

New nets ready to use

One fabulous new, full-length net and a refurbished, existing net, will provide top-class practice facilities for all our members this year and in the future. To add to the quality of training we now have electricity laid to the machine shed which means that coaches will be able to operate the bowling machine when required. So, get yourselves down to training to make sure you hit the deck running this season!



Skippers previews

Catherine Rodnight

Ist XI Incoming skipper Sam George here! I feel very positive about the new season despite losing a few key players for various reasons. The reason I feel positive is that we have a committed squad of talented young players who I know will work for each other to try and achieve the best possible outcome. I shall do my best to make the total greater than the sum of the parts... and who knows? Staying in Division 3 of the Cherwell would be an achievement, any more than that a bonus. **Sam George**

2nd XI With the 2nds plying their trade in Division 7 of the Cherwell League for successive seasons we have built a strong foundation of core players, consisting of youthful exuberance and the wily dependency that only comes with age. The talent I have seen within the junior age group is extremely encouraging and I'm in no doubt that many will play there part this season. Thus, I see only one outcome for the forthcoming season should we maintain our consistency and application and that's top of the league! **Ben Orchard**

Sunday XI – Our fixtures guru Niall Mackay has organised an excellent set of fixtures for us to look forward to this year. There are plenty of local fixtures including Whitchurch home and away (and no doubt home and away ad infinitum – see last season's match report), choice matches against the like of The Lee and intra-club games such as the VPs' match to savour. We look forward to seeing the widest possible representation from across the club, from willing youngsters (willing to do the fielding for old lags like me and Adam Farr), Sunday regulars, first team superstars, girls and ladies. Can we get an entire Knights family onto the field this year?! That might be one for the national press. *Tom Gadsby*

Ladies XI - Season 2, (sounds like a TV programme) is upon us! After a very enjoyable first season, our ladies squad is blossoming and we have a full programme of training and matches for 2017. Outdoor training starts on Friday 28 April (6.30-7.30pm) and a key date to put in your diary is our Womens Cricket Festival at CCC on August 13th. New ladies are always welcome! - whether you have played before or not. Come and join a bunch of mixed age (and ability) ladies who have a great time learning and playing cricket. It is a great way to spend a few hours in the sunshine with a chat over a glass of something afterwards.

Young Leaders in Cricket

15 young players (aged 12-16) signed a Player/Parent/Club (PPC) agreement over the winter months and most of them are also enrolled on a Young Leaders in Cricket course. This is an important initiative for the development of the club and the players and we hope to repeat it in 2018. As well as attending courses on coaching, umpiring, scoring, fund-raising and groundwork, each of the players has committed to play senior cricket when available and to volunteer a minimum of 20 hours to help the club. We have matched each young player with a "BUDDY" from the senior squads, to help them with the transition to senior cricket. If you are interested in participating in 2018 please contact Gordon Sparke or Steve George.



Open Day

In a bid to attract new members and to show case the club, we are holding our first, ever, OPEN DAY on Saturday 22nd April. We have a programme of events (see below) and need some helpers and supervisors to make the morning run smoothly. If you can spare any time please contact Steve George on 01296 682367 or george.stephen@mac.com

- 9.30-I I am Rolling Continental breakfast (coffee/tea and croissants)
- •9.30-Ipm Welcome Desk in pavilion to greet new members
- 10-11.30am Rolling 10 minute presentations on the half hour, followed by Q&A for visitors
- 10-1pm How FAST can you bowl?
 - ullet Speed gun trials, 10p a ball. 4 age groups, prize for
 - winners)
 - Under 11, 11-13, 14-16, 16+ (including Mums and Dads)
- **10-1pm** Who can throw the furthest?
 - measured, 10p a throw, 4 age groups (as above), prize for winners
- **10-1pm** Who can hit the furthest?
 - Measured, 10p for 3 balls, 4 age groups (as above), prizes
- Showcase match Cublington Junior match on the square
- Second-hand Cricket kit sale at pavilion all morning
- Junior girl and boy members and senior men and women members will be around all morning to make visitors feel welcome and answer any questions.
- New members joining on the day receive a 50% discount on membership fees



Ground Action Group

Do you know Malcolm Nash? Well he was quoted: "I suppose I can gain some consolation from the fact that my name will be permanently in the record books" - after being hit for six sixes in an over by Gary Sobers in 1968. So, the cricket season starts and undoubtedly we will have some Malcolm Nash moments and a few Gary Sober cameos from the players - young and old! When I last bowled an over in a match the birds stopped singing as I approached the Club record for the longest ever over. I don't hold the record I am happy to say. But all our cricket players need a cricket square to have their moment of fame. Any cricket ground requires money (see the pie chart on back page to where the money goes) and willing volunteers. This year we are building a ground team to share the burden - rolling, cutting, pitch repairs, preparation etc.

If you want to help on the ground team - contact me on mtcreilly@aol.com or phone me on 07876593434. We will be arranging a short training session in April on how to use the equipment, how to maintain and clean after use and how keys can be accessed to get on with a cut or a roll. This volunteer effort is above and beyond the paid specialist contractors we use presently. Get involved - so we can get the games on - for our young players (boys and girls), our occasional guests for inter-county fixtures, our league players and our Sunday social side. *Michael Reilly*

Junior cricket

The smell of newly mown grass always heralds the start of the season and this year we are looking forward to an enjoyable and productive season for our Juniors, boys and girls. Fixtures are organised and coaches and managers in place to enable a feast of Junior cricket in May, June and July. If you are interested in helping with any aspect of running our Junior cricket, please contact me on 07968 182020 or indeed any of our Junior officials whose contact details can be found on the web site. **Gordon Sparke**.



Website news

www.cublingtoncc.org

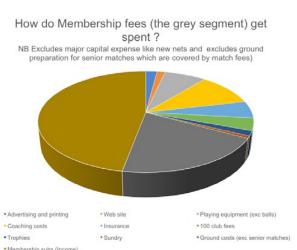
Bookmark / save this link - it's your one-stop shop for all information about our club.

All Members - take the opportunity to look at your personal details update where needed - this is all in your own control.

Team Managers / Admins - check out the updated features at your fingertips for making your life easier when selecting teams; checking and agreeing availability; communicating directly with players / parents. There is also an excellent new mobile app available - 'Pitchero Team Manager' - so you can do all you need whilst on the go. Do have a go - you can't break anything by trying!

Further information or help can be obtained from club officials - or via the 'Contact' section on the from page. **James Inglis Webmaster**

Where does your money go?



Senior match fees – What does it cost to stage a match?

Taking into account the cost of an Umpire, a scorer, new balls, the Ground preparation, ground fee and tea preparation the COST of staging a senior match varies from £130 (Sundays) to £200 (Saturday 1st X1). These costs are largely clawed back through match fees and for 2017 these have been set at £6 (Sundays), £8 (2nd X1) and £10 (1st X1).

As you can see the costs of running our cricket club are substantial and it is only through the excellent fund-raising work carried out by our Social Action Group, and the generous support of our sponsors and supporters that we balance the books!

Groundforce

We are a Members club (paid for and run by members) and are fortunate to have many members who put a lot into making Cublington CC run well for the benefit of us all. We recognise that people lead busy lives and are not always able to contribute, but on Saturday April 15th (9.30-Ipm or any part thereof) there is an opportunity for ALL members to join the GROUNDFORCE team who will be prepping the ground and facilities. We do this every year and those who can make it have an enjoyable morning and without fail get an enormous sense of achievement out of making the facilities sparkle! Coffee/tea and hotdogs at 9,30am.... see you there!?

Friday Night is Fun night



Last season Friday nights turned into a focal point for both the cricket and social side of the club. New junior members (girls and boys) were encouraged to come to training, where the Ladies were also honing their skills. This training often took place against the backdrop of a junior match against local clubs, whilst our culinary duo, Paul and Brian had the Barbie burning till dusk.

The same formula is planned this season with the added attraction of a host of 5-8 year olds who have signed up to the national ECB "All Stars" initiative for which we are a nominated club.

Why not pop up and join in the fun?

Welcome to

Ketan and Calum who will be playing and helping with our coaching at all levels this season. They are staying in Reads Lane and will therefore only be a stone throw away from the ground. Both are keen to help us deliver quality coaching and are available for private one-on-one sessions if anyone would like their help. Ketan is over from New Zealand on a Youth mobility visa as our guest and Calum who has spent a lot of his youth in Namibia, hails from Inverness and is





rumoured to be a cousin of the first team skipper! I am sure you will all make them feel very welcome as they become part of our club during the season.





Advertising campaigns

Our winter drive to attract new members has seen a rather smart permanent sign erected at the crossroads in Cublington, a banner just outside the ground, adverts in 5 local Village mags, posters in local shops and hand-dropping of 4000 leaflets to 6 new housing developments within a 5 mile radius. Early response is very encouraging with several new junior and senior members contacting us and attending indoor nets. The emphasis is on CCC being a great place for ALL the family to play cricket.... As indeed it is! (just ask the Knight family and the Bullock family and the George family... and if we could just persuade Mrs Gadsby.....!!). A massive thank you to our brilliant designer Gary Brazier who has turned all the text we have thrown at him into compelling adverts!

Social Calendar

Your Social Action Group has a long list of events for you to put in your diaries, starting with a Night At The Races at the Orchard ground on 15 April. Please sponsor a race, become a race horse owner and come along and bet generously. We will be holding the second annual CCC golf day on 1 May (the Bank Holiday) and the second Bank holiday on 29th May sees a double wicket competition between those juniors on the Junior Leaders in Cricket programme and their respective buddies. Come along for what should be a great day out.

Further dates for your diary include the Vice Presidents' match on 16 July when a village XI takes on a VPs' XI to represent the club's supporters. On 28 August we will again be holding the hugely enjoyable fancy dress intra club six-a-side tournament.

If you would like to get involved in

any of these events please contact me on 07527 989639 or tom.gadsby @icloud.com



There will be **NO CHARGE** for entry but we would be delighted if you could support the event generously (and gamble responsibly, as Ray Winstone says).

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Key dates at start of season

- Saturday 15 April (9.30am till lunchtime) Orchard Groundforce day - all help appreciated and the hours count towards volunteering target for Young Leaders in Cricket
- Saturday 15 April Race night at Biggs pavilion. Starts 7.30pm
- Tuesday 18 April (6.30 onwards) First outdoor training at Orchard Ground (first chance to meet our overseas coaches)
- Friday 21 April (6.30 onwards) Outdoor coaching for new members and girls starts
- Saturday 22 April (9.30-1.30) CLUB OPEN DAY
- all help appreciated and the hours count towards volunteering target for Young Leaders in Cricket
- Saturday 22 April (2pm) Intra club match in preparation for senior season
- Sunday 23 April (9.30am) Outdoor Junior squad coaching starts
- Friday 28 April (6.30-7.30) Ladies training starts
- Saturday 29 April 1st X1 vs Wolverton at HOME warm up game
- Saturday 29 April 2nd XI and Sunday XI vs Bledlow Village AWAY - warm up game
- Saturday 6 May first round of Cherwell League fixtures and every Saturday thereafter
- Monday 29 May Buddies Double wicket match at HOME



Cublington Cricket Club

Established 1863