



Snow Stops Play!

When yet more snow arrived at Easter and our clubhouse was flooded, the 2018 season was almost a washout, before it had even begun! The clubhouse was a sorry sight and fixtures were put back a week by the Huddersfield League, as many grounds were saturated and unplayable. This gave us a little more time to get things back in order and club members began a huge clean up, repair and refurbishment effort.

Many thanks to everyone who put in hours of hard work and gave up their time to make sure TCC was in good order for the season.



Welcome

This season, we have welcomed some new overseas players to our club. Haydn Slodecki, his girlfriend Laura, from Australia and Jack Cassidy from New Zealand, arrived in Thongsbridge, when there was still snow on the ground. They have all made a great contribution to our club, with some fantastic performances in games this season. They have also added to our club tremendously off the pitch and many of our junior players have benefitted from their coaching, input in matches, and their help at junior training every Friday. Laura has also played in our Women's softball team and has been willing to help in any way she can. It is a pleasure to have them all with us and we hope they will take back

good memories of their time at Thongsbridge. We very much hope to see them back next year and we are already looking forward to them being part of an exciting 2019 season.

As well as new players, we are also delighted to have Tony Robery with us now, in the role of Club Coach. A former, county cricketer, Tony is coaching our senior teams and is overseeing all cricket matters at our club. He has already made a great impact and has brought a very professional approach to the club this season. It is also lovely to see his family at the games, supporting our teams and his daughters also playing for our women's softball team.



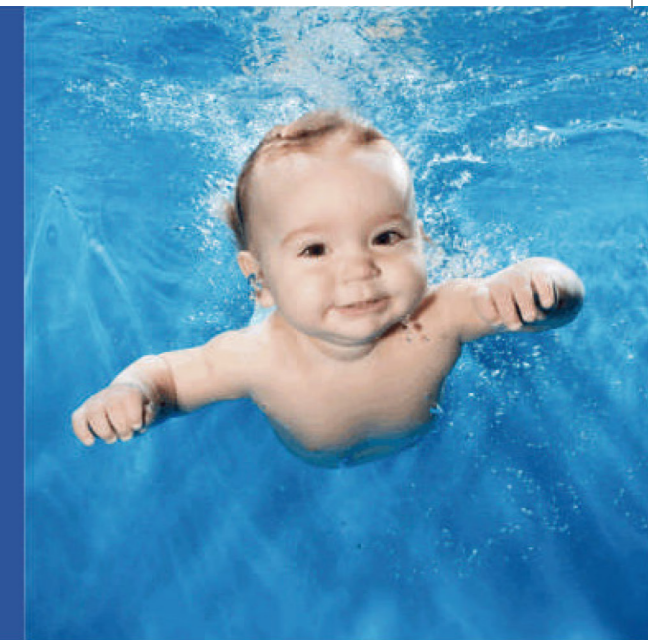
Record Breaking Season!

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Both our senior teams have made fantastic progress this year. Congratulations go to our 2nd team, on their tremendous season. Captained by Richard Wagstaff, the team has not only secured promotion, but with only a few games to go, they are very well placed to go up as champions. A fantastic effort by all involved!

Our 1st team, captained by Ben Raven- Hill, is currently placed third in the League, in only our second year in the

Drakes League Premiership. The team achieved a league record score of 466 this season against Mirfield Parish, with Ben Raven Hill scoring 190 and Hayden Slodecki 140, which is also a league record partnership. The team is looking to consolidate on many good performances and results so far and maintain their position as one of the top clubs in the league this season.



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Club development Your Club Needs Your Help!

We now have planning approval to develop the exciting plans for our new clubhouse. Funding for this is a huge issue for the club, as we have currently been unable to secure a Sport England, ECB or other form of grant.

This means that the project has to be fully funded by the club and we therefore have to raise £150,000 through our own activities and endeavours.

This is a big challenge but with support from all members, past and present, the local community and other people who wish to make a real difference, we are sure that we can achieve this.

We are planning to start the project in September 2018 and have the new facility completed for the start of the 2019 season.

The majority of the funding will come from loans, which will have to be repaid over the next 5 years.

To keep to our tight budget and service or remove the loans, we will need support with trades' skills, building materials, sponsorship and fundraising activities. Now is the time to help if you are able to!



This is the biggest single project ever undertaken in the history of the club. It will need everyone to pull together for a short period, which will then leave a fabulous legacy for club members and the local community to enjoy for many years to come.

Please play a part in this however big or small that may be.

Little Lions are roaring with Rory!

Another new addition to our club this season, is Rory the Lion, who is doing a fantastic job most Friday nights, taking the warm up for our Little Lions! Rory is an agile mover and makes sure that our juniors know how to stretch properly before they start their session.

It is great to see so many children enjoying training with G&R Coaching, our professional coaches, as well as all our volunteer coaches who give up their time every week throughout the Summer.

We have been fortunate to enjoy some fantastic weather for Friday training and it has been lovely to see parents getting involved after training with lots of impromptu games on the ground until dusk.



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A thriving junior section

Our **U9s** have taken part in seven tournaments this season and have really done the club proud, winning the Shelley and Marsden tournaments and finishing as runners up at Scholes, Barkisland and Upperthong. These excellent results have ensured a place in the U9s Grand Final Day! Well done indeed to all our U9s!

Cullen (3 times), Oliver Harrop and Lucien Fullalove both retired twice and Paddy Armerson retired once.

Six members of our U13 team were also members of the successful Holmfirth High School team that reached the Final of the Yorkshire Schools Cup, finishing 3rd - an outstanding achievement!



U11s

The U11s have enjoyed a good season, finishing mid table, with wins against Holmbridge (twice), Shepley, Upperthong and Holmfirth. Many thanks to Alex James, Jack Cassidy, Andrew Wagstaff and all the parents who have run and supported the younger age groups throughout the season.

U13s

After a slightly hesitant start, the U13s grew in confidence and then began a successful winning streak, including a fantastic cup run, narrowly missing out on a place in the semi finals. A number of players achieved batting retirement of 25 runs in games and they include; Matt Vale (retired 5 times), Oliver

U15s

Our U 15 team was boosted by a number of our U13 team this year, but has also grown in confidence and has developed really well. This season, the U15 team, was captained by Aimee Cullen and it is the first time that a mixed team at our club has been captained by a girl. Batting retirement was achieved by; Harry Edwards, Oliver Cullen, Ethan Lear and Tom Jennings.

Many thanks to Ian Edwards and Andrew Cullen for working hard with the U13 team as well as the U15s. A huge commitment!

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Rising Stars!

The season has been extremely successful for a number of our junior players, who have achieved representative honours this year.

Emily Roberts, who had already been selected for the West Yorkshire U11 team, was then selected to play for the full U11 Yorkshire team and has contributed significantly to the team. Many congratulations to Emily, who has a very exciting future in cricket ahead of her.

Congratulations also to **Harry Edwards** and **Oliver Cullen**, who were selected for the Huddersfield Taverners' teams at U14 and U13 respectively. The boys both worked extremely hard over the Winter at indoor nets, which made a difference to their performances this season and they have developed their skills tremendously. Oliver has scored 484 runs in junior cricket this season, which bodes well for the future!



Rory France and **Ben Balmforth**, who are among the youngest members of our first team, have both represented Yorkshire this season and show great potential for the future. Rory has produced some very valuable, assured and mature batting performances against premier league bowlers and Ben who has taken 37 wickets this season, has been selected to play for the MCC team against an England Schools XI at Lords on the 3rd September. Ben was selected, after taking 5 wickets against the MCC team, when playing for Huddersfield New College. Very well done to both players and we wish Ben the best of luck when he plays at Lords.



Georgia Draper has had an outstanding season and aged only 15, has already made her debut for the Yorkshire Women's first team, with some fine performances and a fairy tale start, particularly against Lancashire, taking 2 important wickets for 44 runs off 10 overs as well as catching their 4th and 5th in the batting order. Georgia has also played in the 20/20 squad and has been selected to play at Loughborough in the National School Games as part of an U18 team, selected by the ECB from all the RDC/England academy players. Georgia is the first female player to open the bowling in a senior mixed team at Thongsbridge and everyone at the club is very proud of her fantastic achievements to date. We are sure that her career will go from strength to strength and we look forward to watching her progress in the future with great interest. Well done indeed!



Girl Power! Softball Superstars

For the first time ever at Thongsbridge, we have taken part in women's softball cricket and have entered a number of Yorkshire Softball festival matches this season. The Thongsbridge ladies have performed extremely well, winning many of their games, even though most members of the squad have never played cricket before! The team had a moment of fame when they were featured in a Sky TV video during the England V Pakistan test match, possibly the first ever Thongsbridge team to appear in action on the TV! We would like to welcome new players to our squad and hope to establish more regular ladies' training sessions, so watch out for more news soon.

We will be hosting our own softball tournament at Thongsbridge, on Sunday 9th of September. It would be fantastic to see as many ladies playing as possible and to put out a number of teams. These are fun and relaxed events and a free glass of Prosecco is provided, although there is most definitely a competitive element to the games! Please ask for more information, if you would like to take part.



Club Presentation Evenings

The Senior Presentation Night will be held on Saturday, 13th October, at The North Light Gallery Café, so please save the date and book your place as soon as possible. Payment must be before the event please and information will be on our website soon.

The Junior Presentation Evening will be at the club on Friday 31st August, at the ground, after a slightly shortened training session.

Charity Events

This year we held an event in support of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance for the first time, which proved to be a great success and we hope to be able to support this fantastic and worthy cause again next year.

Disability Cricket

We have hosted county disability cricket matches for a number of years now and were fortunate to have a particularly beautiful day for the Yorkshire v Staffordshire match this year. Many thanks go to all the volunteers who gave up their time to make this possible.



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Featured Volunteers

Thank you also, to all the volunteers who have helped to make sure our senior teams, representative teams, charity teams, disability teams and on some occasions the Holmfirth High School teams have been provided with a cricket tea at the interval this season. It

has been challenging this year for all involved in such hot conditions in the clubhouse, but everyone who has helped has done a fantastic job and visiting teams have been particularly appreciative of all the effort involved.



Apart from the professional coaching provided by the club, everything else at our ground is done entirely by volunteers! It takes a great deal of effort, time and commitment to keep things running smoothly and to maintain the ground, so we are always extremely grateful for help of any kind. Many hands make light work and we would be delighted to hear from anyone wishing to contribute in any way, however small. Help is needed with; club development, ground maintenance, coaching, team management, junior scoring, team teas, BBQ, bar, fund raising etc. If you are able to help in any way, please contact a member of the committee or a team manager.

Did you know?

The cost of running our club may surprise you! In order to cover the cost of cricket (coaching, indoor nets, league fees, cricket balls, trophies, equipment, umpires and scorers) and to maintain the ground / property and pay for the utility bills, it costs approximately £25,000 per year ! We have a season that is 5 months long and we need to raise £5,000 per month, just, to cover these costs, before we even start developing or building for the future.

All help with fund raising is greatly appreciated and we would welcome help from anyone who feels they can contribute in this way.

A Huge Thank You to our Sponsors

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our sponsors. As previously mentioned, it is increasingly difficult for community groups, like our club, to keep things going and developing, as there is now less financial support and there are fewer grants available. The help provided by our sponsors is increasingly important to us and has made an enormous difference to our club. Without that help, it would be extremely difficult to maintain our offering to the local community. We are most grateful for all the help we have received, from match ball sponsors, to our major sponsors and wish to convey our sincere thanks.

We would be interested to hear from any members who may be able to provide future sponsorship or who work for organisations that might support our community group.



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Looking ahead!

Please look out for more news on the clubhouse development.

Please look out for more news on the clubhouse development. This is an opportunity for ALL OF US to leave a positive legacy for the Thongsbridge community. It will need a huge push and effort from everyone, but we are sure that it can be done!

School, in preparation for the 2019 season! These usually begin during the first week in February for seniors and the second week for juniors. More information will be provided when we have details of the dates.

Finally we hope you all enjoy the remainder of the season and we look forward to seeing you all at winter nets at Holmfirth High



We hope you enjoy the rest of the Summer!





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