



Byfleet CC Newsletter – May 2014

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The season is underway and it will be a busy month!

We have further good news on the playing front with the arrival of Brent Kay from South Africa. Some of you may recall Brent came over from South Africa in 2007/8 as an 18 yr. old. We maintained contact with him and he's re-joining for 2014 and we have confirmed his eligibility to play in the Surrey Championship as he holds a UK passport.

Brent is an opening bowler and mid-order batsman, is captain of Standard CC in South Africa and will be a valuable addition to the coaching squad – hopefully we can make him again feel “at home” with many familiar faces.

Richard Buzaglo and Kieron Ferrary from Gibraltar will also be over for 2-3 weeks in mid-May, further strengthening (though only temporarily) an already impressive 1st XI squad.

We also welcome some new senior members to the Club for 2014 – Eddie Oxborough, David O'Brien & Mo Zeeshan.

2014 subscriptions are now due - £60 for playing members, £30 for students and Colts, £20 for social members, make cheques payable to Byfleet Cricket Club and hand to Ken, any Committee Member or send to the Treasurer – contact details in the fixture card available from the bar.

Extension/Renovation

No major update at this stage, we have informed the local Councillors of our plans and Byfleet councillor, Anne Roberts (current Mayor of Woking), has responded positively and offered her support. She has also informed the next Mayor of Woking of our plans. We have spoken to Graham Cundy, Councillor for St. Johns and Chair of the Leisure Committee and have his support as well. We now await approval for the re-submitted planning application.

West Estates continue to prove elusive, however contact has been made recently and we await progress from their solicitors in respect of finalising the land purchase. The Council are also on the case on our behalf.

Fund Raising

At registration evening you will have all received a note from the President about our plans and seeking your support plus a list of activities. Please make every effort to support these events. Aside from these initiatives, plans to raise funds from other sources are well advanced. The fund stands at approx. £29,000.

We shall be announcing a major fundraising event for **Sunday 28th June 2015** in conjunction with Cobham Avorians CC – it will attract considerable local attention and support and we will need “all hands on deck” to make it a success. Please reserve this date in your diaries and further information will follow as soon as we have confirmation.

100 Club

We had 7 new members of the 100 Club at the registration. If you are not already a member simply pick up a Bank Mandate form from the bar and hand to any Committee member or Ken behind the bar.

Bob Goldsmith

Bob Goldsmith is a former player in the 60's & 70's, captain, official and former President of the Club 1976-1989 and a current Vice-President. Bob is in his 90th year, and lives in Scarborough and is a long-standing supporter and Club benefactor. Unfortunately Bob is unable to visit the Club nowadays but he annually writes to the Treasurer of the day enclosing his playing subs and his letters are most entertaining and full of forgotten history of the Club. He also regularly corrects the poor grammar in Club reports! Some older members have had the pleasure and privilege of meeting Bob who is the consummate gentleman and one of the kindest, unassuming, generous and friendly individuals one could ever hope to meet.

On receiving the last newsletter, and reading about our fund raising plans, Bob has donated £500 to the fund (or, as he stated, 1/600th of the total) plus his £60 playing subscription. On behalf of the whole Club we thank Bob for his most generous gift, wish him continued health and happiness and look forward to celebrating his “ton”.

Ian MacKenzie

We were delighted to be contacted by Ian MacKenzie recently. Ian last played for the Club in **1959** and now lives in the Isle of Man. He tracked us down via the website and has most generously donated £100 towards the pavilion fund, for which we thank him. At this stage we have no contact with any other former member who played earlier than 1959, even Malcolm!

Graeme Crystal

It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of Graeme Chrystal in New Zealand at the young age of 52. Graeme was an all-rounder for the club in the 80s for the 1st XI, playing 84 games, scoring 1436 runs at an average of 21.12, taking 74 wickets at 19.65 and 41 catches. We offer our sincere condolences to his family.

Golf Day

A successful day, but wet day, at Laleham GC with 34 playing and around 50 for the evening dinner. The weather was challenging to say the least but those who played bravely battled the elements to complete at least 9 holes, some managed the full 18! Just over £800 was raised towards the pavilion fund and the winners of the various competitions were:

Team – Alex Gregory's Bandits....

Nearest the Pin – Jim Crabtree

Yellow Ball – Will Crabtree's Team

Thanks to Will Crabtree for organising the day, Lucy Collins for running the raffle, Laleham GC for looking after us and to everyone who provided raffle prizes.

Second Ground

Again nothing significant to report at this point, discussions are progressing and we hope to be in a position to provide full details in the next 2-3 months.

Colts

Despite the poor weather we had a great response at the Colts Registration evenings and 93 Colts attended the first Colts Night. We are blessed with a first class coaching set-up and it looks like another great year. If you have any questions about the Colts or would like to help in the organisation, contact Shaky Ahmed on 07795 281 378. The Colts Handbook is available from Shaky.

3rd XI

The 3rd XI make their debut this month, starting with an away friendly at Egham on Saturday 3rd May. If you are looking for a friendly game of cricket and would like to assist with the progression of our junior players please get in contact with Iain Bowman 07837 927417 or Rob Deven 07500 032055.

May Event Diary

5th May Paintballing - contact Will Crabtree on 07841 043 444 or email will.j.crabtree@gmail.com for information and booking.

31st May Race Night at the Club

Don't forget outdoor nets have now started, Thursday evening for Seniors, Wednesday evening for Colts Training.

Byfleet CC Committee
May 2014