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Byfleet CC Newsletter - April 2014

With the season just 3 weeks away it's time to oil the joints and gear up for what will be a historical and hopefully another successful year for the Club. To bring everyone up to date on what has happened during the winter and what will be happening during the next year we will be issuing a newsletter every month during the summer advising members on news, events and progress towards our various goals.

There will be some new arrivals this summer to swell our ranks - both on and off the field – and we wish Lindsey and Nicki safe delivery.

Overseas Player(s)

Add in Kieron from Gibraltar (he hopes to be over for 2-3 weeks), the blossoming talents of Ben Tyler, Matt & Ashley Rannie, Tim Richards and the experience of Andy, Will, Sam, Liam and Roly, the 1st XI has the opportunity to take Div. 5 by storm and perhaps even gain promotion to Div. 4.

Obviously, with a young, enthusiastic 1^{st} XI squad and more good Colts coming through, it will strengthen the 2^{nd} XI and they should be challenging for promotion to the Championship (no pressure Greg....!)

Extension/Refurbishment

We have re-applied for Planning & been told it should not be a problem, we are still waiting on West Estates to finalise the agreement for the purchase of the car park land and are pushing hard to get this completed. We hope to start the build in Spring next year.

Fund Raising

A fund raising committee has been formed consisting of Bernie Dodwell, Iain and Linda Bowman, Corrine Mickley, Lucy Collins, Andrea Ling, Will Crabtree and Andy Savage. Each individual has been assigned specific tasks and a full schedule of events & activities for the year will be handed out at Registration Evening. The Club has some £28,000 put aside and we aim to raise £75,000 towards the approx. cost of £300,000. Woking

BC has indicated that they will favourably consider providing £100,000 and the rest will come from grants or loans from other organisations.

We are looking to all members to support this effort in any way possible and a separate note about the fund raising will be given to every member on the Registration Nights.

Paintballing - Change of Date.

Please note this will now be on Monday 5th May (Bank Holiday). This change is due to a clash with boy's football matches which meant many who wanted to take part could not. Contact Will Crabtree on 07841 043 444 or email will.j.crabtree@gmail.com for information and booking.

Second Ground

We recently had a very positive meeting with Woking BC about the proposed developments in Byfleet and also understand the priorities that the Council has in terms of recreational facilities — and high on the list is cricket. Discussions are at a very early stage but if agreement can be reached we could have a second ground as soon as the start of the 2015 season. Should this happen it is essential that we get our facilities upgraded and modernised as soon as possible. Watch this space!

Colts

Yet again we look like having a record number of colts – they are the lifeblood of the Club and the active involvement of parents and Club members in maintaining the level of organisation, administration and practical help during matches and Colts evening is essential if we are to continue developing the local talent in the Village and to grow as a Club. We have a full quota of qualified coaching staff with the addition of 2 new parent coaches plus the return of Brian to continue where he left off last season. It can't be many clubs that can boast an active 1st Class player as one of their Colts' coaching staff. If you have any questions about the Colts or would like to help in the organisation, contact Shaky Ahmed on 07795 281 378.

April Event Diary

Saturday 5th April - NatWest Cricket Force Weekend

It is considered that the tasks we need to complete for the start of the season can be completed in one day rather than two, so Cricket Force will only be on this Sunday 5th. We have a number of tasks to undertake e.g. painting the visitors changing room & laying a new carpet, general clearing up of the ground, clearing the car park and possibly extending it, cleaning the decking & replacing the broken Perspex, pruning the trees, clearing out the home dressing room, pressure washing the showers etc. If you could spare a couple of hours on Sunday to help it would be much appreciated.

Wednesday 16th April Colts Registration Evening from 5.30pm

Thursday 17th April Adults Registration Evening from 6.00pm, Outdoor nets commence.

Saturday 19th April 1st XI v. Sunbury 2nd XI, home (1.00pm) Sunday 20th April Sunday XI v. Old Woking, away (1.30pm)

Wednesday 23rd AprilFirst Colts Night, then every Wednesday evening until further notice.Friday 25th AprilGolf Day at Laleham Golf Club. Contact Will Crabtree for details.Saturday 26th April1st XI v. Avorians, away, 2nd XI v. Avorians, home (both 1.30pm start)

Sunday 27th April Sunday XI v. Surrey Antilles, home, 1.30pm