

The Bluesletter # 5

3rd August 2020



Almost there...

Work on the new Green pitch is progressing very well, in fact so well that its almost finished and we expect handover in a few days time... Details about how and when we get to play on the lovely new flat surface will be communicated by each section.

But that's not all..... its not just the pitch surface that is getting a facelift: New fencing and the creation of additional spectator space is also going to be built, although given the lead in time required, this will take place around the end of August – so more of that in due course.

Very few clubs around the country have two artificial turf pitches on site, and of those not many would have been able to contemplate such an investment during lockdown. Not only is this testimony to the way the clubs finances are managed, but it also says much about our membership that they stepped up and supported the club during these tough times and invest over £240,000 in our facilities. We've nearly hit our £20,000 fundraising target find out about the final push and ways to support us get there later in this Bluesletter . Since lockdown over £6,500 has been donated to the club by members and over £20,000 in advance payment of subscriptions has also been received.

The TSC Board would like to thank everyone for their contributions, donations large and small, and of course, your time in support of the club over the summer. Of course there is still more to be done – there's always more to be done – but with the green pitch nearing completion, we might give ourselves a good pat on the back before we go again.

In the meantime lets say 'farewell to the old green pitch..... [Farewell 'Old' Green Pitch](#)

Bar and Sport

Having a drink is another way you can support us. As many of you will already know the bar re-opened on Fri 17th July and for the time being at least, is running on a weekend-only flexible basis. We're running an outside takeaway service and have limited socially distanced tables available in the bar. Opening times will vary from week to week, so before you leave home, check the club website for actual times and members can pre book to guarantee a table in the bar otherwise its first come first served inside. See the website for full details of how things are operating, how you can help us keep the Club safe and how to book <https://www.timperley-sports.com/>

BUT – lets remember those social distancing rules ! We all have a responsibility to each other

Playing members should contact their section about paying the 2020-21 Subs and click here for [Non Playing \(formerly social members\) ways to pay](#) direct or pay at the bar.

Lockdown has been particularly hard on our Cricket section, who's season has been drastically scaled back. But they are up and running now and so if you can spare an hour or so, call in to the club, have a drink and give them a shout!

Within the next 2-3 weeks, we are anticipating updated guidance from the National Governing Bodies of our other sports, Hockey, Lacrosse and Football that should also see the return of those sports. As further advice is published we will update our own procedures and adjust the bar opening times accordingly. We're coming back from lockdown a step at a time and in August will be focusing on getting all our sports and the bar back up and running safely with a limited number of hirers and aim to return to wider use of club and external hirer from September, Covid permitting.

Here's a pub quiz question for you.....

What links The Giraffe House at Blijdorp Zoo in Holland, Fælledparken Skatepark in Copenhagen and Timperley Sports Club...?

The answer is at the end of this Bluesletter

Fundraising

We've had a tremendous response from member - and former members – to our £20,000 Green Pitch Fundraising campaign and we're nearly there! On our line Auction got us off to a flying start raising £6760 and with donations and projected Gift Aid we've raised just over £15,000 so we're nearly there! The Project is costing over £240,000 so please help us if you can to get over the line with this last leg over the next few weeks – then we'll have an added celebration when we formally open the pitch later in September.



The artificial turf pitches are used by all four of our sports to play or train so all sections benefit and they also generate a significant part of our income to help run the club and benefits all members.

Here's how you can contribute –

- on line with our [Green Pitch Squares Donations](#) from £5
- donate via the bar for Green Pitch Squares £2.50 a square
- or donate direct to the club – email info@timperley-sports.com
- Gift Aid any donations if you are a UK tax payer
- Take a look at our [TSC 'Pop Up' fund-raising shop](#) and pick up everything TSC from facemasks to t-shirts, caps and bags for life! Each sale contributes to the Green Pitch Fund and so you can look good, show your support for the club and do good all in one or two clicks! The packs of three facemasks for £10 are also available from the bar.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising every pound, cap and t-shirt really does make a difference and thanks also for all the positive feedback about the new pitch.



.....Repairs & refurb

We've been making progress on a few other outstanding jobs. Following the clearance of the bushes & trees behind the green pitch, we've now let a contract to install a drain along its entire length to catch all of the water coming down off the banking and another short drain is going to connect the main Stockport Road car park into the clubs mains system. We also hope to be able to install perimeter fencing to the far Wood Lane car park as well as some lighting which should enhance personal safety, particularly during the winter months. With luck all of these new additions should be completed by mid-September.

Remember that Pub Quiz question.....?

The Answer is 'Tatajuba'..... all three of those famous venues utilise this incredibly tough timber, (*Bagassa guianensis*) from French Guiana, Brasil and the north Amazon basin. It lives in a humid tropical environment and just doesn't rot.



In our case, it is used for the decking outside of the club and whilst the decking surface itself, after 20 years, is still in really good condition, the joints and timber framework supporting have been rotting away for a number of years. After several years of patch & mend, we've decided it needs to be replaced with a more solid, low maintenance raised patio-type construction.

We want to do this before winter sets in and so we're about to go out to tender. So we're looking for your help now.....

Are you or do you know a contractor that might want to be added to the tender list ?

Do you know where you might be able to get 140/150 tons of hardcore – or discounted materials ?

Have you experience of paving ?

Are you planning your own 'decking' project and might want to make us an offer for some of the wood?

Can you volunteer to help dismantle the decking ?

If the answer to any of the above questions is a 'yes' or 'possibly', then email us on info@timperley-sports.com, speak to any member of the bar staff or let your section chair know.

Timperley 300 Club

One positive of lockdown has been the 300 club which continues to grow. At £4 per month payable by direct debit, it's a cheap and easy way of supporting the club. All of the funds raised will go towards the kind of repair and refurbishment projects above that you've been reading about.

Details about how to join are here <https://www.timperley-sports.com/a/fundraising-and-supporting-tsc--300-club-58959.html> or if you just want to know more, contact Nick Burnett nick@theburnetts.co.uk

The next monthly draw takes place on **Sat 15th August at 18.00 hrs** and will again be broadcast on Facebook in glorious full screen LIVE action !! <https://www.facebook.com/TimperleySportsClub/>

Annual Members Meeting ...

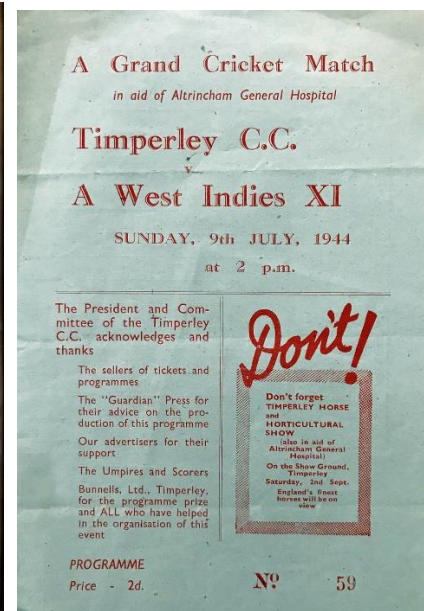
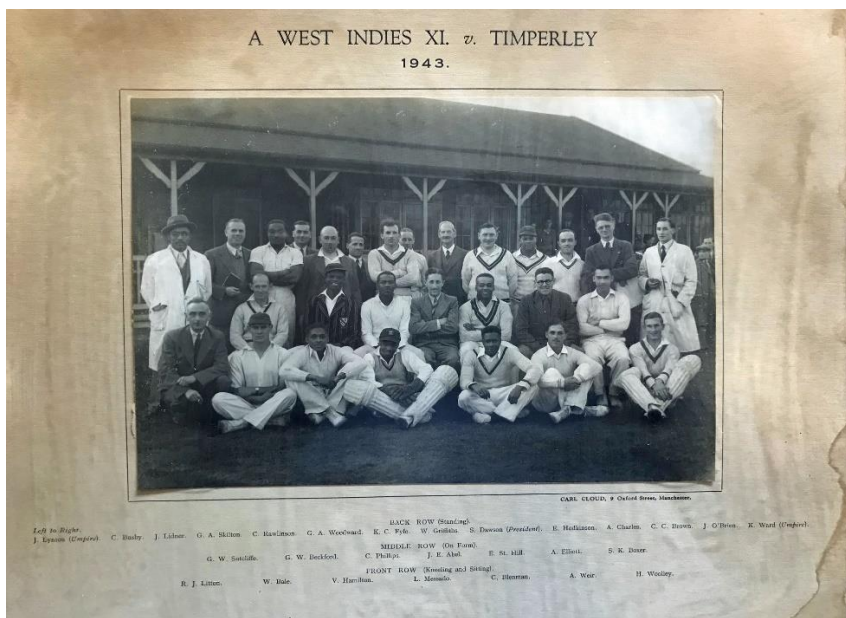
We've had a few questions about what's happening about the Club AGM. We started trading as Timperley Sports Club Ltd at the start of 2020 after completing the detailed process to legally transfer from TSC to TSC Ltd. We had planned the first AGM of TSC Ltd and Board elections in June 2020 but alas we couldn't proceed due to the Club being closed and the knock on of Covid-19 lockdown.

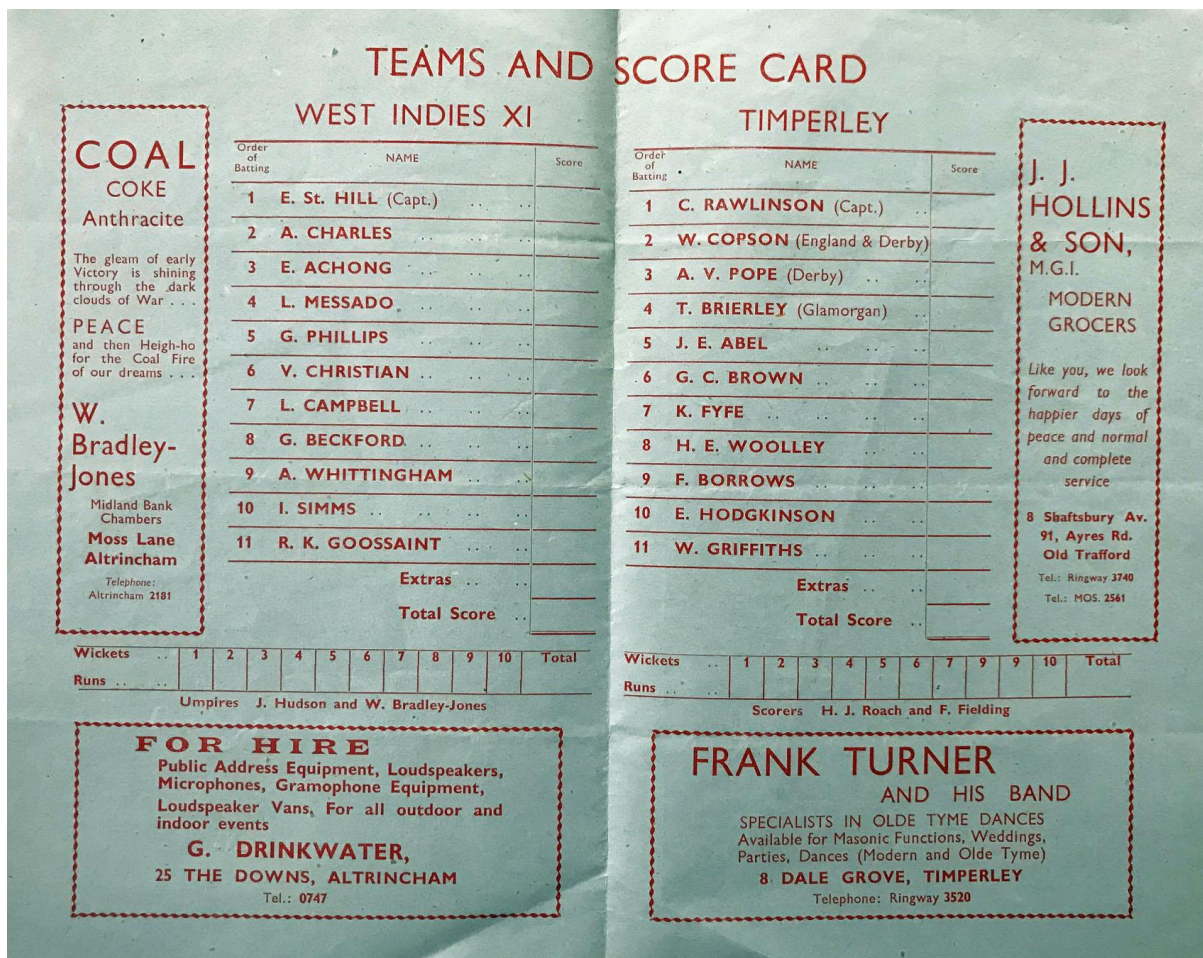
The Board currently putting in place the plans to aim to hold the TSC Ltd AGM and Elections in late September and we'll be sharing more information by the end of August. This will include opening Nominations for the member elected Directors who make up the Board with the appointed Directors from sections. There's a lot more to do than the old style TSC AGM and we are working through the detail over the next few weeks.

... and Finally

As England have been playing the West Indies in a bio-bubble test series, did you know that Timperley regularly played a West Indies team back in the 1940s and 50s?

The great West Indian cricketer Learie Constantine, who was based in Lancashire during World War 2 conceived the idea and he organised exhibition matches between NW club teams and a West Indies XI made up of players based in England, initially to raise funds for the war effort.





The following year in 1945, a crowd of approx. 5,000 (yep – that’s correct !) saw a Timperley team beat West Indies by 4 wickets, despite a quickfire 53 from the Jamaican and West Indies wicketkeeper batsman, Leonard Massado. Other West Indian legends to play in this fixture against Timperley over the years were **Frank Worrall in 1948, Clyde Walcott & Everton Weekes in 1951 and Sonny Ramadhin in 1956.**

You might want to watch this interesting 28 min film produced by the BBC in 2017
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8vmAhKkfhNs>

Finally, finally.....

As we start to emerge from this ‘unreal’ period and hopefully return to some kind of normality, where we can at least meet up and share a drink with a few friends, if not the whole team, lets stay optimistic and stay together – It’s your club.

#foursportsoneclub

If you have any thoughts or ideas about the above, or anything else, just drop an email to info@timperleysports.com and we’ll get back to you.

We’ll keep you updated over the next few weeks as things develop in our next Bluesletter #5.....

Stay Safe.

Your Timperley Sports Club Limited Board

Alan Holdsworth, Shelagh Everett, Nick Burnett, Richard Knill, Gary Fisher, Bob Page, Phil Hartley, Jarrod Sykes

and the TSC Staff Team Jane Ashcroft, Sam Brooks and Andy Horsfield and Col Taylor

Stay in touch.....

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