



Between the Wickets

The Newsletter of Spofforth CC

Sponsored by T & R Theakston Ltd



March 2011

Issue 44

Membership

Included with this newsletter is a social membership renewal form which can be completed and forwarded to the Treasurer whose address is included on the form. Alternatively you can hand it to any club official or leave it at the clubhouse with the bar person. This form is for social membership only and must not be used for Junior or senior membership. For details regarding junior membership please contact either **Simon Giddings** at simon.giddings@virgin.net or **Rachael Bateman** at rheenan@beachcroft.com. For potential senior players the contact is Simon Taylor at simon.taylor@rsim.co.uk.

A New Era

This season sees the club commence a new era in its history. We have left the Wetherby League after almost 60 years and will start life in the **Nidderdale League** where we have already been made most welcome by the League's officials.

The 1st XI will start the season in division 2 and the 2nd XI in division 5. The hope is that we can make our way into division 1 as quickly as possible, hopefully in year one. To help achieve this we are always on the lookout for new players for both 1st and 2nd XIs and indeed for the Evening League teams which compete in the **Harrogate Evening League** each Wednesday evening.

If you are a cricketer you will be welcomed with open arms and you can contact either Simon Taylor, the Chairman of Senior Cricket, who can be contacted at simon.taylor@rsim.co.uk or by telephone on **07814 133688** or **James Roberts**, the 1st XI captain at emmaroberts01@virgin.net or by telephone on **07816 498984**.

Alternatively you can come down to the **Cricket Force day, Saturday 26 March**, and speak to any member of the Management Committee.

NatWest Cricket Force

Natwest Cricket Force weekend is the largest volunteering programme in British sport and here at Spofforth Cricket Club it will take place over the weekend of **Saturday/Sunday 26/27th of March**. Cricket Force encourages cricket supporters, their families and friends to give something back to their local community cricket club by volunteering to undertake major and minor renovations to grounds and clubhouses.

Whilst at Spofforth we have no major projects in mind there is still work to be done to get our ground and facilities into shape for the start of the season in mid-April and we invite you to come along and get involved. Despite the whole weekend being set aside for the project we fully expect to complete all the work on the Saturday. We have already installed a new kitchen.

Please do come along and help to paint, clean and generally tidy up. We will feed and water you throughout the day and you may find you even enjoy it. There is usually plenty of fun and laughter to be had during the course of the day. For further information please contact the Chairman, **Steve Gill**, at chauffeur_gill@yahoo.com or by telephone on **07881 957395**.

Community Amateur Sports Club

Did you know that Spofforth Cricket Club is registered with HM Revenue and Customs as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC)? Amongst a number of benefits available to the club we are able to reclaim the tax from any donation received from a UK tax payer (Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax) subject to the completion of a very simple form. Up until the 5 April this year the amount we can reclaim is 28p in the £. This reduces to 25p in the £ after this date.

All our membership forms now give you the option of including a donation with your subscription and the club would greatly appreciate any additional contribution you would care to make to help cover the ever increasing costs of running a Community Sports Club.

Having stepped down from my role as 1st XI captain during season 2010 to take a less active role, I now find myself following in the footsteps of **Darren Kavanagh**, undertaking the role of chairman of senior cricket.

The new season is nearly upon us, and one which we all should be looking forward to with eager anticipation. As has been no doubt well documented elsewhere, we begin the new season with the fresh challenge of competing in The Nidderdale League. It gives us a chance to visit new grounds, meet new people and make new friends.

We are still in the process of negotiating the recruitment of an overseas player and details will be shown on the club's website www.spofforthcc.org.uk when these are completed."

Personally speaking it will bring me round full circle: Staveley 2nds v Harrogate Amateurs circa June 1988, Nidderdale League division 5, is where it all started for me. I am sure things have moved on since then, but the same friendly welcome at grounds is one thing I'm sure won't have changed. As a club, I hope we will extend the same courtesy and warm welcome to all our new opponents.

Finally, thanks to all those who voted me onto the committee; I shall strive to do my best to help take the club forward. If during the season, you do have any suggestions to put forward, or have any issues, please let me know; as they say, my door is always open!

Simon Taylor
Chairman - Senior Cricket

The Chairman

The 2011 season sees the club embark upon a new era

After almost 60 years of playing in the Wetherby League, the last 49 of which were spent in the 1st division, we will now be playing in the Nidderdale League. As we leave some good friends behind I have no doubt that we will all make a lot of new ones over the course of the next couple of seasons.

I hope that everyone feels as I do, excited at the prospect but with a few nerves as well. This is a huge step for the club and all our members, whether they are playing for the 1stXI, 2ndXI or any of the junior sides and not forgetting our supporters as well.

I wish every member all the best for the forthcoming season and hope that we can bring some new silverware to Spofforth Cricket Club come the end of the season.

Stephen Gill
Chairman

Annual Golf Day

The club's annual golf day will once again be held at **Wetherby Golf Club** this year on **Sunday 8 May**. As in 2010 the cost per team of 4 is £180 i.e. £45 per player and includes a basket of balls for the driving range, tea/coffee and bacon butty before a round of golf. To complete the day the cost includes a two course carvery meal in the clubhouse.

If you would like to take part and support your club then please contact **Steve Gill of 07881 957395** or at chauffeur_gill@yahoo.com

Club Development Plan

Because of the club's status as an English Cricket Board (ECB) Focus Club we have to produce an annual Development Plan. This can be accessed via the club's Play Cricket website at www.play-cricket.com by following the registration procedures remembering to include the club name. This will flag up a message on the club's website administrator who will give you the appropriate sanction to access the site and the plan.

Sainsbury's Active Kids

As last year the club is collecting **Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers** which are available from Sainsbury's stores from now and until 31 May. A collecting box will be available in the clubhouse and we would be extremely grateful for any contributions you are able to make. Last year the club was able to obtain various items of equipment which will help in the coaching of our youngsters.

Thank you for your help.

Registration Evenings

Junior registration will take place from 6.30PM in the clubhouse on Fridays 1 and 8 April 2011.

Applications for Junior membership will shortly be available to download from the clubs website www.spofforthcc.org.uk by following the link from the committee page to membership.

For the benefit of anyone new to the village the club is Sport England Clubmark accredited which guarantees that the club is a safe and friendly environment for your children. All our coaches, team managers and indeed anyone involved with junior cricket have been CRB checked

We look forward to seeing you on one of these evenings.

Coaching Staff

During the course of this month, March, four of our members are undertaking a Level 2 Coaching course. Nick Robinson, Jonathon Ross, Jason Westerman and Paul Jackson (currently a Level 1) will all then be available to augment our coaching team on a Friday evening.

Friday Evening Coaching

These sessions commence on Friday 15 April 2011 at 6.30PM until 8.00PM. Please make every effort to be ready for the coaching at 6.30PM and ensure that children are wearing suitable training attire.

The bar will be open for your enjoyment whilst your youngsters are running around outside letting off steam and we hope that you will stay with us for the duration of the sessions or even longer.

We would like volunteers to staff the tuck shop throughout the sessions and any time you could make available would be greatly appreciated. Mention it to any of the junior management team on one of the Registration Evenings.

Nidderdale League

As with the clubs senior sides 2011 will see us competing in the Nidderdale League having made the switch from the Wetherby League at the end of the 2010 season. It is an exciting new challenge to which we are all looking forward, visiting new grounds and meeting new people. We are sure that our four teams, under 9, under 11, under 13 and under 15 will thoroughly enjoy the experience.

For details of all junior activities please contact either:

Simon Giddings (Junior Chairman) at simon.giddings@virgin.net or 01937 590641

Or

Rachael Bateman (Junior Co-ordinator at rheenan@beachcroft.com

Bonus Ball 2011

Once again the club will be running the weekly National Lottery Bonus Ball draw based on the Saturday evening draw. The draw will commence on Saturday 30 April and will run for 20 weeks. The cost is just £1 per week payable in advance and the person who matches the Saturday bonus number will win £25, with the remaining £24 going towards club funds.

To acquire your number please contact any member of the Management Committee or e-mail

kavanagh.spofforth@virgin.net. Numbers will be allocated a first paid first served basis.



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Terry Kavanagh (01937) 590499

To discuss your arrangements
or arrange a viewing

Presentation Evening

Following the cancellation of the Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies in November a most successful Presentation Evening took place in the clubhouse at the end of January. Bearing in mind that the event was organised at very short notice it was pleasing that over 50 members and friends turned out to enjoy a splendid supper put on by Ian and Sam Giddings of the Market Place Delicatessen in Wetherby.

The winners of the 2010 trophies were all presented with their awards by the club President Ken Lakin with Simon Giddings, the Junior Cricket Chairman, being awarded the Club person of the Year trophy.

It is expected that this will now become an annual event although in future years it will be held much closer to the end of the season.



14 year old Megan Kenyon with the Evening League 2ndXI bowling award for 2010.



2 Second team captain Nigel Kenyon receiving the Ezart Cup, the 2ndXI batting trophy from the President Ken Lakin

Dog Fouling

There has been a noticeable increase during the autumn and winter months in the number of dogs being walked on and around the cricket club's ground with the resultant increase in piles of dog dirt having to be cleaned up. In a number of instances the dirt is picked up and placed in a bag with the bag then being discarded either in the hedge bottom or thrown over the fence into the adjoining property.

There is a notice by the entrance asking dog owners not to bring their animals on to the club's premises and for health and safety reasons it is hoped that this habit will cease forthwith. The ground is constantly used by children, both from the club and the village school, and we request that this dog walking ceases immediately

We have the Bats have you got the Balls

The club is always looking out for more volunteers to help with all aspects of the club from coaching and looking after the many junior members we have, through bar work, certain administrative roles such as Sponsorship Co-ordinator as well as general fund raising and helping organise social functions. The person to contact is Rachael Bateman who took on the new role within the club of Volunteer Co-ordinator. Rachael can be contacted on rheenan@beachcroft.com. Or indeed you can contact any member of the Management Committee.

Wind Turbine

The club is extremely disappointed to report that its planning application to erect a small Wind Turbine on the ground has been turned down by Harrogate Council despite the verbal support we were given at the outset. We now have three options open to us, firstly to let the matter drop, secondly to appeal against the decision and thirdly to resubmit the application. There is little point in the third option at the moment as the reasons for refusal will be the same. Option two would involve the club in engaging a number of "experts" to support the application at great cost and without any guarantee of success. To let the matter drop does seem an option at this moment in time. We have a twelve month window in which to resubmit the application free of charge and we have decided to hold the matter in abeyance until the autumn to see if there is any change in national government directives which would make such a resubmission feasible.

New Officials

At the Annual General Meeting back in November 2010 two important changes were made in the makeup of the club's officials. Simon Taylor was elected Chairman of senior cricket to replace Darren Kavanagh and Rachael Bateman took over as junior cricket co-ordinator from Howard Griffiths. It is opportune to thank Darren and "Griff" for their contributions to the club in these two roles and to welcome Simon and Rachael on board. Simon can be contacted at simon.taylor@rsim.co.uk and Rachael at rheenan@beachcroft.com.