



**Please Read – Contains Important News**

**New Sponsors – see below!!!**

**Winter Nets**

The most important news is that January has passed and February sees the start of the winter nets programme. Nets start on Sundays from 21 February to 28 March between 5 and 6 p.m. at Lord William's Lower School, Towersey Road, Thame.

*(Start date delayed a week as I know you all want to score brownie points and be with your Valentine on 14<sup>th</sup>).*

We intend to introduce a number of the senior colts who have already broken into either the Saturday or Sunday sides along with others who we expect to make the breakthrough in the coming season. Please make sure that you encourage and help them as they are the future of the club.

**Selection Policy for 2010**

Since the resurrection of our Colts Section about 10 years ago Andy Hitchcock and now Alan Dell, along with our growing army of qualified coaches, have been working towards introducing some of the colts into the senior section. In the last two years we have started to see the fruits of the time and dedication that they have put in.

To continue that momentum the Management Committee and Cricket Committee have agreed to adopt the following selection criteria for 2010:

- We will put out the strongest 1<sup>st</sup> XI available consistent with developing younger players. This could even mean picking the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Captain!
- We will be looking to the Saturday teams to play a minimum of 3 under-25s, 2 of whom should be under 17. This should increase to at least 4 under-25s and 3 under-17s in 2011.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI should also pick the strongest side available consistent with meeting these age targets.
- We wish to build on the success of the Sunday XI in the past two years. It will continue to be based on a mixture of youth and experience and will try to have a minimum of 6 under 20s in the side.

**Congratulations to:**

- **James Bee** - selected for the 2010 Bucks Under-15 squad
  - **Farhan Khan** } both selected for the U-14
  - **Matt Greaves** } Aylesbury Vale District winter training squad.
  - **Ali Bee** - selected for the U-12 AVDC winter training squad.
- I'm sure that in the coming years we will see quite a number of our colts progress through the Bucks cricket programme.*
- **Patrick McAleavey** } both are colts parent
  - **Mark Shanahan** } volunteers who passed the ECB coaching level 1 course this December.

***If there are any other parents or club members who can help with colts coaching please call Alan Dell.***

**Quiz Night**  
**Saturday 13 March**  
**7.45pm prompt**

**VENUE:** Princes Risborough Primary School, Wellington Avenue  
**COST:** £8.00 per head includes Fish (or Chicken or Sausage) & Chips.

**CAN YOU** get a table of 8 -10 (and if not why not)?  
**IF SO:** please contact Steve Greaves on 01296 747808 by 27<sup>th</sup> February.

**ALL FUNDS RAISED will go towards the Outdoor Nets (more on this below)**

- We also aim to put out a Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> XI at least once a month in the coming season so that we can continue to offer cricket to all ages and abilities. If you would like to play please speak to me or a Committee member.

Our longer term plan is that within 3 years at least half of the 1st XI should be below age 25. We need to see more under-17s playing in the Saturday teams for 2011 if at all possible and hope to run a Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> XI and two regular Sunday sides for 2012.

**Outdoor Nets**

To date we have raised some £7,000 towards the building of the outdoor nets and we had been led to believe that the ECB would be able to provide the balance with a grant of

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about £16,000. We brought our existing plans forward but these have received a setback, as we have heard recently that we will not be included in the ECB's 2009/10 funding programme.

Worse than that, however, we've also been informed that ECB has decided (with prompting from Sport England, which holds the purse strings) that funding for next year - 2010/11 – is going to be channelled primarily towards facilities benefitting girls'/ladies' cricket.

It is a fact of life that policies change and our current thoughts are that we shall need to alter our own plans to meet this new situation. We already have some young ladies playing cricket in the colts section and it seems that it is now time to bring our plans for them forward, in the hope that it will be to the benefit of all.

I must stress that these are early thoughts, but we may be able to turn this to advantage and fit it in with some of the other things we have had in mind for a future date. For some time we have wanted to remove the current scoreboard and replace it with a stand-alone score box; that was in our plan for 2010. Reclaiming this space could allow us to redesign the layout of this area and the current home dressing room to accommodate a ladies'/girls' changing room. We need to examine the possibilities in detail but it might provide a workable solution.

We would welcome any alternative ideas; in particular please contact me if you are skilled in drawing up plans and could help.

### **NatWest Cricket Force 2010 - More volunteers...Better facilities**

CricketForce is an ECB volunteering initiative aimed at rejuvenating the nation's cricketing facilities which is the largest volunteer programme in British sport (with enough volunteers involved to fill the Millennium Stadium). The event will take place over the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

We've participated in the past but it's always tended to be a low-key affair with most of the work done by the usual suspects. This year's CricketForce theme is to try to harness contributions from volunteers from the wider community and we'd love to be able to widen the support while getting some of the things we need to do done and dusted.

- We have already registered for NatWest CricketForce 2010 (and have tee-shirts ready to fit **YOU**).
- **We need an Enthusiastic Project Leader** - to set aims and objectives and see projects through as well as acting as a recruiting sergeant!
  - We have jobs aplenty in mind, including:
    - Recladding of the water tower
    - Erection of Score box
    - Painting of Clubhouse – Internal and External
    - Clearing rubbish around the pavilion and ground
  - **DON'T BE SHY** – contact me **NOW** if you can help in any capacity – or to suggest what else we can do to improve PRCC and its facilities.

### **New Sponsors**

Wycombe-based media company **UrbanMedia** will be sponsoring PRCC in conjunction with Bartercard. It will mean new shirts and more publicity. Kevin Dodds is finalising the arrangements - expect to hear more soon.

Best wishes,



Steve Greaves (Chairman)  
Tel: 01296 747808