



Special points of interest:

- Pay Your Subs
- Enter the Fantasy League
- Coach on Fridays

The Soapbox

The 2013 season is already up and running. So far it has run pretty smoothly with plenty of players available on Saturdays. Of course, we have yet to see the impact of not having a 5th team captain.

Over the winter, the usual coaching activity at the County Ground has been undertaken. There have also been two weeks of coaching at Mildmay School led by Keith Goodman and Eddie Lawrence with David Goddard, Micky Burns and Andrew Shepherd in support. There were good numbers at the sessions and hopefully this will be reflected in youth membership.

The main success of the winter has been securing extra funding through sponsorship from the Coriander restaurant and joining the Jack Petchey

Award scheme.

A team comprising Paul Jones, Tony Edney and Barry Clayden were able to negotiate a three year package with the Coriander, an Indian restaurant at the town end of Bad-dow Road.

The Jack Petchey scheme supports junior cricket and gives monthly prizes to worthy achievements from club members up to the age of 25. There has been significant work done on our communication channels. The club website has been updated and uses the hitscricket server. It can still be accessed via chelmsfordcc.co.uk though.

There is also a club facebook page and twitter feed. These will contain plenty of information about what is going on during the season.

Many of you will be relieved to find that this is a very short newsletter. I wasn't expecting to be inundated with hopes for the season and memories of the past but had hoped that more than one person might respond.

So what we've got is one of the reports I received for the planned 2011 BiCentenary edition which never materialised. Thank you to the people who provided reports for that, they were good and I will use them at some point but rather too many of the people I asked to help, didn't so the full thing was a pipe dream.

There's also some suggestions about what you can do to be a good member or at least an active one.

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Winter's Tale

Over the winter some of Chelmsford's members have been involved in elite development squads. Shona Keaney has been involved with the England Development programme as well as touring the UAE with Essex under-19s. Three players have been

involved with the Essex Academy set-up. James Clifford and Aaron Beard were both in the full Academy programme and Ben Clifford was part of the emerging players.

Jack Sterland was selected to the Loughborough MCCU squad and has been close to playing

some first class matches. Miles Clark became the latest member to achieve his Level 1 coaching certificate and has already done more coaching than most others who have done so.

Lord at Lord's—David Thrift

I received an e mail from Alistair - "I'm doing an edition of the Toss about the Bi-Centenary events and it would be good if you could do a short (or



long if you wanted) article about the Cross Arrows match

from your perspective"

Bit out of my comfort zone Alistair , but will give it a go.

I spent the season meandering the boundaries of Chelmer Park, I had become Brian's guinea pig taster of his guest ales with Max providing me with full "tasting notes" on request. I was out of action due to a frustrating back injury which refused to respond to any mode of treatment.

On one particular circuit I was met by Barry.. the conversation went something along the lines " have you thought about making yourself available for the lord's match" , " I can't Barry" , " listen you t+++....."

you get the picture... Barry always could find the right words, "do what you can to make yourself available" it had the desired effect, it hadn't even crossed my mind that I could actually

take part, I was happy to have a day out with another watching brief. I hadn't even played at the Essex County Ground let alone Lord's.

I was given the nod by Paul in the bar after the last league match "you're in".

A fifth visit to Keith Sparling (osteopath), - "leave it for a month just do gentle rhythmic exercise, - but don't do any bending, twisting, turning" he advised.

but Lord's was only next week . I couldn't cry off now. I felt proud to be representing Chelmsford Cricket Club in a prestige fixture at lords.

I hadn't picked up a bat since May and had done no physical exercise of note either, I just hoped I wasn't going to make a fool of myself.

I can hide in the field and bat low down in the order -just to take part would be great..

My dad and I arrived at Chelmer first, at 7am for a 7.30am meet!! He doesn't do late! All the different generations of Chelmsford cricket were represented, past, present and future. But 12 players!

"its okay,.. Adil's playing for them" .

Fast forward to Lord's and the place had changed a bit since I was last there watching Essex win their

first trophy back in 1979! The same tree that my dad and I sat under was still there though. I remembered that, so did my dad.. the place is huge with the Nursery ground neatly tucked in behind the media centre all looking immaculate.

My two friends " ibuprofen and red bull" were with me and, fielding first was negotiated without too many dramas.. only one missed catch, sorry Matt (Poole).

The atmosphere was jovial; plenty of banter with the crowd on the fine leg boundary. It was great to see so many friendly faces all enjoying their day out, by now, my family had all arrived courtesy of the train.

Rain cut short the Cross Arrows innings leaving their opening batsmen stranded on 99. At lunch Neil (Fergus) recalled my "Woodford Wells 99" and Paul asked "are you okay to open the batting"; "yeah sure" , suddenly I had lost my appetite, and my relaxed mood turned, I returned to the changing room to top up on ibuprofen and pad up.

I just wanted to avoid the "primary club", get off the mark, keep it simple and do nothing stupid.

Cont'd.../

**Tuesday 13 September
2011
At the Nursery Ground,
Lord's
Cross Arrows 247-5 (47.4)
Chelmsford 250-3 (43.2)
Chelmsford won by 7
wickets**

The rain delayed the start adding to my nerves, but when we got started I immediately made "friends" with the opening bowler from the Royal Marines. This helped me no end, he will never know how much! Janice recalled later how my dad had remarked, "thank god for that" as I scored my first run..

I need to apologise here for the run out..."Sorry Paul", I know my calling was a bit rusty, and the Cross Arrows team were adamant they wanted you, not me!! Sorry mate, I owe you I know.

I hadn't realised how sore my back was until I had scored around 40 when some buffet bowling came on and the ball needed a bit more hitting. Every shot was becoming a struggle but amazingly the runs kept coming, the short boundaries were a godsend in my position and Gary's (Chidley) excellent positive batting at the other end took away any scoreboard pressure, thanks Gary ..

I'm sure Gary would have overtaken me and scored a century but for a tidy catch on the boundary to end his innings. I had just asked him if I should get out and give someone else a go, "keep going" he advised, I was struggling by now, and took a drinks break, Ian (Hare) encouraged me to stick at it, "not too

many of the other boys are keen to bat" he reported, my Marine friend was constantly reminding me at this stage how badly I was playing, his comments continued to help me ..

By now the game was in the bag, Rob (Hayto) had joined me at the crease and easily reduced the target to a stroll. I was fully aware that the scoreboard was letting everyone know I was in the nineties, it felt like everyone was watching me, poor Rob had to hold himself back so that I could eke out the runs required for the three figures.

On 95 I had got stuck, every shot felt like a knife in my back, I was rendered shotless, all I could play with any comfort was a sort of late cut type thing.. nerves had also taken over,- Gooders' mantra kept coming back to me "don't give it away son" he would always feel obliged to remind me, "they don't come around as often as London buses" my Marine mate kept calling. I was only managing to score in singles which only increased the pressure and Rob was getting heaps at the other end for blocking out ball after ball. Sorry Rob but thanks, I'm so grateful..I owe you also.

It seemed an age on 99 , not again I kept thinking , can't let it happen twice..my dad was going through agonies too (he had

been there at Woodford Wells that day), Sorry dad! obviously the mental scars of that day had not healed after all these years. Thanks Neil for reminding me at lunch!

Finally a wide long hop, a hundred at Lord's! the relief, the embarrassment, the memories, the aches and pains were forgotten, I looked to the boundary but didn't really take anything in, I didn't know what to do- my Marine mate congratulated me, sweet! He then targeted Rob who promptly ended the game impressively.

I had a fantastic day out, bragging rights secured in my household, sorry Liam! he and I had joked the day before about "getting on the honours board".

I hope I didn't spoil anyone's day too much, Paul or Rob, I owe you both along with Barry for getting me there.

Thanks to all, for the kind e mails and congratulations, the photographers` great picture memories.

I even received an e mail from the great man himself – Gooders! - it read :

Age shall not wither us nor custom stale our infinite variety – Antony and Cleopatra— Old gits rule!!!

David Thrift

The Last 4 was a combination of the reluctant (Poole, Hare, Fergus A) and Courty

How Can I help the Club?

The obvious answer to this question is to just ignore it. There's a good chance everyone reading this already does a lot of what is below. Basically I am just venting my spleen (not all of it, this is a newsletter not a doorstop). So this is a list of stuff you can do away from the actual game.

Friday Night Coaching

From Friday 3 May to mid-August there is coaching for ages up to 12. The more coaches that turn up, the better the experience should be for coaches, children and parents.

Saturday Night Catering

Having food available after the match is a huge help to the atmosphere in the Clubhouse and encourages people to stay. If you're considering it but a bit daunted, some of the usual suspects—the names that are on the rota - will be happy to give you some advice.

Social Events

There's a fairly small programme of these so try and support at least some. They're useful for club spirit not least the spirit of the people who work hard to organise them, should be enjoyable and are certainly inexpensive. They also provide the club with more useful funds.

See the back page for a calendar of this season's events.

Sunday Cricket

If you're not doing well on a Saturday, Sunday cricket is a good way to recover form. If you are doing well on Saturday, Sunday cricket is a good way to retain and make the best of that form. If you want to get noticed so that you can play in a higher team,

then Sunday cricket gives the opportunity. If you want to work on the weaker discipline of your game, it is easier to do so on Sunday than Saturday. If you like playing cricket, cricket is played on Sunday...but rather less often because it has been difficult to raise numbers in the last few seasons.

Rob Hayto's plea for players on Sunday provides more about this.

Fantasy League

Show how much you know about players at the club. Keep abreast of how people are doing. Scoff at the values and purported disciplines of some players (no names other than Halsey £3 million). Sign up for Fantasy cricket via the website.

Use the Website

There's actually quite a lot of stuff on this and it is updated regularly with news, events and despondency. Match reports are posted there by Sunday night (or early Monday morning).

Like or join the Facebook page

There is no way to select vaguely interested in so even I have done this. Another way to keep abreast of news and events.

Write Something

Fed up with reading jaded, cynical reports with clipped sentences? So am I.

Reports of matches played in or watched would be gratefully received. It doesn't have to be before Sunday, I can revise the report or just post a new item on the website.

Similarly, don't just leave it to captains to write a review for the newsletter, they often don't bother.

Send me your articles for inclusion.

Match Manage the Under-13s

The under-13s still do not have a manager. Sam Pandya and David Goddard have kindly agreed to take on some of organisational aspects but someone is needed to run matches on the day. If you can do this, talk to someone on the Committee.

Express an Opinion

There are bound to be things about the club that can be improved. If you think of something, raise it.

Hold an Office

If you want to get involved in the Club in some capacity have a chat with a Committee member to see what you can bring. It is your club so your views are important.

Find an Umpire

We are incredibly lucky to have a lot of willing and able scorers. We are also lucky to have Mike Vandome to umpire for the third team but we are one of the few clubs in the second team Premier league that does not have an umpire.

Stuff Does Not Put Itself Out or Away

Boundary flags, scoreboards, stumps, chairs, umpire's coats. These need to be put out before the game and returned to the right place afterwards. Rubbish goes in bins and there's a bin outside the door to the changing rooms. You have to walk past it so use it.

The Coriander
10 Baddow Road
01245-353060/ 01245
353366

Jack Petchey Scheme

Chelmsford has been accepted to the Silver Award scheme of the Jack Petchey Foundation; an Essex based Charity that provides funding to organisations with young members aged between 11 and 25.

This means that there will be 6 awards to nominated winners in a year with each award amounting to £200. However, before you get the wrong idea this award is to be spent on the Club rather than the winner.

With this Achievement Award Scheme, it is the young members who

vote and tell us who they think should be a winner. This does not have to be just for outstanding performances on the field but could be for a member who does good work off it.

In addition to nominating the winner, it is the members who decide how the cash award will be spent, subject to the Scheme guidelines.

Further information about the Foundation can be found via its website www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.

This is an exciting opportunity offered to the Club which will be of

great assistance in these cash strapped times. The support from Jack Petchey will help the Club in its day to day running and I welcome your support.

Sam Pandya will be the Coordinator for this Scheme and he will welcome any questions and hopefully, nominations. Sam's e mail address is phats1@hotmail.co.uk and he looks forward to hearing from you.

Our first winner was Miles Clark for helping with coaching, team management and attaining a level 1 coaching qualification.

**Coaching on Monday
and Friday evenings
Adult Nets on Thursday
evenings**

Help

With the season upon us I find myself wondering what can be achieved in 2013. On a personal level, I'd certainly like to contribute a bit more. For the club it is a measure of our recent success that a bit more than last year sounds incredibly ambitious.

However, after all the club's success over the last few years one thing that is missing is the Essex Sunday League, Premier Division.

As most people are aware, Sunday cricket has been in decline. Why? For one, I count at least half a dozen players who play at other clubs

on Sundays at a lower standard. The ESL Premier Division, is a good standard of cricket. Granted there is the odd game which may not be the most exciting but overall it is competitive and a chance for people to regain their form with the bat or get overs under their belt. If you're short of runs or overs, you just need to speak to me and ask if you can go in at 3, or open up down the hill. I may not always be able to say yes, but I will certainly do my best to accommodate.

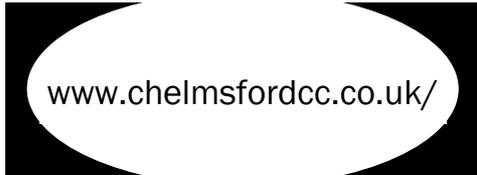
Whilst I'm sure my plea to be available more

often on Sundays for both myself and Craig will be ignored I hope that at least a few will think about where they play their Sunday Cricket, of course I understand people can't play every Sunday but you will certainly help those who spend hours upon hours during the week to raise teams and more importantly, you will be helping the club. Rob Hayto. Predictions for 2013 Nick Bailey to be leading run scorer, wicket-taker and catcher and to win all the Club Awards including Team of the Year.

Chelmsford Cricket Club

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www.thecoriander.com

Social Diary

Friday 5 July—Race Night

Sunday 4 August—President's Day

(including match v MCC)

Friday 13 September—Colts' Presentation

Evening

Friday 8 November—Annual Dinner

Tuesday 26 November—AGM

Jumpers

If you are interested in owning a Club jumper, please contact Alistair Fergus via

alistair.fergus@btinternet.com

Any order for jumpers will need a minimum of 12 and more likely 15-20 before it can be made. Bear in mind jumpers are also likely to be pricey and have a long delivery time.

What is wanted and whether it can happen can only really be established once we know what interest there is so you're not committing yourself just yet.

Subs

Subscriptions are due for payment

The 2013 rates are

Adults (21 and over) £100

(£85 if paid by 31 May)

Age under 21 £65

(£50 if paid by 31 May)

Full Time Education £35

Colts £25

Social £10