in the

97th minute at Hale, whilst playing the 3 minutes of injury time. Presumably Ferguson has gone back to grassroots football and is now managing Hale 2nds. Incredibly the 4ths were 3-0 up at half time. Even more incredibly they 4-3 down at the end. Perhaps not so surprisingly the Vets were 1-0 up at half time, and not so surprisingly they were 5-1 down at the finish. Character building. They'll all come out stronger. Has anybody seen any 3rd team players? Should the Police be informed?

Once again Sunday was relatively quiet, although a few enjoyed the Chelsea/ ManU match.

I can only expect a similar week. Footie on the telly all week. No function on Friday. Hopefully, we'll have matches on on Saturday and then we have a 40th. Can't imagine it will be as manic as last week. But you never know.

"I know short people, I know tall people, they're wired for sound". Very avant garde.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 14TH JANUARY 2014

Quiet start to the week that was enlivened by Alan Okell's 60th birthday party on Friday. As usual, exceptional food (green Thai curry or cottage pie) was provided by Phil Dougherty. I did experience 'a moment'. Before the guests arrived I was talking to Alan and his wife and I asked him if it was his birthday on the day. He told me "no, it was yesterday." I then mentioned to Alan that, that had also been my own birthday. At which point Mrs Okell genuinely pointed out what an unusual coincidence it was, ' us both being 60 on the same day.' I maintained a professional manner. But it wasn't easy. Nice people, having a nice time.

The 1sts and of course the 3rds continued on their mid-season breaks. The 2nds were very disappointingly beaten in the Cup after a poor game, plus extra time, and very bad penalties. Conditions were difficult, but they are a far better side than that. They will probably beat the top of the league next week; such has been the season so far. The 4ths were beaten by a younger side on the 3G pitch at Ellesmere Port. Referee Carey did specifically mention his thanks to Mr. Powell for helping him to referee the match. Finally the 5ths returned to type by going down by the odd goal in 7. For a moment they thought they had equalised, but the goal was correctly disallowed for an earlier infringement in another top class refereeing performance.

Meanwhile, in the clubhouse we watched all 120 minutes of the classic Welsh Cup Final between Bala and somewhere unpronounceable beginning with C. We were all watching young Kieran in what was about the worst game of football in the history of football. Neither keeper had anything to do until the penalty shootout. However, Kizza had been substituted a minute before the end of extra time. Presumably this was so someone else could take a penalty. We think the plan backfired as Bala's penalty taking was on a par with our own 2nd team earlier on. Think, as most people were asleep at the time. It was a truly dreadful match. The good thing for Kizza was that because everyone was asleep, I don't think anyone saw his outrageous dive (caught on about 4 different camera angles by S4C). Got away with that lad. Don't think anyone will mention it in the Club.

Sunday brought a few in for the Super Sky soccerfest.

No function on Friday (though there is on Saturday) so just come down and enjoy.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 1ST JANUARY 2014

Well, happy new year, let's hope it's a good one. Last year of course had some huge 'ups and downs' and I suppose this year will be the same, but different, if that makes sense.

The Christmas Day Auction (with new auctioneer, at least for 2 years) was an outstanding success again. Well done to Powelly and Clarky and to all others who contributed. It really is a Chester institution that goes from strength to strength. At 12.15 there is a handful of punters. By half past there must be 100+ in the room. Then by 2.15, just about everyone has gone.

The period between Chrimble and New Year is always quiet but was enlivened by a couple of footie matches and Tommy Evans's school reunion. Tom, unfortunately, wasn't able to make his own 'do'. I believe he was working away, very unfortunate!

The bad weather played havoc with Saturday's fixtures, although the Vets managed a 2-2 draw and the 6ths beat Whitegate 6-2. So as a club we are still unbeaten this year. Lets keep that going.

Sunday night was our annual staff night out that entails us going out for a bite to eat and a quiet drink. Any stories to the contrary are quite fictitious. Just a quiet night out, that's all.

Happy new year to everyone.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 22ND DECEMBER 2013



Lovely week.

First of all on Thursday we had not one, but two Boughton Belles Xmas parties. First of all we had the 6-10 year olds and then the 10-14 year olds. Boughton Belles are a wonderful, thriving and undoubtedly developing club. They have asked if they can use our clubhouse as a base and are only to be encouraged. They were founded by the inspirational Lindsay Huddart, the legendary Bishops teacher, who despite retiring from school has a desire to infuse others with enthusiasm for sport.

On Friday we celebrated Ron Pitt's 65th birthday in style. After welcoming his guests, Ron then treated them to either fish and chips or cottage pie. As usual the food provided by Phil Dougherty was top notch.

Ron (who was a member of The Hands) then sang 2 songs he had composed for the occasion. The audience loved it and then danced the night away. Lovely, lovely night.

Saturday again brought smiles into the Clubhouse as the 1st team once again beat 3rd in the League (this time South Liverpool) , but this time on the new pitch, complete with new executive box. The 2nds were well beaten, the 3rds are experimenting for the F.A. in order to investigate whether their performance improves after a mid season break. The 5ths won 5-0 while the Vets went down 1-3. However, highlight of the weekend was undoubtedly provided by the televised match that evening, as we were treated to a particularly beautiful exhibition of the beautiful game , as Middlesbrough defeated Millwall. Bloody marvellous!

Sunday was much more gentle as some of the younger lads nursed hangovers, and after listening to some of the tales of the previous night, it wasn't a major surprise. How do they do it? Do they not need sleep? We were then joined by a pallette of painters and decorators on their Chrissy night out. (o.k. I admit, I made that up)

Happy Christmas to you all.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 16TH DECEMBER 2013



Last Thursday we hosted the Deva Handball Xmas Quiz. Deva are old friends and regularly hold their social functions at our Club. Twelve teams competed and all enjoyed the occasion. Well done Ray and Gary.

Great news from Saturday was the 1st teams extraordinary 7-1 victory over third in the league Mossley Hill. The other game at the Club saw our 4th team defeat Corinthian Casuals (ex-winners of the FA Cup) 5-3. Many of the younger lads then donned their penguin suits and had a decent drink before they disappeared into the City. We then had the Club Disco organised by Liz and Stevie Mann. A good time was had by all.(hic)

Sunday brought the girls from Party Dance, entertaining young children with their mix of games, quizzes and dances. We'll see you in the New Year.

This week will bring our old friends Boughton Belles and a birthday party.

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 9TH DECEMBER 2013



Traditional pre Chrimble quiet period. Friday brought Chester Swimming Club's Christmas Party. It has been a difficult time for the club, without a swimming pool, and yet good people (it's the same at every club) work thanklessly hard to provide sport for people. The club is split, swimmers have had to make alternative arrangements and yet, with enthusiastic people of the calibre of Sue Richards, will ensure that this well established sports club will not only survive, but flourish.

On Saturday the 1st team got beat by the top of the league. The 2nds went down 2-3 (another good game) and the 3rds bad run continued. Pride of place went to the 4th team who apparently scored some wonder goals in their 0-10 victory. The vets enjoyed a day of Christmas shopping. It's an age thing. On Saturday evening Chairman Steve Smith (still suffering from his coin tossing injury) formally presented Andy Booth with his trophy for becoming our Pool champion.

Sunday brought one of the highlights of the year, the childrens Christmas Party (as arranged by 'business woman of the year ', Zoe Morrey) and as sponsored by Aldi (opening on Thursday). As ever, the entertainer enthralled the children. Zoe's army organised the food. And then, the real highlight, the arrival of Santa Claus himself. Again the event was an outstanding success, with more children than ever before. Happy Christmas Santa! Brilliant!

Don't forget next weeks disco!

It all goes on at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 2ND DECEMBER 2013

Quietish week. Got much more lively as the weekend approached.

Friday brought our friends from the Royal Engineers Vets. They were treated to a lovely 3 course meal, which went down very well , thank you. They enjoyed a guest speaker and then the main entertainment got started . Julie A. Scott was quite superb. She was a professional. Classically trained voice. She did all sorts, from Pavarotti to Cilla via Ivor Novello and Andrew Lloyd Webbything. To top it all, she had comic timing. My husband calls me wonderwoman. But only because everytime I go upstairs I 'wonder' why I've gone their. She calls him 'spiderman'. Not because of any fantastic agility or an ability to make webs, but because he can't get out the bath. It was another successful night for Liz and myself on the Tombola, though sadly there was no bingo. We'll see them in the New Year.

The 1st team only just got past Hoole Rangers in extra time. But, as they say, they are in the next round, and that's what matters. The 2nds are scoring a lot of goals at present and duly completed a comfortable 5-2 victory, whilst the 3rds went down 5-1. The rest of the Club picked sides and as far as I know there wasn't any fighting. Don't think the Chairman was fully fit (did I mention he has a nasty coin tossing injury) however, I know he will have been delighted to learn of Brod's muscle tear whilst reffing. Funny old world.

Once again our caterer provided another lovely meal on Sunday for a load of cricketers and their families. Fantastic Christmas jumpers on show. Good effort boys.

Now don't be strangers chaps. You know we are there for you.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 25TH NOVEMBER 2013



We like it busy, and this certainly was a busy week.

On Thursday we hosted a charity quiz. What is the OED's word of the year? The night was very successful, congratulations to Andy Savage and friends and family who put so much work into ensure this very successful event.

On Friday, we had Jeff Blythin's wake. His family and friends had the Club abuzz with many tales of Jeff's colourful life. You did him proud by turning the occasion into a celebration of Jeff's life.

Friday night was different again. Liz and Thelma's joint 50th birthday party in the form of a 60's and 70's fancy dress party. A live band and hog roast completed the entertainment. It would be fair to say that the bands first set was politely received. As the singer was a teeny bit intoxicated there was some talk of them not playing the second set. This would have been a mistake, as although she could not make herself understood whilst talking, she certainly raised her game a number of levels while under the influence. A great time was had by all. A real good night. Happy birthday ladies.

The 1st teams 1-0 win over Ashville, achieved through Mike Jeffs' opportunist strike and Andy Metcalf's last minute wonder save brought smiles to the Clubhouse. This was followed up by the 2nds 3-4 win over bogey team, Neston Nomads and the Vets 3-0 victory brought further joy. Unfortunately the Vets were without influential schemer and Chairman, still suffering from his coin tossing injury last week. The situation is very serious as Steve had to go shopping. We can only wish him well with his recovery. Meanwhile Club legend Bob Delgado was noticeable by his absence (and the decline in Guinness sales). Turns out he was

only being honoured as a Rotherham Legend who were playing Carlisle (for whom he is also a Legend).The following 0-0 wasn't a classic, though Bob described it slightly more colourfully.

On Sunday we hosted another lovely Christening. The cake was a complete work of art. Phil Dougherty provided wonderful food and everyone was happy. This is what we want.

As you are aware by now, it all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 18TH NOVEMBER 2013



I suspect last week was the quietest of the year so far. No function on Friday with only the added attraction of an England friendly did not entice many out. As the match was on ITV we were able to watch both that game and the blood and thunder of the Portugal v Sweden playoff match.(We will be able to do the same again on Tuesday.) One meaningless and one where every tackle was meant. Chalk and cheese. Wouldn't it be a pity if the French didn't qualify.

On Saturday the 1st team were disappointed to draw 1-1 at Blacon in a tale of 2 penalties. The 2nds went down 0-4. The 3rds didn't play. The 4ths won. The 5ths lost while (as I saw it) Neil Fraser was most definitely not MOM in the 6ths 3-3 draw for the second week in a row. A definite betting pattern is emerging. Perhaps the most notable event in the Vets match was that Club Chairman Steve Smith was

injured in the coin toss and didn't take any part in the match. To be fair this illustrates how fine these finely tuned athletes really are. Steve just 'ever so slightly' mistimed his rise to physical perfection at the start of the match.

The inaugural Pool competition on Saturday night brought a high standard of play from a variety of top performers. In a titanic quarter final clash Dave K only just got past Liz. In the semis Andy Booth prevailed against his son, Matty, whilst Dave K again squeezed through against pre-tournament favourite John Morris from the Pickwick Club. In a close fought battle Andy Booth became the Clubs Pool Champion for 2013. Congratulations Boothy.

Now, I have never been to an Amish Christening . I probably still haven't. But I do know that Ice Age 4 lasts for 84 minutes. Always different.

Next week promises to be completely different, a Charity quiz, a large, local funeral, a 60's/70's fancy dress 50th, a Christening, as well as the return of Premiership matches.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 11TH NOVEMBER 2013



Thursday was brilliant as The Creepy Crawly Show visited the Club to celebrate Jack Goldings' 6th birthday. I can now reveal that the tarantula (which is harmful to man) escaped. No one was in any danger as the large snake (not harmful to man) was released in to the room to deal with the situation. Monty will be picked up from the Club later today.

Friday brought the return of Dave Killorans popular family quiz. Thirteen teams of various sizes and ages competed for the top quality prizes. Fun for all the family. Splendid entertainment, plus chip butties, all for £1. You can't beat that for value. Well done Dave and Linda.

On Saturday the 1sts lost in a Cup Match. Despite one of their best performances of the season the 2nds went down 2-1 to the top of the league. The 4ths won at the Ramblers whilst both the 5ths and the Vets drew 3-3. Both results are being investigated to find some connection to a far-eastern bookmaker. Unfortunately the 6ths went down in a closely fought contest.

Things could only get better (as a popular beat combo once said) and they did as we celebrated Carl Stocktons' 40th. A good night was had by all. There could have been only one place in Chester where you could have heard the cutting edge sound of Brotherhood of Man. It all goes on at the Club. Crazy baby!

Despite the presence of a number of Nomads, Chester Schoolboys went down to their counterparts from Macclesfield. The rest of the day was spent watching the matches on Super Smashing Lovely Soccer (or whatever Sky had billed it as) with a decent crowd all afternoon. Perhaps the highlight was the £1000 win that one of the lads had on Remys goal for Newcastle in their 0-1 win at Spurs. The identity of this person is being kept secret for obvious purposes.

As we have nothing on next Saturday night we are intending to hold a Pool competition to find out who is the best player in the Club (football or cricket). All welcome. Winner collects a fabulous prize.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 5TH NOVEMBER 2013



I'm thinking I should start in a different way , but it really has been a busy time at the Club.

Last Wednesday was Martin's funeral. It really was a sad day, even a little surreal, as we all know it just wasn't right. Matthew (in the church) and Griffs Mum (in the Club) spoke openly, honestly and from the heart. They were both magnificent in such a dignified manner in the most trying of circumstances. Well done to both of you.

For Friday the clubhouse was changed into a restaurant when the Cheshire Over 50's and 60's celebrated their seasons. The food really was absolutely fantastic, a variety of speakers entertained us and much alcohol was consumed. An excellent night. One further observation from a personal perspective was that my own season was so bad that people are still unwilling to take the rise. I think I'd feel better if they did.

Great news from Saturday was the 1st teams 2-1 win. To be fair it wasn't a classic, but the result was all important. The 2nds withstood pressure but succeeded in beating previously unbeaten Lache in the Cup. Ryan Trousdale's 40 yard 'worldy' was good enough to have won any game. They don't come much better than that. The 3rds lost, the 4ths won and the 5ths went down. The 6ths match with Crewe Nomads was cancelled as they have folded, a very sad tale of our times. Rumours abounded that it was a desperate attempt to prevent Neil Fraser from picking up another MOM were not true. Saturday night brought the annual fancy dress Legend of Billy Squibble Halloween party. Once again everyone who came made the effort and there were some spectacular sights and everyone enjoyed the night.

Sunday afternoon brought the Party Dance girls , with their 3 hours of childrens entertainment. Numbers are growing and they will be back in December.

This week will bring spiders and snakes on Thursday, Killers family quiz on Friday (with chip butties), Stocko's party on Saturday and then 3 matches on Sky on Sunday (with no Christening).

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 28TH OCTOBER 2013



Another very very busy weekend at the Club.

On Thursday we had the Royal Engineers, fantastic fish and chips,tombola,bingo and another first for the Club, the Mersey Morris Men. Unfortunately my bingo form deserted me , but did manage to pick up a tombola prize.A theme that continued throughout the weekend. Another great night had by all.

Friday night was spectacular! Friday was the Homecoming for the lads who had just completed The 3 Peaks Challenge in the most horrendous conditions. I understand it was gruelling! Just one incident illustrates what they went through, if you can imagine coming down Scafell Pike in pitch black, in the wind and the rain and being lost, knowing that you are very close to a 700ft drop. Scary stuff. Nevertheless the lads did it and have so far raised over £7000 (their target was£5k) for research into the cancer that tragically claimed their friend. This was a huge effort by these lads and they all deserved the acclamation they received. Earlier in the day Dave Buxton from DB Security had been testing our alarm system, on learning what the lads

were doing and why they were doing it he went to his van, brought back his chequebook and wrote out a cheque. It was just a lovely thing to do, even though he didn't know Tom or the lads on the Trek. One more story, one of the trekkers, known to us all, asked 'is that where the Loch Ness Monster lives?' as they passed Loch Lomond.

Saturday was another bad day for the footballers as both the 1st and 2nd teams got beat. Massive match for the 1st team next week and with the injury list improving there is room for optimism. Your support would be most welcome. Among the other highlights was a Tom Cairns hat trick in a 6-1 win for the 4ths and obviously Neil Fraser was MOM again in the 6ths victory.

On Sunday we were able to host the Christening that we'd had to cancel due to the cricket team getting to the final of the Echo KO Cup. Young Henry didn't really want to share his big day with a coachload of Bootle supporters. Once again nice people had a nice time.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 21ST OCTOBER 2013



Well as heating bills soar and winters gnarly fingers start to take a grip of the weather we, once again, were busy at the Club. Obviously we had a few in for Englands victory over the Poles. Thursday brought in half of the lads who are attempting the 3 Peaks Challenge in memory of Tom Arnold and to raise funds in the fight against cancer for a photoshoot for the Chron. Good luck boys, see you Friday.

Last Friday brought a surprise 'This your life' presentation to the retiring leader of the City of Chester Brass Band. Nice people having a nice time. Now, my opinion of DJ's is well known. However, DJ Neil was entertaining. Earlier in the evening DJ Neil had called at Hughie Curtis's flat to see if that was where they were holding the function. For an hour DJ Neil couldn't get his equipment to work. Eventually he was able to get one 'channel' working. This meant he had to talk, like a radio DJ between every piece of music while he set the next one up, so whilst we learned not so interesting facts about Eddie Grant etc we were also kept up with the time and reminders of where we were and of course why we were there. In addition DJ Neil added backing vocals to most songs to give a unique take on the classics. In addition DJ Neil had a dance with a variety of hand gestures and mimes for all the music. At one point Claudia lost it. And you know when someone gets the giggles you can't stop and it becomes infectious. At the top of his game you couldn't take your eyes off DJ Neil. To be fair, Neil worked very hard and everyone enjoyed the night.

The footballers had another bad day on Saturday. The 1st team were well beaten by a good side, but this is a point where manager JC will draw a line. There are numerous injuries, but I'm sure results will improve. The 2nds gained a notable 3-1 victory over Merseyside Police , who managed to uphold their long earned reputation of being competitive. The 3rds gained a creditable draw at E. Port. Meanwhile the rest of the teams competed for Kevin Jewsbury's piece of stolen African silverware. Predictably, the results were both coupon busters with the 5ths smashing the 4ths 6-1 amidst a little bit of argy bargy (equally predictably).Whilst the pure footballing Vets were outplayed by the 6ths. Neil Fraser, once again MOM. By heck there were some glum faces in the bar. An hour or so later, after the calming and mind enhancing effect of a couple of beers everything was back to normal.

Sunday brought lots of local folks to the Club with Nicola and Gareths daughters Christening Party. This was repeat business, Nicola assures me there will be no more, and everyone fitted in as though they did it everyweek.

We now have a couple of really busy weekends coming up so see you at the Club.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 14TH OCTOBER 2013

Friday was an extremely sad day, when we learned that Martin Griffiths had lost his life. I'm sure a lot more will be said but the whole episode is tragic. Our hearts, thoughts, well wishes and prayers go out to Gina, Matthew and Lauren.

Well it had to happen I suppose. Last week was nearly the quietest of the year.

Thursday was both the Cricket and the Football AGM's. The big news is that after a couple of fantastically successful seasons Steven Ogilby has stood down and is being replaced by Lee Dixon. Congratulations and good luck Lee and a big thanks and well done to Stephen. Further mystery surrounds the loss of one of the figurines from the Cheshire Cup. 'The wee man' has now opened his own twitter account and photos of him have been posted of him in a fish tank, amongst some fruit, engaging with a similar sized football figurine, at Grappenhall CC and in our own ladies toilet. If any of you have any ideas then the Club would be very grateful. No ransom demand has been made yet. Perhaps you can work out where he is from the above clues. I fear time is running out.

On Friday night we had a 40th birthday. This was a quiet family affair and I'm sure everyone had a good time. (Another script for Peter Kay)

After the successes of last weekend the football teams were brought down to earth with a resounding bump. The only team to win, was the 5th team, the only team that didn't win last week. To be fair, the game had a spectacular finish. Nomads usually carry a few subs, however, on this occasion they only had the bare 12. In a team of more experienced footballers this will always be a risk. Sure enough after a couple of pulled muscles Nomads were down to 10 men after 20 mins. Our opposition very kindly gave us one of theirs. So, in a unique finish to the game at 5-5, the oppositions loaned player is in a one-on-one situation with the keeper (his own keeper) . Meanwhile, on the half way line, unknown to the loaned player, a mass brawl has broken out. Absolutely classic finish. So as the Old Lyobian scored past his own keeper to give Nomads a 6-5 victory he turned round to see nearly everyone else engaged in a fight. Truly spectacular. An honourable mention should go to the 6th team who thought their own 5-5 draw would have been first on MOTD. Sorry lads Garry and Alan are still discussing the repercussions of the 5th team match.

On Sunday we hosted Chester Schoolboys in their representative match. Later that evening we then had the highlight of the weekend with the cricket clubs presentation ceremony for the Under 13's side. This is a

good team. Ali Munroe made the presentations and paid tribute to Dave and Linda as well as Lee. It was a really nice event, and Ali did really well in his relaxed manner. There are some good cricketers in this team but he put their success down to them being 'a team'. This is always the case. He had some difficult decisions to make for the awards as there are so many good players in this team. Everyone took wickets in the season. 5 of the under 13's have already played, and performed well in adult cricket. Great news. There are some good'uns coming through. Congratulations to you all.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 7TH OCTOBER 2013

Last week was another very busy week at the Club.

Wednesday brought the City Community Forum where anyone can raise any local issue they want to local councillors including our own David Robinson. Obviously Richmond Court was keenly debated and a new traffic system for Chester was put forward.

Friday was a return to sporting matters with the annual Chester and District Midweek Cricket League Presentation Night. This is always one of the best nights of the year. Recently Graham Gooch, Angus Fraser, David Graveney, Graham Fowler and Sean Udal have spoken, this time it was the turn of Gladstone Small. Gladstone spoke well and came across as a good bloke. He spoke mainly of his England career and did recall his appearance for Wallasey against CBH.

Again we were blessed with clement weather at the weekend so there were no excuses for the footballers and indeed they delivered. The first team won their 3rd match in a row. The 2nds won a keenly contested match 4-1. The 3rds, 4ths, 6ths and Vets all recorded victories, whilst the 5ths drew 2-2. Well done everybody and so of course the bar was a buzz. Further excitement continued later on when Jack Delgado revealed that 7 out of his 8 bets had come up, but that his banker looked like failing, Real Madrid were 2-1 down to Levante with 3 minutes to go. He needed Real to win. They only went and did it. 3-2 with the last kick of the match. Cue very happy Jack!

Again good weather was able to boost the attendance to a sizeable crowd for a charity football match that was played at the Club on Sunday. Everyone enjoyed the occasion and good money was raised for Cancer Research.

Curiously this week has brought in a number of people who have organised functions at the Club that have proved memorable. The ex landlady of the Queens Head with her 7ft tranny DJ. The lady who organised the surprise party for her boyfriend by inviting regular army and special forces lads. Oil and water. They didn't mix, chaos rained. The man who married the Thai bride. These people all made appearances this week.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 30TH SEPTEMBER 2013

As the good weather continued (immediately after the cricket season) we continue to be very busy.

On Wednesday we had a decent crowd for the Man U/ Liverpool clash. Thursday brought a large turn out for the Cricket Club Presentation Night. A season worth celebrating was celebrated. Obviously we all know about the Trophies won by the 1st team, but when you tag on the 3 Trophies won by the Ladies Team and the 3 Trophies won by the Under 11's you start to wonder whether this was the most successful season in the Clubs long and illustrious history. A very very well done to Lee, Tom and Bob who put together a quite wonderful collage of pictures and presented them (with appalling music) on the screens. Well done lads, you all put in so much that isn't fully understood or appreciated.

Now, has anyone found the cheese and wine?

Friday was quieter, as the Presentation Night had been brought forward. But there was a gang of mothers from Cherry Grove School whilst under the pretence of organising a school prom managed to consume a number of bottles of wine etc, etc, etc....

The footie lads returned on Saturday and the good news was that the 1st team won for the first time this season, through Jack Delgado's firmly struck penalty with 15 minutes to go. Nice to see smiles on a few more faces in the bar.

However, defeats for the 2nds and 3rds were disappointing, to say the least. The 4ths and 5ths were winners. Now for those of you who don't know a 47 year old scored the best goal of his career on Saturday. Modesty prevented him from mentioning it in the bar, but if you can prise the story out of Phil Tucker, he will, all be it begrudgingly tell you all about it. We were also in the unusual position of watching a Nomad on the telly as young Kieran Smith was playing for Bala at Aberystwyth. The lad done well.

Once again the football club was changed into a dance club as we celebrated Sarah Wood 's 30th. A big night for Tuborg, Vodka and Jaegerbomb sales. Happy birthday Sarah. DJ's are they human or from another planet?

Sunday brought Ami Chidlow's Christening, bouncy castle and all. Nice day. Nice people. Unusually, and I'm not sure what the term is, a collection of strong women at this function, Ami won't be short of role models.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 23RD SEPTEMBER 2013

Well after the goings on of the previous weekend things slowed down in the early part of the week. There were a few in for the Liverpool match (and I would expect a few more this Wed).

Thursday brought the return of our old friends, the Royal Engineers. I have always maintained that bingo is a game of skill and proved it once again with a £12 win, as well as 2 chocolate bars on the Tombola in a wonderfully successful night. After a lovely hot pot we were then to be entertained by Rose and George, electric piano and vocalist. These seasoned troopers must have been in their nineties. Unfortunately George seemed to have difficulty remembering the words and so it was politely suggested to them that they pack up and go. It's a tough school. They were then replaced by one of the Engineers and his accordion, that he just happened to have in the boot of his car. If Peter Kay needs anymore scripts for a new season of Phoenix Nights I can write them.

It all goes on at the Club.

Friday night was Debbie's 50th. Debbie has been to a number of 'do's' at the club. I know she had a lovely time and that we'll see her and her friends again.

Saturday brought the return of 'full on' football. In a disappointing encounter the 1st team drew with local rivals Upton. The seconds, spectacularly came from 2 down to snatch a dramatic last minute winner, whilst the 3rds scored a couple against a team that hadn't conceded all season. Vernon Keep scored the only goal of the game for the Vets, whilst the 6th team drew 3-3. Overall, an entertaining start to the season. If you ask Vern in a quiet moment he might tell you about his goal. On Saturday night the club was taken over by Jane May and her friends for her 40th birthday. It is just another sign that you are getting old when you don't 'get' the music enjoyed by 40 year olds. Oh dear. It seemed to be the sort of racket that would be played to captives at Guantanamo Bay. But the party people seemed to enjoy it and Phil Dougherty who was serving splendid bacon butties seemed to be dancing to it. Highly recommended bacon butties. Lovely. Anyhow, again everyone had a great time and to be fair, they kept us very busy on the bar.

The great weather continued on Sunday, which was enjoyed by many of the Junior football teams. Always, always the weekend after the cricket season finishes you get wonderful sunshine. Every year.

Loads more on this week. But please note, no Friday night function so why not pop down, bring your own music, have a game of pool, have a beer, enjoy the club.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 16TH SEPTEMBER 2013



Around the town, he wears a Chester blazer; he wears a Chester blazer in the merry month of May.....

Thursday nights ended in a team meeting and a talk from bone fide leg end Steve Wundke. Always a good plan to get Wundks involved, he was quite good you know. Friday brought the first of the Junior Cricket Presentations organised, as ever, by Dave and Linda. It was well done even a computer presentation on stats. The enthusiasm shown by the Dixons and the Mams and Dads was more than matched by the sense of accomplishment that these young men and women felt on the night. A brilliant start. And many congratulations to The Spearhead. This was followed by Sarah Arnolds birthday party. This was just great fun and we look forward to seeing you again.

Sha la la la Lala la, Chester Boughton Hall, Chester Boughton Hall , sha la, la , la, la.....

Sorry to report that both the 1st and 2nd football teams got beat, though situation normal returned with a low scoring(for them) 3-3 draw for the 6th team. Sorry, also, to report that both the 4ths and the 3rds cricket teams also got beat. Dan Rileys supreme white army relegated Middlewich and young Bobby Evans became the highest aggregate run scorer in 2nd team cricket in Cheshire, ever.

One Bobby Evans, there's only one Bobby Evans.....

But, there was only one place where everyone's mind and mobilephone was focussed, Oxo. Batting was obviously tricky and at 80 for 7 nerves were getting fraught. But then the wonderful Jordan and the nerveless Harry put together a match winning partnership to bring up a respectable total of 179. We had a chance now. Particularly as Oxo seemed to have prepared a wicket just for the Keggster. Thank you very much, Oxo. Well bowled Keggymen. The rest, as you know is history. Simply the best. Better than all the rest. Better than..... The lads return to a full clubhouse was spectacular, the conga round the room was just the start to a fantastical night. We got Harry Killoran, he is ginger and small..... The Captain set the tone

with with an inclusive speech that showed what this meant to him and the team and hopefully the inspiration for the many talented youngsters to match in the future. The Club Captain, Sir Elton Fleet then spoke wonderfully and again inspirationally. Young Bobby Evans was given a special award to mark his outstanding achievement. And then in a perfect tribute, Chris presented his father's Award to John Thistlewood. The applause was both long and from the heart. Many, many congratulations John from all your friends at the Club. Chris spoke of the Club being a family and this is exactly how it all felt. Very special.

He spins to the left, he spins to the right..... The party then started. And kept going and going and going and going. It was absolutely brilliant to see and hear so many different and varied performers. Forgive me, coz I will miss people out but; Fishy's rap, Joe and Harry's rap and dance, Ian Clark's version of Mac the Knife, Jon Scott's absolutely stunning performance, stood alongside some of the old classics, such as Tommy's Delilah and Tacey's My Way. Very very special. A simply brilliant night. Thank you to you all. Oh yeah. That's not quite it. We now had to prepare for the next days (oops, sorry, that will now be the same days Echo Cup Final. Championess, Championess oh lay oh lay, oh lay..... The forecast was almost for the end of the world to happen. Fortunately it didn't. So, we went and won another Cup. If Carlsberg made weekends..... Bootle scored a respectable 147. But this was beaten by Chester's 179, with Lee and Jordan once again dominating proceedings. And then the rain came. The proposed second innings had to be abandoned and Boughton Hall were the winners, again. I saw the light..... The lads had put in a monumental last push and came up as Treble winning Champions. All in a week when Cheshire won the Minor Counties Championship. This is testimony to the effort that this bunch of really talented cricketers (and singers) have put in. As Netty might sing, "Simply the best, better than all the rest".

Now, please don't be strangers. We are open all the year round. Come and watch the footie either out on the pitch or on the telly.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 9TH SEPTEMBER 2013



The week didn't start too brilliantly with a 'derby' defeat to Blacon's last minute winner. With the prospect of threatening weather the large cover was put on the main square on Thursday to ensure that the crucial match with Grappenhall would take place. Friday brought Angela Lawrence's birthday party and a good time was enjoyed by the partygoers. Once again the first team footballers were defeated, but in a much more encouraging performance. Things will only get better.

Meanwhile, back with the cricketers the 4th team once again won convincingly. The 3rds absolutely massacred Warrington 3rds (another 100) for Ian Metcalf. Then the 1st team made light work of Grappenhall, with another 'ton' from Jordan (the lad is in a bit of form).The good news just kept coming as we learned of Neston being routed at Bowdon. We are now top of the League with only one match to go. It's down to us. Meanwhile (again) the rest of the teams were desperate to learn of how the 2nd team were doing in their match with top of the table Grappenhall. One more win would secure the £2 per pint 'full house' offer, generously made by the Manager. Grapp had notched up 260. Steady batting all the way down the card still didn't seem quite enough as 10 were needed from the last over. With match commentary being relayed back to the Club by Bob Evans, it seemed less likely, as the first 5 balls brought 5 singles. Captain Dan had to hit the last ball of the game for 6. The fielder at long off could only look up as the ball crashed into the top of the sightscreen. Cue a pitch invasion. Cue mayhem and cheap beer in the Clubhouse. Cue, utter dejection for Grappenhall. They now have to beat Neston next week to win the League. It has to be said they were magnanimous in defeat and realised they had taken part in a fantastic game of cricket. We can only wish them well next week. Needless to say a long and great night was enjoyed by all in the bar after. Well done everybody, again. Good luck to Warren, Lee and Jack in the Minor Counties decider against Cambridgeshire at Wisbech this week.

After the excitement of last weekend, there is now just the one left of the season. Let's hope it finishes in style. A League to be won on Saturday and an Echo Cup Final against Bootle on Sunday. I'm sure it won't be quiet. The lads need all of your support, so get down to the Club and spur them on.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 4TH SEPTEMBER 2013



Again we are reminded of the great 'ups' and 'downs' in life, that through sport are micro-cosommed into a weekend. The 4ths win very comfortably, with 'run-machine' Tommy Evans notching up another 83 not out. The 3rds despatched Oxton with an almost professional detachment, the Metcalf's combining for the final 50 runs. The 2nds put a massive spoke in Nestons Championship charge with a very strong performance. Once again 'run-machine' Bobby Evans posting a very good 93. (Now only 2 short of 1000 for the season).They couldn't quite prise out the last pair, but a great performance that has opened up the league. And so to the largest 'down' of the weekend. The 1sts 'blew it' in there clash with, now, top of the table, Neston. Because of this bad defeat and because of the need to put things right the next day, Saturday night was a more muted affair. At least the football lads showed some improvement with a 2-2 draw at Southport.

The next day the dark world became light again as the lads completely transformed themselves to retain the Cheshire Cup, at New Brighton in some style. After a good start things got spectacularly better as Jordan and Lee batted and battered our opponents out the game. The sizeable Chester massif in the corner were in good cheer and one or two new ditties seemed to have been penned for the occasion. Well done everybody, your support really does help the players. A not so quiet night followed and though an attempt to steal/hide the Trophy was made, no one was that fussed, as we learned last year, it always comes back.

And it has.

CBH Cheshire Cup holders again!

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 27TH AUGUST 2013

We've had everything going on at the Club again, and as ever nearly every kind of weather. Have you ever wondered why most of the major inventions/developments have taken place in areas of our climactic belt. It's because of the day to day variability in our weather that makes us all intellectually stimulated.

Anyhow, a large storm wiped out practice on Thursday night. Special mention to Sam Monroe and Dan who stayed out until Sam got the shot perfect. Always finish on a good one, even when the end of the world is nigh.

Friday brought Sally P's birthday party. A lovely night. Sally now lives in Tring, where they invented the bicycle bell.

Saturday brought more inclement weather and yet all sides played successfully and so nearly brought home the 100 point goal. The 1sts and 2nds comfortably despatched Didsbury's 1sts and 2nds. Bhannu's 8 wicket haul meant victory for the 3rds. The 4ths did everything possible to gain a win after creating carnage through Centurions Tommy, 2nd week in a row, and Joey Des. Opposition were 9 down, so the nearly mighty 4ths were so close to forcing another £2 per pint night.

Absolutely fabulous. Well done everybody.

Sunday brought a large Christening (twins) , bouncy castle, face painting and nice people. The Bank holiday weather was kind for the now traditional Ship Victory match with Jeh's wonderful curry. Meanwhile a young Boughton Hall team were playing a young Christleton side in memory and in aid of Jack McKenzie. A lovely day was had by all and everyone had a go. Congrats to all those involved and well done to Christleton for staging the event. The footballers continue to struggle with 2-0 defeats for the 1sts and 2nds. Things will surely turn round.

Next week brings together a couple of little matches for our cricket team. Saturday, is the top of the table clash at Neston and Sunday is the Cheshire Cup Final at New Brighton. All support will be very welcome for both of these matches.

Good luck lads. Keep doing the right things.

See you at the Club.

It all goes on there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 19TH AUGUST 2013

We started the weekend with a wedding reception on Friday night. Mike and Mel had met on the interweb thingy , a very modern marriage. Good luck to you both. Quite separately 2 ladies were planning their Divorce Parties. Its a funny old, mixed up, shook up world.

On Saturday young Tom Evans, who has, uncomplainingly, been to hell and back 3 times with his knees (I know it would be difficult without) scored a ton for the 4ths and although this didn't prevent defeat for the side, there were many who were extremely happy for the young man. Well batted Tommy lad! The 3rds were also rescued by Skipper Fisher with a quite brilliant 94 not out, made all the better by doing this whilst one of his ankles was doing a passable impression of the Elephant man. So a combination of Tommys' knees and Mr. Fish's ankle should give us all hope to carry on in adversity. Hallelujah! Ahem. Despite, young Shane's assertion that Macclesfield is a nice place to play cricket, the weather put paid to any real enjoyment in the 2nd teams attempt to knock off 195 off 30 overs in a rain effected game, with all fielders on the boundary, in the drizzle. Oh happy day! Still very interesting to learn what Bobby does in his shoes and loafers. Very much a young man's sport these days. The 1st team made a massive effort to strengthen their position at the top of the table. Scoring 300 for 1, in 43 overs , young Warren 160 not out , they gave Macc 67 overs to get these runs. Unfortunately 5 overs were lost to rain and Macc were left 9 down. Every effort possible had been made and all players and umpires contributed to make the contest. Now 8 points clear at the top. This could be significant come the end of the season. Even more good news is that we won the Toss and the Echo Cup Final against will definitely be at Boughton Hall. Date to be announced.

The bad news is that the footballers have started with 2 defeats, I'm sure they will put that right shortly.

Sunday brought the now almost traditional Christening. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves so happy days.

But, I've saved the best till last. How much silverware can one Club win? The mighty Under 11's won another Cup. Well played lads. What a fantastic season. And hopefully, more to come.

It all goes on at the Club.

See you soon,

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 13TH AUGUST 2013

Last week saw the end of Midweek League games at the Club, so things may quieten down during the week, that is, unless you fancy a nice drink with friends in a stunning location.

Weekends however, are a different kettle of fish. Things are beginning to heat up as we get to the business end of the season. First of all, many, many congratulations to the Ladies who have now added the League Title to their earlier success. Well done girls. You have shown yourselves to be far too strong for all concerned. Brilliant! The 4th team got beat again despite some good individual performances. The 3rds spent as little time as necessary on Cheadle Hulme's back pitch, bowling them out for 60 and then returning swiftly to base camp. Despite scoring 272 the 2nds disappointingly went down by 4 wickets to Toft, for whom a 14 year old Sam Hatcher scored 138. Not a bad effort, lad. Now then. It wasn't a bad weekend for the 1st team. First of all they beat New Brighton in the Echo Cup Semi Final. Amassing a wonderful 190 (against a decent bowling attack) illustrated the full power of this much vaunted batting line up. This included a six by Jordan from one of his Lancashire colleagues, that smashed through Phill Evans's front door (as Phill watched on, in horror from his balcony). Jordan, Warren and Jack then took 3 wonderful catches on the boundary as New Brighton briefly threatened. On Saturday, they only went and won at Toft to go to the top of the League. A very solid all round team performance proving too strong for our very youthful opposition. Saturday night was quieter than some as the lads prepared for the Cheshire Cup Semi , away at Birkenhead Park. Well fair play lads, it worked. Bowling BP out for 49, then knocking off the runs in 6 overs was a reasonably comprehensive demolition job.

Brilliant weekend.

We all know that we ain't won nothing yet, but these lads have now lined up some pretty tasty fixtures for the end of the season. Bootle in the Echo, Macc or New Brighton in the Cheshire and the League run in, from pole position.

Exciting times!

See you at the club.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 6TH AUGUST 2013

As ever, loads on at the Club . Derbyshire and Cheshire U17's washed out. Bridge Inn heavily defeated. Chris's tactics overcome Ed Filer's enthusiastic Oxtun in Over 40's. A day at the Test on Friday afforded an opportunity to bump into the Roberts Brothers, a very happy George Robinson and an ecstatic Paul and Nia Williams, who had just dropped Jack off at work whilst they enjoyed the day. A tour of the Ground, took ages as every 10 yards , there was someone from local cricket, Dickie Thorn, Alec Stewart, Rob Brierley, Jeff Thomson etc, etc,

Saturday, brought a return to competitive action. The 1st team demolished Marple. Some great cricket on view, played by some very good players. There was an incident, and it appears that our players did not ignite the action. However, it would be nice to think that should something similar happen in the future, that we would react in a better way. Particularly at a Club where our 1st team cricketers are becoming role models for our burgeoning group of young talent. The 2nds also completed another resounding victory. Whilst the 3rds had 4 balls at top of the table Neston 3rds to defeat them . Nevertheless, a commanding performance by Fishy's team. So it was disappointing to learn of the 4ths defeat. On to next week, when once again we will field 4 very strong teams.

On Sunday we played host to the 2nd team 20/20 finals day. Hyde, Toft and Alderley Edge from the Premier League were joined by surprise package Davenham, who brought 2 coach loads with them, one from the village and one from Norwich. Negotiations have started and we may well play the East Anglians next year in a friendly. We will struggle to compete with their consumption. No Kopparberg, no Magners, no tequila and no jaegermeister left. Very noisy, very drunk. Shame they lost in the final to Toft, who we will see again on Saturday.

Interesting times.

Keep smiling.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 27TH JULY 2013



Another brilliant week.

Warren followed up his 191 with a duck. This tells us all everything we need to understand, not just cricket , or even sport, but life itself. Enjoy the good days because they all won't be like that. In the same game which Chesh won (again) Jack picked up 5 wickets and Lee ended up with a 47 not out, so all of our boys made their contributions.

Meanwhile Ross captained perfectly against Ross (on Wye) so that the match was tied. The Over 40's beat Irby. The Bridge won off the last ball in front of a packed balcony (and Bob Marley).

As we had a function on in the Club , Samantha, successfully ran the downstairs 'emergency' bar on Junior cricket night.

And then it happened!

The 1sts won.

The 2nds won.

The 3rds won.

And.

The 4ths won.

Brilliant.

Highlights included Jordan and Lee's batting, Mark and Warrens bowling, Linnars's bowling, Guy and Craigs batting, Dalats bowling, Treeny and Alex's batting, George's batting and of course everyone else. To celebrate, drinks were served at £2 per pint between 8.00 and 9.30. A brilliant night was had by all.

Things are going well at the moment so let's enjoy them. The picture shows people from all 4 teams enjoying each other's success. It's important we keep this feeling in place, then, well, you never know. Hopefully, there will be some more celebrating to do.

Well done to everyone.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 22ND JULY 2013



We started the week with the Deva Handball Presentation night. DHC, for those if you who don't know are Britain's largest handball. They are a wonderfully successful club and contain many England internationals. They are going from strength to strength and it is hoped to organise an international handball tournament at the Club next year.

Obviously we've had midweek cricket, a junior school prom and junior cricket during the week. BUT (and that's a big but) the highlights this week were all cricket related. We came so close to recording a full house. As agreed with the coach at the start of the season, full house will result in beer being served at £2 per pint for an hour and a half in the Clubhouse (Terms and conditions will apply). The 1st team comfortably demolished Nantwich, bowling them out for 220ish and knocking them of with ease, Mark, Warren and Lee to the fore. Interesting to note we used 8 bowlers. When did that last happen in a first team League game? The 2nds were involved in a tighter affair at Nantwich, finally winning by 2 wickets. Sam Mallows bowled his

second bad ball of the season, and also picked up 5 wickets. The game also marked the return of Linnars who bowled well and picked up a couple. The rest of the match belonged to young Bob Evans with a chanceless 118 not out. Match winning, mature and magnificent. There's only one Bobby Evans..... The 3rds enjoyed a really good win and must now be charging up the League and are enjoying a renaissance under Captain Fish, who was quoted as saying that Joe Maddocks has played his last 4th team game. And so to the mighty 4ths. Requiring 220 to win and drastically effect bar profits, they gallantly failed by 20 runs. Thank you lads, brilliant effort by everyone. BUT (and that's another big but) , I don't mind, a full house will be worth it. Still plenty of time to do it.

Sunday brought further successes, the under 13's won their league, how much silverware can one club win in a season? The Crossbatters defeated Gresford. The Aussies were utterly humiliated at Lords. And may be the best for last, young Warren Goodwin scored 191 for the County in their match against Berkshire. There's only one Warren Goodwin, there's only one Warren Goodwin.....

Rumours about Don's wedding this weekend turning out to be true. Many Congrats from all at the club. Don is pictured above during the ceremony.

Exciting times

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 16TH JULY 2013

After the shenanigans of the week before we all settled down to 'normal' club life again.

So on Wednesday Jeff Foley destroyed the great Dickie Thorn. On Thursday the Chester batting line up 'cruised' past Oxton in the 20/20.

Friday brought the return of Junior Cricket and Nancy Harrisons' birthday party. All went well and as ever the Club was enjoyed by hundreds.

As the brilliant weather continued we went into the weekend with the best availability of players that we had experienced all season. Therefore, it was slightly disappointing that once again we experienced a set of mixed results. The 1sts and 2nds were both well beaten by our friends from Hyde. The 3rds scored 300 plus

on the 'Postage Stamp' at Oxton but couldn't force the victory. The 4ths provided the real highlight with a magnificent display. After using 7 bowlers to dismiss Warrington for 129, they did the rest of the job with a clinical and professional performance. First of all Mani, blasted the first 30, then Joey Desormeaux and Tom Wyatt batted beautifully to the end. Top class cricket. Job done perfectly. As ever this was followed up by another long night in the bar. Hard work, this enjoying yourself.

And so we came to Sunday. Just another quiet day at the Club. The first Test was building to a climax, the U11's playing in the Cheshire Cup, a Christening for about 100 people, the defence of our trophy against the team who had walloped us the day before and Riley Pritchards 5th birthday. As we all expected the Pritchards all fitted in as though they are here everyweek. Hope to see you all soon. So as they make their way home, via a European trip as the Pritchards do. The Under 11's only went and won the Cheshire Cup, beating Elworth and Neston. Well done lads, second bit of silverware already this season. Obviously we won the Test Match, though I personally was very disappointed that the Aussie didn't walk at the end when he so blatantly hit it. What is the sport coming to? Meanwhile a wonderful game of cricket ebbed and flowed between 2 very well matched sides in the Quarter Final. Hyde got off to a flyer, then built, but were then pegged back and then lost wickets. Maybe a little below par at 215 , but, runs on the board..... Chester also started brightly, but, they too were then pegged back by the introduction of the spinners. As the run rate mounted, the tension rose. A couple more wickets, the job was getting harder, but finally the spinners were bowled out and Chester's street fighter cricketers, turned the game our way. The skipper excels in these situations and Ross is proving to be exactly what his brother called him at the start of the season, the final piece of the jigsaw puzzle. Absolutely brilliant, the lads held their nerve, and then Ross finished it spectacularly. Praise must also go to Hyde who contributed massively to a wonderful game of cricket. Macclesfield in the semi's.

Another brilliant weekend.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 8TH JULY 2013

Well to be fair its been quite busy.

Thursday saw the 1st eleven batting machine in action against Wavertree. Ross Dixon starred but it really is a v powerful batting line up. One minor disappointment was quiet shy Mark Rowlands not performing his

favourite toon. I'm sure we will knock that shyness out of him soon, and really good to have him back from his Tuetonic travails.

Friday brought the renewal of Chris and Yvonne's vows. This was a fabulous occasion. The Dicker of Vibley presided over the formal part of the ceremony. The show included singing waiters, the Chairman and the Skipper gently poking fun at one or two people. To be fair they were very gentle. It was fantastic meeting up with old chums, the Pritchards, the Foleys, the Birchalls and many, many more. And then there was the brother who rose like Lazarus to be involved in everything. The weather was perfect, the Marquee fabulous and everything about the day was just right. The whole event was also given a degree of poignancy as guests were invited to donate to charities that have supported John This and Matty and Sarah. Massive thanks to Chris and Yvonne for creating a fantastic day for everyone.

The good weather continued on Saturday and again our teams had mixed results. The 1st team completely dismembered Alderley Edge to retain their position at the top of the table. As one of their players said on returning to Alderley, they didn't even come third. The seconds enjoyed a wonderful game of cricket in an idyllic location at Alderley Edge. When their 9th wicket went down they still needed 12 to win. Much to the delight of a packed Pavilion, they scratched home. Brilliant game of cricket. The thirds were also involved in a sensational match. Treeny and Bob Knight put on 100 for the 9th wicket, but fell 2 runs short. Great effort chaps. The 4ths had the best of their match but couldn't quite force the win.

Then it was just the little matter of the Club Ball. Again a fabulous night was had by all in the Marquee.

Sunday brought a win for the Crossbatters. Plus another success in the Tent when guests were entertained by Neville Southall, Kevin Sheedy, Joey Jones and Jimmy Case.

Tonight we will be entertained by ex Aussie fast bowler Jeff Thomson.

At this point it should be mentioned that these events have been co ordinated, organised, served and cooked by Phil Dougherty and his very hard working staff. They have performed fantastically well. I'm sure you all appreciate their efforts.

As the good weather continues, there will be (as ever) loads of cricket at the club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 1ST JULY 2013

For the first time in ages and due to the weather we had 2 quiet nights last week. Bad weather also caused the cancellation of Junior Cricket and the 1st team cup game on Friday, but it had no effect on Paula's birthday bash. The party was on, and for the first time ever (when a DJ was involved) we had a night of great music, fun and frivolity.

Cricket returned the next day when the 1st team convincingly dismantled Oxton to go top of the league. Before anyone gets carried away, let's remember this is only half way. At this point in last year's Championship the Boro and Leicester seemed certs for the Premiership. Long way to go chaps. Well done so far. The 2nds also had another outstanding win. The 3rds didn't do so well while the 4ths once again enjoyed a splendid match. It was interesting to note that on Saturday night whilst the adults celebrated those performances a group of kids then went and played football until it got dark. Those kids had played significant parts in all the teams performances (nearly 20 wickets) between them and yet still with energy to burn. Brilliant. There does seem to be a really lovely vibe about the place at the moment. Long may it continue. Despite the return of the captain's dreadful music.

On Sunday the ladies thrashed Bolton, and on the other pitch the Crossbatters enjoyed a friendly with Kingsley. It featured lots of Dads and Lads and as ever in a game engineered by Christopher went to the last over. Strangely, and how times have changed, everyone had a go except the Captain, who didn't bat and yet fielded the full 40 overs. Time was, when this was the exact opposite of the perfect day. Funny old world. Well done skipper.

And on to another week at the club, that will bring the return of a few old Aussie chums (be gentle with them, don't mention the Test team, much) , over 40's, 1st team 20/20, Chris and Yvonne's bash, The Ball, Jimmy Case, Joey Jones, Kevin Sheedy, Neville Southall and Jeff Thomson.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 24TH JUNE 2013



As mid summer approached we continue to be busy at the club.

On Wednesday we hosted a MBNA staff fun day where they 'bonded', played games and had a barbecue. Got to be better than working. Wednesday also brought victory at last for the Over 40's when they massacred Tattenhall by 1 run.

Thursday brought the return of the lovely Royal Engineers with an evening of coq au vin, dancing, tombola and competitive bingo. This time experience was very much to the fore as the table of Mrs Doyles pretty much won every line and full house. It's a tough school.

Junior cricket returned on a more clement evening on Friday. It also brought the Boughton Heath Junior School parents fundraiser. First of all the night was a spectacular success. Secondly everyone had a really, really fabtastic night. Thirdly, and not unconnected with the first two, it heralded the return of our friends the wonderful Kings of Wervin. The lads were in cracking form and played a long set of very varied tunes. Basically everyone danced for at least an hour. Brilliant night. Thanks lads. Bloody marvellous.

Unusually we were able to host a Christening on Sat afternoon. Whilst this was going on a very, very young second team were destroying Grappenhalls 2nd team. A team that featured (playing prominent parts) 2 twelve year olds, a 15 year old opening bowler, a 16 year old opening bowler, and of course our senior spinner (the 14 year old) thrashed a team that were second in the league by 9 wickets. This was an extraordinary achievement. Well done to skipper Dan Riley (small matter of 5 wickets) and Robert Hubert Evans (small matter of 68 runs) in the way they engineered this performance. And, things only got better, the 1st team won (the Dixon brothers did quite well, again), the 3rd team convincingly knocked off over 200 and the 4th team in a special Dads and Lads performance couldn't quite force victory, but finished well on top. This was very close to a clean sweep. This would have been due reward to the captains that are putting in so much at the moment as a combination of injury and unavailability bites hard into our resources. Keep going everyone, things really are getting better. Now where's my backing band , I feel

another song coming on..... There was no need for a band on Saturday night as we had the thrill of success coursing through our veins and of course Jonty Hedgecoes magic straw game. Of course only Jon knows the rules, but any game that has Linda Killoran drinking Blue WKD with sherry chasers can only be deemed a major success.

So, after another quiet night in the bar our 3 County stars were primed to perform against Wiltshire at the club on Sunday. Their preparation has so far appeared perfect with Warren striking a peerless century, Lee 57 not out overnight and Jack coiled to strike, we can only truly admire the way these lads prepare themselves for the big occasion. Let's all give them support, see you at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 17TH JUNE 2013

On Wednesday, Cheshire completely outplayed Yorkshire. Now, you don't read that sentence everyday.

Thursday, situation normal returned as the Bridge Inn much vaunted and very much in form Plan A worked perfectly. Obviously, there is no Plan B.

Friday was dreadful as Junior cricket was washed out by the weather. Sods Law dictated that we didn't have a function, though the night was enlivened by the football lads having a few scoops and playing pool. Is there anyone in the club who can beat Jack Delgado at pool?

The weather improved and the club provided a spectacular backdrop to 2 magnificent games of cricket. The first team lost their top of the table clash to Neston in a hard fought and well contested match to a packed clubhouse that contained many of our old friends from Neston. I'm sure the return match will be equally well contested and just as crucial. If that was a brilliant game of cricket then what happened in the 4th team game was to use the modern terminology 'quite unbelievable'. Yes, there had been an incident earlier on in the game but this was put to one side as 12 year old Sam Munroe and Lawrie Peet scored the winning runs in a perfectly controlled last wicket partnership. The tension in the pavilion was bursting and yet our 2 heroes batted so sensibly to secure victory. The attitude of the opposition cannot be commended high enough as, despite being beaten, they seemed to accept they had taken part in a quite wonderful game of cricket. In the end as old Jamie Brown used to say 'cricket was the winner'. The 3rds also enjoyed a spectacular win at Oxtou, with young Ian Thistlewood getting out when the scores were level for 113. It

should also be noted that 2nd teams batting collapsed dreadfully on a great batting pitch at Neston. The bowlers did well but you can't defend 115 at Neston. Saturday night, the club was busy and there are unconfirmed rumours of a rave breaking out in the Evans' Garage.

On Sunday the ladies comfortably beat Stockport Trinity and the first team successfully defended the Cheshire Cup by winning the show. Despite some good performances by a particularly young bowling attack the show was easily stolen by Ryen.(as usual).

As usual loads going on this week, Harry K playing for Derbyshire 2nds, MBNA fun day, over 40's, Royal Engineers , Live music at a fundraiser, a Christening and then 3 days of Minor Counties Cricket as Cheshire take on Wiltshire; a match that will feature 3 players from our club Warren, Lee and Jack. Come down and support them. They all put a lot in, so come and support them on their big day.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 12TH JUNE 2013

Brilliant week at the club.

Thursday 1st team knocked off 116 in 10 overs in front of an appreciative audience. Friday they knocked off 116 in ten overs in front of an even larger audience. Well done lads.

Friday was also Kizza's 21st. With tales of various success in Hamburg the lads were in pretty relaxed and mellow mood. To be fair the music wasn't that bad either.

Saturday brought a couple of wins for our home sides. The 1st team , third in three days. The 2nds and 4ths came second on a lovely day for cricket. With an early finish and a number of our superstars representing their counties, the night was also pleasant and chilled rather than the frenzy of the last few weeks. I'm sure things will revert to mayhem again.

Congratulations to the under 9's who brought back the first trophy of the season when they tied with Malpas. Brilliant lads, well done.

Again the weather was perfect on Sunday. We had cricket on the front pitch from 10•00am until 8•00pm. While on the bottom and in the club we had the Junior football presentations. Medals, sun, cider, cross bar

challenges,lager,burgers, hot dogs,coca cola, 5-a-side,lovely people more cider, lager etc,etc,etc led to a perfect afternoon for many. Well done to all the coaches and managers that all give so much to ensure that youngsters enjoy sport.

Another busy week ahead that will include a clash between Cheshire and Yorkshire on Wednesday and a top of the table clash with Neston.

There's only one Jack Williams, one Jack Williams etc.etc.etc.etc.etc.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 3RD JUNE 2013



Yet another busy week at the club. Christening, funeral and a 50th birthday among the functions this week. Pretty much got most of life covered there.

Football lads came in on Wed night, to distribute kit and meet before there 4 o'clock flight to Hamburg the next morning. Can't believe they all will have made it. Definitely can't imagine them all making it back. Suspect very messy indeed.

Friday as usual was junior cricket. Numbers slightly down this week as party people came early and were many. As usual it all worked out and a good time was had by all.

Saturday was brilliant. Great win for the 2nd team at home where a packed balcony saluted stand-in skipper Bobby Evans's classy and match winning 130 not out to defeat Macclesfield. The 4th's again competed well but didn't score enough runs. The 1st team magnificently knocked off 270 at Macc, whilst perhaps the best win of the day was the 3rd team at Upton who had won every game they had played up to that point. Brilliant performance chaps. Once again the night bounced to the bizarre collection of noise on the captains I - pod thingy.

Sunday, brought a continuation of the good weather and the first defence of our Cheshire Cup. With various people away representing either Cheshire or Lancashire the accent was on youth. So the bowling was opened by 15 year old Ryan and 46 year old Seamus. Later on we had 14 year old Shane (3 wickets) and senior bowler 15 year old Harry (2 wickets) ripping apart the opposition. For the older generation , there was the wonderful sight of a West Indian fast bowler amongst the opposition. The guy oosed West Indianism. Lovely rhythmic run up, good action, wrist bands, a complete lack of knowledge of where the stumps were situated and I'd forgotten how long it takes for this 'type' to bowl an over. However, pure theatre. Awwwww I've quite missed his type.

Next week will be busy, busy, busy. Sunday football presentations. Cricket every night, including 1st team cup games on Thursday and Friday. Come down and have a meal on Thursday night while the match is on. Friday will be huge. Junior cricket plus cup match plus Kizza's 21st. It's all going on at the club.

There's only one Bobby Evans, one Bobby Evans etc.etc.etc.etc.etc.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 28TH MAY 2013

Another weekend packed with different events. Again junior cricket proved popular, it would be nice if the weather improved though. Friday nights ' event was really good. Andrew Huddart (son of Glen and Lindsay) was aiming to raise money for a trip to Kenya where he is to help make water cleaner for the locals. Something we take for granted in our world and yet so potentially deadly serious if in this fast paced modern world, your village has no access to the most basic of commodities, clean water. Through a combination of auction prizes and promises, through a raffle, through a game of bingo, an impossible task with a lemon and a game of skittles, the Huddarts made the night a fantastic success. Well done to the Webbers' and the Fishers' who managed to compete against each other all night, even pushing up the

prices in the auctioned items. Well done to everyone for coming and contributing to such a worthwhile cause. Well done AJ. Do come back and tell us all about it.

Saturday brought a change in the weather and two good wins for the first and second team. The 3rds went down due to not scoring enough runs. The night just seemed pretty messy as the lads insisted on celebrating with the captains appalling 'music' (for want of another word).

The good weather continued on Sunday, the Cup Match that was due has been moved to next Sunday, your support will be very welcome. Therefore there was plenty of room for the family Holy Communion celebration in the Clubhouse. Really nice family occasion that all enjoyed.

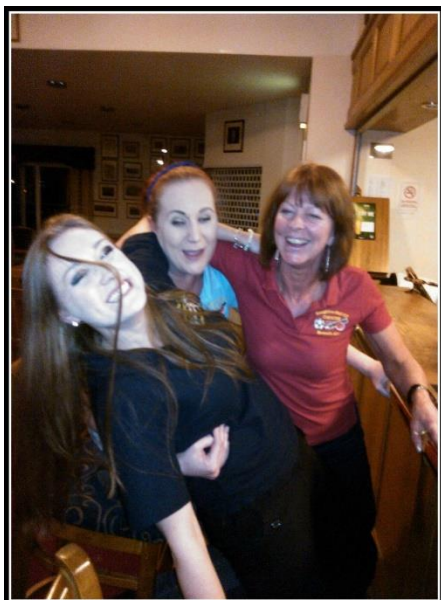
So on to the new week, cricket every night, a birthday bash , Cup and League matches.

Its' all on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 20TH MAY 2013



As we all know, sport, like life itself, has its many 'ups' and 'downs'. After last weeks near clean sweep for our sides we experienced the other emotions this week. First of all the 2nd team were humbled by Warrington on Thursday evening. But even this was balanced by the return of the lovely Royal Engineers

Vets. After haddock and chips they enjoyed a night of dancing, tombola and competitive bingo. Sadly Liz, Dave and Linda are someway short of the standard in order to compete in the bingo. More application, perspiration and concentration are required from all three. I can report I was able to pick-up a cheeky little £5 note for a bottom line in the fourth game.

Friday again brought the spectacularly successful junior cricket night.

Saturday's weather wasn't quite as bad as forecast and the matches went ahead. The 2nd team completely out played Urmston but couldn't force the win. The highlight of which was Jim Gillsons quite delightful century. The 3rds fought competitively but went down to Neston. The fourths again played well but went down to Upton, though again juniors continued to impress. The 1st team lost for the first time this season. And yet despite hurting, made a spectacular late night return to the club for one of those sessions that no one saw coming and everyone enjoyed. Obviously Jamie, Jonty, Lee, Seamus and Warren were well to the fore, though I must confess I don't understand this young person's music. Good effort lads.



Sunday morning brought more wins for the junior cricket sides. But again this was counter-balanced by two defeats in cup finals for two of our junior football sides. Certainly, in the game that I saw, the under 16's played well and had the chances to win. Well done to all the lads who took part. Harry Killoran is pictured right scoring at the Deva Stadium.

Again, busy, busy, busy. That's sport. That's life. We all have our Ups and Downs. Let's see what this next week brings.

Enjoy your sport.

Enjoy your club.

Enjoy life.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 14TH MAY 2013



Thursday night brought The Bridge Inn's first league victory offer the season against Oakmere. The contest was notable for the little known application of the Oakmere and District rule, that the batsman is not allowed to move once the bowler has started his run up. The Oakmere skipper was prepared to bring his boys off the pitch if this 'fantasy' rule was broken. Fortunately Mani stayed where he was and won the game for The Bridge, after the much vaunted Plan A had gone badly wrong.

The following night we had the junior practice and a works party that all went well.

Saturday was a good day;

First team won.

Second team won.

Fourth team won.

Thirds drove to Macclesfield and drove back without a ball being bowled, which in my book was a good result. The bar was busy with celebration, the Delgado brothers took money from Lee and Nat on the Pool Table. Furthermore the Ladies beat Appleton on Sunday. Top weekend.

Sundays Christening was small and fitted in nicely on an unusually quiet day.

Please study the above picture carefully. This man is very, very dangerous. If you see him around the club take extreme care and contact the appropriate authority.

This week promises to be a busy one. Matches everyday of the week. The Royal Engineers on Thursday. League matches on Saturday, Crossbatters and Ladies on Sunday. It's all going on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 6TH MAY 2013

Another busy weekend at the club began on Thursday night with the Ladies Big Style Night organised by Gil Lightfoot. 120 ladies packed themselves into the Club where you buy jewellery, cakes and even a massage. We learned about the application of make-up from the Debenhams girls and 'style' from a stylish lady. Through a combination of the entrance fee and the raffle over £1000 was raised for Cancer Research. Absolutely brilliant, well done Gil, your girls, Sally App and everyone else who worked so hard to achieve this success. Take a bow ladies.

Friday brought the ever expanding Junior Cricket night. The Club is great on nights like these with seemingly hundreds of youngsters enjoying sport outside whilst parents relax with a drink in the Club. Next week we have a works party after the cricket and I'm sure we will fit them in as usual. Thanks for your co-operation and understanding in these situations, I'm sure you all can understand that these parties are important in raising necessary monies for the development of our club.

On Sat the 2nd team couldn't quite force victory over their counterparts from Nantwich. The 4ths played competitively in a tight match. The good news came from Nantwich where the 1st team gained their first win of the season with a good all-round team performance. The 3rd team were under the cosh for much of their match but still fought hard for the draw.

Sunday was the busiest day of the weekend, with The Derby, ManU v Chelski, a Christening and the Nomads Under 15's bringing back the Cheshire Cup after beating Waverton in the final. Well done lads, brilliant effort. We do like a bit of silverware.

Overheard discussion of the week - "What is the largest animal that a human could beat in a fight?" I look forward to your answers, there is a very suprising leader in this catagory at the moment.

As ever, busy, busy, busy.

There's always something on at the Club.

See you there.

Mr T

BARMANS CORNER - 30TH APRIL 2013

Things have been busy at the club. Whilst I was away we had the busiest week of the year so far. Events included Barry Fosters surprise birthday party, the start of cricket season, first team football, Soggy's birthday, cricket presentations and the introduction of a new cider. First of all many thanks to Liz, Sam, Claudia, Helen and Steve who I know worked very hard to keep you lot supplied. Still the best team in the club.

Our lovely masseuse Nicole has now finished her training hours and is available at very good rates for those athletes in need. Like her predecessor Ali she has collected together monies £125 that were given to her. She has then had this doubled by her employers MBNA, and then donated all of it to Nightingale Hospice. Nicole, thank you, that is a wonderful gesture. You're very kind.

Friday brought ex Liverpool legend Alan Kennedy to the club. He spoke for the best part of an hour and was extremely self deprecating. Alan who has scored the winning goal in 2 European Cup Finals came across as a true gent. Thanks Alan. Perhaps the antidote to Mr. Windass.

This last week has provided a sensational beginning to the cricket season with our own JC performing a miracle. Junior cricket has started and numbers are good and so far no rain. The cricket teams have started with mixed results, plenty of time for improvement. The football lads are still going and have a final home match on Wednesday.

Thursday brings a ladies style night with all sorts of attractions (and Liz's birthday, 22 I think).

The weekend brings cricket all the way.

So, hope to see you all down their soon.

Mr T

2012 PRESENTATION EVENING

The presentation evening to celebrate the successes of last year will take place this Thursday, 18th April, in the clubhouse from 7.30pm onwards.

Awards will be given for 1XI, Ladies, 2X1, 3X1, 4X1, o40s best batsman, bowler and a special captains award. The Ron Fleet award for club-person of the year will also be presented.

Food will be available, along with a large amount of ale!

See you there!

BARMANS CORNER - 15TH APRIL 2013

A really good week started with the first team comprehensively beating Blacon 4-1 and then following that up with another very comfortable 2-0 victory over other local rivals from Christleton. The game finished in the dark, I don't think anyone saw Tabs missed penalty in the last minute. Got away with that one then.....

Friday brought the junior cricket signing on night. Let's hope for better weather on Friday and Monday nights.

Saturday brought the return of cricket to the club with a well contested friendly with Leeds Uni. This was also a great way to introduce our new player this season, Ross Dixon. With a foot in either camp it was a special way to celebrate his Nan's 75th birthday, who really threw herself into the nights party, karaoke et al. The Leeds lads seemed to thoroughly enjoy her party and celebrated further by cramming themselves into the flat next door and sleeping with big brother Lee. Funny old world.

Sunday was the annual champagne reception and skipper Stephen Ogilby pocketing the top prize of £600 was very well received. Fantastic to see whole generations of Thistlewoods. Grandpa John, despite his recent travails, was in great form, whilst young Edward John made his debut and seemed to have his eye on Dad's Guinness. We hosted Tattenhall on Sunday afternoon and although most people had chance to blow away early season cobwebs, we were well outplayed by our local rivals. Good to leave room for improvement, don't want to peak too early. Nuff said.

Again our football team has home matches on Wednesday and Friday and all support will be welcome.

Saturday is the start of the cricket season proper. Good luck to all sides.

See you there,

Phil Thomas

APRIL EVENTS

All the upcoming events in April can be found by [clicking here](#)

BARMANS CORNER - 8TH APRIL 2013



Last Friday we held our first wine tasting night, again organised in the main by Jayne Piggott. Dave Barter from local company DB Wines educated us on the topic. Our 3 highly trained wine waiters Dave Bryce, Manny and Smudge efficiently attended to the wants and needs of our clientele. In the main this was club people using the club to have a nice night out. To be fair because Dave Barter sold some wine, he waived his fee so that we also made a bit of money. I'm not sure Pete Clarke got the hang of the evening as he followed his Chateau de Thwaites Original with Sambuca chasers but I'm sure he enjoyed them. Strange how we didn't see him the next day. Must have had a bad cracker.

Saturday morning brought another first with our first attempt at Cricket Force. A big well done and thank you to everyone who came down and painted, stained and lifted everything that needed painting, staining and lifting. Special thanks to Mrs Dixon and Natalie (come on , who else thought they were sisters) and Linda K for providing the tea and butties. Also brilliant to see the Nat West folk getting involved. Big thanks to everyone.

In the afternoon the 2nds drew 1-1 with South Liverpool whilst Richie Barnes's men recorded yet another victory. Great 0-2 away win for the first team at Vauxhalls. This is a big week for the club with local derbies against Blacon tonight and Christleton on Wednesday. Come on down your support will be most welcome. Also £2 per pint tonight whilst the Man U v Man C match is on, until the first goal is scored. Then £2•50 per pint until the second goal is scored. Sunday brought a few Evertonians down for their draw with Spurs and we also had a lovely 4 year olds birthday party. Once again as ever a varied weekend. Always something different at the club.

This week brings the sponsored cycle ride, the derbies with Blacon and Christleton, Junior Cricket signing on, the first cricket friendlies on Sat and Sun and the return of the lovely coffee machine.

Always something different at the club.

See you there,

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER - 2ND APRIL 2013

Thursday night was a very special night. We don't do eighteenth usually but Thursday was different. Thursday was Anna Apollonios' birthday. We'd had this day booked for sometime. Annas' Mam and her Auntie (Sal & Liz) dressed the room in the afternoon. By the time 7•00pm came the room was starting to fill. Aunties, uncles, distant rellies, friends and family and of course the star of our show, the lovely Anna. There was a buzz about the room and our girl didn't stop smiling. The room filled. A picture here and a picture there. Smile. Flash. Another smile. Everybody ate and then Marco spoke. There wasn't a dry eye in the house as Marco explained how hard it had been for the family since we lost Mike. Beautiful, eloquent and so very honest. Marco, I don't know how you do it. To be able to speak to 140 people so naturally is a wonderful talent. You'll be fine. Stevie Mann just asked how do you follow that, and then he did, again with complete honesty. Savvi did the same and once again we felt huge respect for all the family who are still grieving so very much. But all the way through the smile on our young girls face was there. Then some old bloke got up, presented her with her first drink in the clubhouse, gave her a card and tried to embarrass our girl with a serenade, but she still kept smiling. Then the dancing began. All night long. Happy birthday Anna.

Good Friday was Dave Killorans family quiz. We started to get a little nervous when people (who we didn't know) started arriving at 6•30 for the 7•30 start, so they could get a decent seat. We had to bring the

plastic bucket seats in from outside to accommodate everyone, but we did. Once again, the quiz was an outstanding success. Once again everyone enjoyed it. And once again it ended in a tie as it was decided by Daves' unique method. Come on down, there's always something going on at the club.

Sat morning the first team had a photoshoot. Then Marks & Spencers played the HSBC in a friendly to raise money for Macmillan Nurses. Then the first team narrowly lost to a dodgy goal and a ridiculous dive that the ref bought. The 2nds lost as well, the only bright spot being the 5ths 8-0 win. The only bright spot apart from the 3rds win that is, ahem, sorry chaps.

Sat night was quiet with people tired from previous exertions, just chillin' and having a beer.

Sunday brought the girls from Party Dance. This was there biggest and most successful so far. Well done girls, we will see you later in the year.

Happy Easter.

And to all of you that were there, Smile for me.

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER - 25TH MARCH 2013

Friday brought the Nomads annual hotpot, as organised by the one and only Malcolm Tice. Special thanks to Steve Smith and Powelly(nearly recovered from the previous Sat night) for helping set up the room.

Hughie Curtis was magnificent as MC as he gently took the rise out of man mountain Chris Camden for 30 minutes in front of 120 people.To be fair to Chris he played along and came out with footballing stories in days of yore. Next was the indefatigable, enigmatic and downright mad Coppack. As ever he set the place alight. The food had been good, the camaraderie even better and the beer flowed. The presentation of the joint Nomad of the year (Savvi and Jayne Piggott) was done sensitively. The mood in the room was buoyant. A splendid time was being had by all.

And then.

And then.

And then, the guest speaker got up and gave us 15 mins on depression. So , we learned that his father had died, we learned of his drink issues, we learned of his gambling problems, we learned he was divorced and

we learned he had considered taking his own life. All this, whilst inserting 3 swear words into every sentence. I'm not sure that this was the kind of entertainment we thought we had booked. You never know when you book these people. I'm sure we will all remember the occasion, as it slips into distant memory, I wish the story that involved Mark Crossley would slip out of memory quickly.

Spectacular.

Saturday and Sunday, with all fixtures being cancelled were very quiet.

See you all next week.

Happy Easter

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER - 18TH MARCH 2013

On Friday we played host to the wonderful Royal Engineers who hope to have further social occasions at the clubhouse. Dancing, bingo, tombola and a wonderful stew made for a really nice evening. Prizes in the tombola included ginger biscuits, 2 cans of Mackeson, shampoo and a tray of 4 pears. Although Liz and I did manage a couple of prizes in the tombola we couldn't compete in the bingo where experience really told. A table of Mrs Doyles scooped most of the money. This was a table of cold hearted, professional bingo stalwarts. No chance for us youngsters. The Don provided a bit of youthful totty for these ladies and Liz was knocked back by a 78 year old.

Saturday brought some dramatic football at the club with the first getting a last minute equaliser and the 2nds losing on penalties in a cup semi.

Saturday night was wonderful. Powelly's 40th was fun, fun fun all the way. Fair to say Mark was very very happy and smiley at the end of the night. Thanks to everyone for such a truly lovely night. Take a bow the Powell family.

This Friday brings Dean Windass to the Nomads hot pot. As ever it will be fun. See you there.

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER - 11TH MARCH 2013

I suppose it was time we had one. Quiet week at the club, that is.

First team played really, really well and due to the nature of sport were dumped on 0-3. Sometimes happens like that.

Mitch, Powelly, Dave Healy and Tommy Hughes spent hours arguing over the 11 best footballers ever. Try it, it's not easy.

Next week, back to usual. The Royal Engineers Veterans have a 'do' on Friday and Mark Powell has his 55th birthday party on Saturday.

Congrats to Dave Killoran who was 60 last weekend.

See you all soon.

Phil Thomas

NOMADS HOT POT

CHESTER NOMADS FOOTBALL CLUB

108th
ANNUAL HOT POT

to be held at Boughton Hall Clubhouse
on Friday 22nd March 2013

Guest Speaker

DEAN WINDASS

*Plus many more amusing speakers
from the Club*

Tickets: £25

Time: 7pm for 7.30pm

Dress: lounge suits

Tickets from Malcolm Tice

Tel: 07768 147666 (m)

QUIZ - 29TH MARCH 2013

Family Quiz Night

Friday 29th March.
7.30 p.m.

All ages welcome ?

Raffle - Fun prizes

? Support your club



Free Chip
Butties
Hooray!

BARMANS CORNER - 5TH MARCH 2013

Midweek League Cricket, Ticey's taxi drivers, Bridge Inn Cricket and Poker get-togethers an Everton match , all meant that the bar ticked over nicely during the week.

Friday was quiet, but Saturday rocked. Kizza and Mossy both returned to the first team after being sensationally dropped the previous week. Both played their part in a fantastic 2-2 draw with a very good Heswall side. Later on the engagement party that night was v busy, fun and smiley.

The good weather on the next day brought out all kinds of waifs and strays who don't always pop in on a Sunday. Nice to see you guys. Big respect to the Nantwich crew. Good performance.

Very unusual this weekend. No function on either Sat or Sun - Come and make it your own!

See you all soon.

Phil Thomas

IMPORTANT DATES

The new season is approaching quickly, and below are some important dates for your diary -

Saturday 6th April 2013 - Natwest Cricket Force Day. Come down and help the ground staff get the club ready for the new season. Contact Lee Dixon for details.

Sunday 14th April 2013 - Sponsored walk from Ring-o-bells Christleton to CBHCC from 10am. Speak to Jim Gillson for information and sponsorship opportunities.

Sunday 14th April 2013 - Champagne Reception. Following on from the sponsored walk. A mixed 1st/2nd XI will also be taking on Tattenhall at Filkins Lane.

Thursday 18th April 2013 - Presentation Evening for last season.

See you there.

CBHCC

4TH XI GET TOGETHER

The 4th XI will be having a night out next Thursday (7th March 2013), meeting at 7.30pm in the club.

All the best, see you there.

Phill Evans

BARMANS CORNER - 25TH FEB 2013



Friday night was fantastic! Beth and Mark's wedding night. Great group of people who went for it. (We are very good at weddings). Highlight of the night was when the father of the bride got his guitar out and played and sang with The Fakes. Dad was brilliant. He had a rocky, bluesy voice and really belted it out. The icing on the cake were the backing singers, Dad's 4 daughters. Absolutely special. Good people having a great time. Meanwhile at the back of the room The Fakes groupie, Don, was grooving along. The band played for the best part of 2.5 hrs and were better than ever.

Saturday saw the 2nds beat Bebbington and the 6ths draw 0-0. There aren't many 6th team games that end up 0-0. Top quality goalkeeping by ex first team captain Mark Donnelly (on loan from Boston) and Shonner ensured the shut out. Next week we have a Friday free so come on down, bring some music and we'll have a good time.

All the best, see you soon.

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER - 18TH FEB 2013

Best and biggest night of the year so far on Sat.

After the disappointment of the first team's defeat to an expensively assembled West Kirby, (the 2nds won at Hale) and a relatively quiet evening session in the club,the Comedy Night, organised by Jane Piggott was an outstanding success. Great to see so many people having a great night. Many, many thanks to Mark Hollowood, long term Nomad, Junior coach and professional entertainer. His gig for Saturday night was cancelled at 4•00pm. He did what any good Nomad would do and contacted Jane to tell her he would play at the club at the Comedy Night. He turned a good night into a great night.Less disco, more live entertainment.His guitar on his version of 'Another brick in the wall' was spectacular. Thanks Mark. Next up was Karl Rosedale, one of our Juniors Dad, who because he had done 3 mins at The Comedy Club, was press ganged into this. Well done Karl. Chubby Brown popped in during his act, but went out without having a drink cos he was a bit too much for him. Come on Chubby he was only having a laugh. Next up Jed Stone. Nice guy. Enthusiastic guy. Funny guy. We like Jed. Brilliant fun. Everyone just laughed for an hour. Real talent. Karlo's Disco finished off the night. Thanks to everyone for making it such a special night.

Sunday was filled with Junior football and a 1 year olds party.

Next Friday we have The Fakes playing at Beth and Marks wedding celebration and more football and more music.

As usual, it's all on at the Club.

Get involved.

Phil Thomas

JACK MCKENZIE - BATTLE OF THE BANDS - 1ST MARCH 2013 (RUGBY CLUB)



jack mckenzie's gift

Proudly Presents

Battle of the Bands

A fundraising event in memory of Jack McKenzie

Friday 1st March 2013 7.30pm
Chester Rugby Club
Hare Lane, Littleton, Chester CH3 7DB

Featuring Live Music from
Matty Ian
Splinter
A.nother band (tbc)

■ Hot food ■ Charity Raffle with fantastic prizes
■ Great music from DJ STEVE MARTIN

Tickets available on the door £10

Contact: Pete Beaumont/Mark Astbury - 01244 347545
Jane McKenzie/Jess McKenzie/Lucy McKenzie - 01244 329411

All profits raised donated to jackmckenziegift.co.uk

BARMANS CORNER - 12TH FEB 2013

Paul Lampard's 40th on Friday night was fun and v lively. A good night was had by all. Great to see the Appo family dominating the dancefloor again.

All football was cancelled at the club. But 1st team got beat at Christleton in the Cup. Great to see Caddy snr. in fine form in the club in the evening.

There is a City Community Forum on Tuesday when you can ask your local Councillor anything you want. Obviously Man U v Real Madrid will be on on Wednesday.

Don't forget Saturday's Comedy Night, tickets still available. Always a good night.

See you there! Phil.

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER - 5TH FEB 2013

Fantastic weekend at the club, Di Tottys birthday party was fun, loads of friendly people and wonderful food.

The football returned to the club, the 2nd team beat the 'scousers' from Christleton, whilst on the other pitch tempers flared as the Vets fought with the 5ths. All seemed friendly in the bar after.

Saturday night was brilliant. The Kings of Wervin had had their gig cancelled at short notice by the management of The Cherry. So we were able to accommodate them, and their friends and family. The band got better and better as the night went on. Steve Coppack managed to completely forget the earlier fight he'd been trying to referee. Dalat Gulzar met a winner from the Weakest Link. Colly, Hubes and the Killers all grooved the night away. Great fun. Great night. Thanks v much to the Kings.

On Sunday Chester Schoolboys comprehensively defeated their counterparts from Crewe.

Don't be shy about asking Ticey about his spectacular ball skills as he stood in as manager for Dave Killoran as manager of the under 16's. Better still ask Charlie Tice.

We have a big party on, on Friday. Saturday, the first team are away at Christleton and would appreciate your support. No function booked for sat night, so bring some of your own music along and we'll play it.

See you all soon, Phil.

Phil Thomas

KINGS OF WERVIN - SATURDAY 2ND FEB 2013



Further event to add to this weeks plans!

Saturday night Kings of Wervin will be playing in the cricket club from 8.30pm onwards. The Kings of Wervin do punchy covers and classics from the 70's & 80's through to now.

See you there!

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER - 29TH JAN 2013

Great weekend at the club. Despite the atrocious weather on Friday night Jack Bailiff's party was a happy occasion for friends and family. Jack's collage of his own photo's of New York set to the Alicia Keyes classic was spectacular.

Again, there was no football so sat pm was quiet. But sat night was a very happy smiley night with many of the regulars at Adie Breakwells party. A good time was had by all.

Followed by Mark Williams's son party. It was great to see Mark , in his Rasta hat and dreads throwing shapes on the dancefloor and his Dad Gavin getting quietly merry.

This week we have Premiership football during the week, for those interested Liverpool are on on Wednesday.

Di Totty has a birthday party on Fri night. Football should return on Saturday afternoon and there is no function on Sat night. If you fancy it bring your own music and we'll play it on Saturday night.

On Sunday , Chester schoolboys entertain their counterparts from Crewe, so this should give us an idea of Chester football in the future.

As usual, plenty to look forward to so see you all!

Phil Thomas

BARMANS CORNER

Check out this new section of the website weekly to find out whats happening in the club!
