



Rowledge Cricket Club Newsletter

Festival Special Edition – July 2012

Welcome to Festival 125

A warm welcome to this special 'Festival 125' edition of the Club's newsletter. I write this at the end of the wettest April to June for 100 years.... may you be reading it on a warm July evening with summer finally arrived.

We hardly seemed to have played a game yet but we have reached the halfway mark of this our 125th anniversary season. Inside you'll find a guide to some of the special events planned. We look forward to seeing you, family and friends at The Rec during the week.

Bill Nichols, Chairman

Friday 6th July – Jazz Evening

Jazz group 'Out of the Blue' opens the Club's Festival Week with a free evening concert at The Rec.

The well-regarded local band, led by vocalist Caroline Weeks, will play two sets, including classics such as Blue Moon, Summertime and Sunny Side, starting at **7:30pm** immediately after the regular Friday Junior cricket session. The event includes bar, Pimms bar, sweets stall and BBQ. Funds raised over the evening will go to the Club's youth and ground development fund.

"We're delighted to welcome back 'Out of the Blue' " comments club chairman, Bill Nichols. "They were very well-received on their previous visits in 2010 and 2011 and are the perfect complement to a mellow summer evening – assuming summer ever comes!"



Sunday 8th July – President's Day/I'Anson Match



This year's President's Day combines with the Club's annual fixture, the I'Anson League Representative XI in a *pro-40* format fixture commencing at 2pm.

President's Day is an old-established club tradition in which RCC celebrates its current president, Yvonne Cleminson, former landlady of the 'Cherry Tree' and a renowned vocal club supporter over many years. It is also – by more recent innovation – designed as a special 'thank you' to the club's key volunteers.

The local I'Anson League reasonably claims to be one of the world's oldest since its formation in 1901. Rowledge had played in the old Farnham & District league until 1932 when it joined the I'Anson. It went on to achieve six successive wins in the 1980s with a team skippered by the legendary Alan Prior and Chris Yates Sr (still playing and now the club's Vice-Chairman).

Although Rowledge subsequently left the I'Anson to climb the Hampshire/Southern Premier structure, it remains in membership with its 4th XI currently featuring among 36 clubs and 70 teams.





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Monday 9th July – VPs and Ladies

Monday visitors to The Rec will find the club in more relaxed mode as it switches over to a special match between the combined forces of the Rowledge 3rds/4ths and a Vice-President's Invitation XI organised by former chairman Paul Cabrol. This will be followed at around 5pm by a special Ladies 6-A-Side tournament.

Wednesday 11th July – Southern Premier Select

The **Southern Premier League** (or Southern Electric Premier Cricket League – SEPCL - to give it the full handle) is the premier cricket competition in Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and large parts of Wiltshire and Dorset.

Rowledge reached this level in the late 1990s following its long climb through the Hampshire League structure. In 2004, it won the SEPCL Division 3 and then in 2009, following two years as runners-up, it won SEPCL Division 2 – the highest ever competitive position in the club's history.

The club is currently debarred from promotion to the next level (ECB gold standard) due to the restricted boundary length at the Recreation Road end of the Rowledge Rec. It has agreed plans to extend the square at the Fullers Road end to resolve this in due course. Special thanks for the unusual honour bestowed by this visit go to Paul Thompson (League Chairman) and Alan Bundy (President).

Friday 13th July – The Lighter Side

The Rowledge Casuals host Jonathan Wills' Old Peculiars in a lighter take on Festival Week and the fun social side of cricket before handing over to our regular Junior Friday Cricket.

Saturday 14th July – The Summer Ball

And finally... the 125th celebrations close with our very special Summer Ball, a 200-seat sell-out on the Recreation Ground. The Ball is a one-off re-design of the club's usual Autumn Dinner Dance, which has been produced by a team led by Clare Kefford, Events and Marketing Manager. It is centered on facilities provided by local firm, Buckwild Entertainments and features live music from 'Congakeyz'. Look out for the marquee appearing on The Rec and remember to pre-order a cheese plate and wine for your table. Doors open at 7pm with food served at 8pm.

Hampshire X1 v Rowledge CC at The Rec

The Club's Anniversary celebrations opened on 30th May with a special match at the Rec against a Hampshire X1 led by Sean Terry (who has played three times for the full County side). The team was mainly made up with Hampshire Academy and Development players.

Batting first, the Hampshire X1 set off at five an over with Terry (35) being dominant. At 97 for 3 after sixteen overs, Lewis McManus (57) joined Adam Rouse (former England U19s) in a stand of 132 from 15 overs. Rouse went on to score a fine 107 (6 sixes and 8 fours). The Hampshire X1 finished on 285 in 40 overs.

Rowledge fielding a side with experienced players mixed with some younger local players found the run rate too much and at 92 for 6 impossible. A fine 54 from Ricky Yates took Rowledge to 156 all out.

The match was played in warm sunshine and a good crowd, made at up one stage by pupils from Rowledge Primary School, contributed to the excellent atmosphere.





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A Tribute to Doug Tanner 1926 – 2012

Rowledge Cricket Club is saddened to announce the passing of one of its Vice Presidents, Doug Tanner on 5th June 2012.

Doug was born on 26th February 1926 in London and was brought up in the Ridgeway, Farnham. He attended Wrecclesham School (now St. Peters) until the age of fourteen. Leaving school in 1940 he joined the Post Office as a 'Telegraph Boy' on a weekly wage of 11 shillings (55p). Four years later, the Army decided it required his services and he joined the Royal Engineers postal sector and was posted to India. Demobbed as a Corporal in 1948, Doug returned to Farnham Post Office to continue his career. In 1958 he married June and Doug's career progression continued rising through the ranks of postman, assistant inspector and finally to Inspector in 1971, a position he held until his retirement in 1986.

Though Doug played cricket for the Post Office his involvement with Rowledge Cricket Club came about by playing football for Rowledge FC 2nd X1. Through mutual contacts, Doug was persuaded to join Rowledge CC in 1954 where he played mainly in the clubs 2nd X1 in the l'Anson League up until 1975.

Upon retiring from the game, Doug kept up his love of the sport by umpiring for the club and at times in various Colts representative matches. Along with his wife June, Doug gave great support to Rowledge CC. Doug served as Chairman in 1993 and June was Club Treasurer in the years 1985-97. Both Doug and June would be seen most weekends at the club supporting the Senior teams and again during the week giving support to the Youth players. Doug was always encouraging the younger players.

In 1965 the Two Counties Youth Cricket League was formed when Donald Limon (now Sir), Alan Staves, Bryan Karn and Doug saw a need for youth cricket in the Farnham area. Following the formation of the League, Doug served on the committee for a number of years. Many of the current players in the area have come up through the Two Counties Youth League and the current Under 11s play for the Doug Tanner Trophy.

Doug Tanner was a lovely man with a wicked sense of humour and twinkle in his eye. He will be missed by all at Rowledge Cricket Club. The Club's sympathies are very much with June, Paul his son, Janice his daughter and their families at this sad time.

David Metcalfe - June 2012

Bookkeeper and Other Volunteers Still Needed

Want to volunteer but don't know if you have relevant skills? Give Bill (793641) Wyatt (793783) or Clare (07595 590341) a call to discuss. Some of the activities, especially assistant roles are not as difficult or time consuming as you might think but could make a big difference to the Club!

RCC need a volunteer bookkeeper for 5-8 hours per month. This role is essential for the smooth running the Clubs finances and gives the post holder valuable experience in a growing, community organisation. We would prefer someone with knowledge of 'Up to Trial Balance' with Sage instant accounts but full training will be given. Please contact Lenka on 07900 902126, email drablowl@aol.com

RCC Signing Up with SSE

As we went to press, the club was poised to roll out a new Community Energy Scheme with SSE/Southern Electric. It has been chosen as the first of five pilot organisations across the South. Look out for further announcements shortly.

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Securing the Home of RCC – The Rec

Located at the heart of the village, the Rowledge Recreation Ground is RCC's principal ground. It was first used in the historic summer of 1914. Prior to that over the years from its founding in 1887, the club played on various grounds in the neighbourhood including the famous old Holt Pound Oval at the village's western end by the A325.

Today, during the April-September season, 'The Rec' hosts the club's 1st (Southern Premier) and 2nd XIs (Hampshire League) on Saturdays. Sundays are shared by the 'Casuals' Sunday side, the Ladies XI and, not least, by the Village Cup XI. Over the years since RCC's 1985 Lords appearance, The Rec has witnessed many large Village Cup crowds – most recently during the club's 2010 run to the semi-final. Weekday evenings, meanwhile, are given over to youth and junior cricket, coaching and nets. Not least, the very special Junior Friday sessions play a major role in village social life.

In late 2011, following extensive discussions with the landlord, Waverley Borough Council (WBC), the club secured a long-term 41-year lease on the main part of The Rec. This excludes the car park, children's playground and bowls and tennis clubs.

While protecting all principal community rights, this key move has three major benefits:

- First, by obtaining 'security of tenure' the Club is now able to apply for major investment grants from which it would otherwise be debarred.
- Second, it enables the club to undertake any long-term investment – such as the 2011-12 Winter upgrade of the Pavilion - on a secure basis to the benefit of both club and community.
- Third, and far from least, it helps protect 'The Rec' for the future.

Indicatively in summer 2012, the Club is working on a major grant submission to Sport England. One key target is to re-lay the Recreation Road end of the ground. This will improve surface quality, safety and – a major bugbear – drainage.

A consultative committee has been formed to bring together representatives of the club and community to discuss issues and opportunities for this important village amenity. If you'd like to put forward a topic, please contact any member or write to info@rowledgecricketclub.com.

Rowledge Ladies Looking for New Players

The Rowledge Ladies cricket team is a well established team who play in Southern National League 2. We welcome both experienced players and beginners throughout the season. Coaching is available to develop experienced players and for beginners to learn key skills. For further information, please email Ladies Secretary, Maggie Finney maggie@1choice.co.uk.



Roll Up, Roll Up for Happy's Circus at the Rec

On Sunday 16th September for the first time ever the circus is coming to Rowledge. Happy's Circus will be pitching its Big Top on Rowledge Rec for a fantastic family show and an afternoon full of all the fun of the fair.

The fun starts at 1pm with a bouncy castle, face painting, afternoon teas plus the cricket club bar will be open. The doors to the Big Top open at 1.30 and the show begins at 2pm.

Tickets are priced at £8 each (Under 1s free). For tickets and more information contact Sasha Cowley on 07760 190498 or sashahewitt@hotmail.com or Clare Kefford on 07595 590341 or clare.kefford@gmail.com.

