

Cricket at Cublington



News for all members, young and old.

End of season update from Cublington Cricket Club

Chairman's bit

The season ends and the cricket square is put to bed for another winter. The highlights:

- 1st and 2nd team maintained their position in their respective Cherwell League divisions.
- Our Sunday side is a great credit to the Club, providing social cricket for all ages and abilities
- Stealing the show, our under 11 side are the **best in Buckinghamshire** - they won the BCB Division 1 North, the Bucks County title and the Aylesbury Vale District League!
- Junior membership increased 100% during the season and now stands at 85 boys under 17 years of age and 10 girls - most of these new members are under 11 years of age and have been attracted through our engagement with local schools and word of mouth. Well done Gordon Sparke and all the great volunteer coaches and team managers.
- A Cublington junior side played a touring Zimbabwe Academy in August - the Cublington team losing by the narrowest of margins (4 runs).



(over £15000 in total) were raised for the **Penny Brohn Cancer Care charity** in collaboration with Cublington Cricket Club

- o A most enjoyable Annual dinner and award presentation evening hosted at the Unicorn
- **Thanks to all those who make our club work...** a lot of moving parts... you know who you are and we appreciate you!

Winter nets for Seniors, Ladies and Juniors - get your diaries out!

	Juniors	Senior men	Ladies
Day	Sunday	Monday	Monday
Start	12-Feb	13-Feb	06-Mar
Finish	09-Apr (exc 19-Feb)	27-Feb AND Tuesday 07-Mar 11-Apr	10-Apr
Time	1230-1630	1930-2100	1930-2100
cost	£35 for 8 sessions	£35 for 9 sessions	£25 for 6 sessions

or £5 per session

Get in the game

Clubs like ours don't exist without volunteers! And we need more people who are prepared to put their hands up to contribute in some way. So...Mums, dads, players, supporters of all ages, please would you come along to a 4-hour session delivered by a representative of Bucks Cricket? It's called "Get in the Game" and is fun and informative. It does not mean you will be pressured into volunteering (unless you want to), but it might lead onto something you will find personally rewarding and would certainly help us to deliver the kind of club we all want to belong to. *Please contact Steve George (01296 682367) if this is of any interest to you.*

- Cublington have a record **35 players in the Bucks County Winter training programme** - including nine girls.
- Our Ladies and Girls squads - kicked off this season, which reinforces our credentials as an inclusive, family centred club for all to enjoy sport and fun together.
- A New outdoor Net installed
- A new astro surface pitch on the square.
- Several superb social and fun events, notably
 - o The six a side tournament on the August bank holiday - a great family day for all.
 - o The superb Bollywood Ball in July where vital funds

1st XI review

The 1st XI had a positive season finishing only 16 points from 3rd place in a very tough Cherwell division 3. With 4 games rained off we were unlucky not to be challenging for promotion in the final few weeks of the season. We have a very young squad that is growing with the experience each game brings. The most memorable moment of the season was the huge total of 381-5 we set away at Great Brickhill from only 49 overs including a superb unbeaten 200 from Pip Webb from only 97 deliveries.

With 2017 set to be another challenging season I am expecting the same squad with a couple of new recruits to put us in a strong position to challenge for promotion! Thanks to everyone for your support this year.



1st XI skipper Will Rodnight presenting Pip Webb with the Batsman of the Year trophy

Junior Cricket Thriving

2016 proved to be successful as well as an historic season for Cublington Junior Cricket. We welcomed many new boys to the club and we launched Girls cricket. Junior sides played in both the Bucks and Aylesbury District Leagues at U9, U10, U11, U12, U13 & U15 level whilst the Girls



team competed in U11 & U13 Bucks Lady Taverners tournaments. A massive thanks to our dedicated coaching team for their commitment to developing our young cricketers and making all of this possible.

All Junior sides enjoyed successful playing records, however the U11's completed a remarkable season. As well as winning the Aylesbury District League Title, they achieved unprecedented success in the Bucks League, overcoming Beaconsfield in a titanic struggle to end the season as Bucks County Champions. The first side north of Chesham to get their name on the Cup!

Cublington CC continue to see junior players gaining representative honours with 15 Juniors representing the County at the various age groups over the season. We have this autumn, a record 35 players in the Bucks County Winter training programme - including nine girls. Reports and photos of an exciting season of Junior cricket can be enjoyed on the club website.

Thanks to Stuart

Stuart Bridgen our overseas coach for 2016 is now well into his cricket season down-under in Canberra. We would like to thank him for the contribution he made at the club both on and off the field during 2016. We appreciate all you did Stuart and hope you will come and see us when you are next in the UK.

New players very welcome

We are very keen to enlist new members... do you have a friend or know of anyone who wants to play?



With 6 Junior teams for boys and girls, 3 Senior teams and a Ladies squad, CCC offers cricket for all the family!

Our Junior teams compete in County and District competitions, the Seniors in The Cherwell League on Saturdays and on Sundays we play friendly matches against local clubs. Our Ladies team played 3 matches in 2016 and we hope to treble that in 2017.

Cublington Cricket Club has a fine reputation and relationship with Bucks Cricket, has the National CLUBMARK accreditation and offers a variety of social activities based at our picturesque and well-maintained ground in the centre of the village.

If you are thinking of joining a cricket club ready for 2017, then look no further than Cublington CC. A warm welcome awaits you and your family.

Contact

Steve George (Seniors) george.stephen@mac.com
or Gordon Sparke (Juniors) g.sparke@btinternet.com
or Debbie Knights (Ladies) debbie.knights@btinternet.com



www.cublingtoncc.org

Player/Parent/Club (PPC) agreements

We want to encourage our young teenagers to carry on playing cricket (preferably at Cublington) as they journey through their teens and into adult life. As a Club we are prepared to invest in our young players and have developed a package which we believe will be very attractive to young players, their parents and the Club. During this autumn, selected young players aged between 13 and 16 and their parents will be contacted to run through what is involved. We have partnered with the Charity "Young leaders in Cricket" who are administering a scheme whereby those selected will attend several short courses and be accredited. We also are introducing a "Buddy" scheme where those selected will be paired up with a suitable senior player to assist their development. If you have not already been contacted and believe that either your son or daughter would benefit from this scheme, please contact Steve George (01296 682367) for more information

Ladies who play Cricket

When I was asked to run a ladies cricket team, I had no idea what to expect. My previous experience of beach cricket with the boys may have been sufficient for me to be asked but as it turned out had little or no relevance to the real game of cricket! However, the reality of Cublington ladies cricket has been great. We have, under the watchful eye of our coach Steve George, started from scratch and have learned how to play the game to a level that we never



dreamed of! Our three matches this season, culminating with a win at Beaconsfield have given us a taste for what is to come in 2017! We have 20 ladies members currently in the squad and would love to see more mums and wives and girlfriends join us. In 2017 we will have a series of indoor training in March and Friday night coaching from late April. So, we have the momentum, the competitive spirit and the energy - onwards and upwards! A big thank you to coaches Steve Stuart and Will and to PC and Brian Knights for their great support with the BBQs!Friday nights at Orchard Ground is the place to be during the summer.

Catherine Rodnight

It's a family affair

2016 season saw all the Knights family join as playing members. Due to school commitments Harvey seemed to play for everyone else other than his own team, turning out for the Sunday side, 2nd XI, U15's and being drafted into the county development matches held at CCC, which led him to being asked to attend County trials – thanks Gordon!

Harriet got her first cap for Bucks County U17's with a win over Dorset and then played for Bucks Ladies against MCC Ladies. The parental highlight of the season was seeing both Harriet and Harvey playing on the same side one Sunday afternoon at Ley Hill. A real Kodak moment.

I managed to pick up an injury early in the season which meant I couldn't play in the first two ladies matches (Ballinger and Beaconsfield at Orchard Ground), however I got to play in the return match against Beaconsfield.

Brian made his debut for Team 'Miss Field' on Bank Holiday Monday and had the audacity to end the day as the only member of the Knights family to win a tournament, a great day had by all.

Having got the playing side covered, it's worth reflecting

on the off-field activities. Harriet scores for the 1st XI and is intending to take part in the Bucks Youth Leadership program so that she can coach next year. Harvey has completed his player agreement and will be mentored by Kit Gordon Stuart next year. Brian spent most Friday evenings manning the BBQ with Paul China during the ladies and juniors training, raising approximately £330 for the club and establishing the "place to be" for a pre-supper sausage and beer. For me, the combination of COAG, CAG and SAG committees kept me busy with meetings and minutes and of course the inevitable flurry of registrations on Saturday mornings. It was great to be involved in such a successful year of social events including the Bollywood Ball, the Empire night, 6-a-side tournament and of course the Annual Club Dinner.

So what does this mean for next year? Hopefully more of the same. Brian has set himself the goal of playing for a real team (watch your back Pip!), Harvey will enter his 8th year as a junior member and Harriet and I will be starting Ladies winter nets in March. Here's to 2017, onwards and upwards.

Debbie Knights, Club Secretary



Little Chef, Big Chef - Your Friday evening BBQ hosts

Fundraisers extraordinaire - Debbie Knights, Tom Gadsby

Groundsman

We are looking for a Groundsman! Together with a group of willing workers, we need someone to take ownership for the preparation and presentation of the cricket pitch and square all year-round. If you have some spare time, have or are willing to learn the necessary skills and are well organised and passionate about our lovely ground, then it could be you! We have a small budget so it is a paid role. Please contact Michael Reilly if you think this is you 01296 682328.

Summerising Sundays

It's difficult to sum up the 2016 season for the Sunday XI with stats. We won about as many as we lost but more precise numbers are difficult to calculate, mainly due to Vice Captain Loverocket (Adam Farr) introducing the concept of the follow-on to village cricket. Against Whitchurch CCC we bowled the opposition out for 96 in 26 overs so invited the opposition to bat again. Whitchurch scored about 160 for about 16. In a very close finish Nick Clarke hit the winning runs (in a high quality score of 38



Welcome back Howard! - looks like the calf muscles have expanded a bit?

including some sixes that were not off the bowling of the 12 year old girl) and was well supported by three youngsters. Cublington got the runs 13 wickets down. Statisticians might despair but that game sums up the spirit in which Sunday village cricket should be played. Respect for

the opposition, have fun, introduce youngsters to senior cricket and don't let the truth get in the way of a good story when discussing it all in the pub afterwards. We enjoyed the game so much that we played Whitchurch again at the end of the season in a two innings contest, which Cublington probably won but I can't remember and it doesn't matter anyway. Some were singing 'Can we play you every week?' We played them three times this season so we weren't far off.

Many thanks to all who played so enthusiastically for the Sunday side this year, especially the juniors and Steve Mackie for umpiring. We'll take your tons and your ducks, your wickets and dropped catches just the same. It all adds to the rich tapestry. (We are quite grateful for the tons and the wickets, though). Can't wait for 2017 and the five test series vs Whitchurch.

Annual 6-a-side Tournament

'On August Bank Holiday Monday, members of Cublington CC, players and spectators, turned out for the inaugural 6-a-side tournament. Teams were comprised of all ages, with men and women as young as 11 and the odd player who had never held a cricket bat before. A rolling-bbq and refreshments kept spirits high as 6 teams and some of the best fancy dress the club has ever



A pensive Gordon Sparke on 6-a-side day

witnessed took to the field. We had the Overseas Golfer, the 1st XI skipper in a banana outfit, two chefs and a medic plus many more. Everyone (well about 100 people) from the club had a great day out, with team Miss Field (captained by Mr Fairhurst) brushing aside team

Village in the final. Sam George claimed the biggest six award for clearing the car park, with Young Tom Carter taking the Champagne moment with a blistering 42*

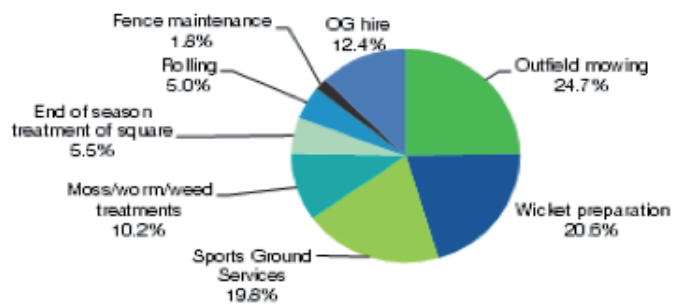
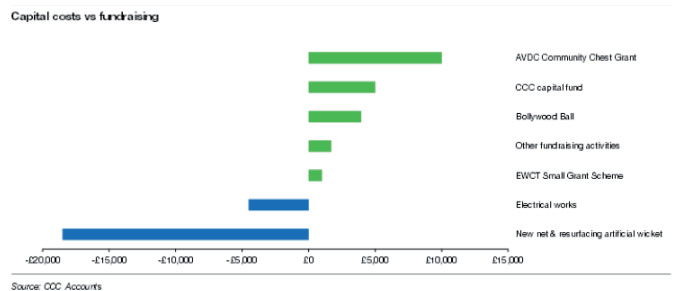
batting with Alexa Wilson. PC swept the brown ale award after he tried to bat for the wrong team and U11 Cameron 'the hawk' Bullock took home the fielding award. It was a special day for the club, typifying our 'one-club' ethos, with people of all ages coming together over the sight of Adam Farr's mullet, some 'interesting' cricket and some top-notch banter. Big thanks to Kit, Ollie and Ben for organizing a smashing day!

Where all the money goes!

2016 has seen good efforts on fund raising but also high capital expenditure, on a new net, resurfacing of the artificial strip on the square and connecting electricity to the equipment shed. We have been granted £10,000 from the Aylesbury Vale community chest towards these costs but the total of c£23,000 means that we need to work hard next year to replenish the club's coffers as the expenditure has eaten into the club's reserves.

It is important that members should understand the costs of running a cricket club. The ground alone costs over £8000 per year with the break-down of how that is spent shown below.

For full details of the club's financial position we urge you to attend the AGM and ask as many questions as you wish.



We have had a number of fundraising events this year. The Bollywood Ball raised nearly £4,000 for the club. And we thank Becky George and her team for all their efforts. The CCC Summer Party, Golf Day and Race Night all contributed to profits, as did the excellent club six-a-side tournament. Big Chef Brian Knights and Little Chef Paul China also did sterling work for the club's finances with BBQ and tongs every Friday.

We are always looking for ideas for new events. If you have any thoughts you would like to share do please call me (07527 989639) and let me know. All help gratefully received. Tom Gadsby