



Rowledge Cricket Club Newsletter

Issue 1 – April 2012

Chairman’s Welcome to the 2012 Season

A very warm welcome to all our members – old and new - for season 2012. It is of course a very special summer for the UK as a whole with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the London Olympics. Here at the Club we have our own special year with the 125th Anniversary and a packed calendar of events.

On the cricket front this includes visits from a Hampshire Cricket XI, a Southern Premier Select XI and, on President’s Day, the l’Anson Representative XI. And, with perfect timing, a local derby against Wrecclisham to open our annual Village Cup campaign on Sunday 3rd June (aka Jubilee Sunday when the village has planned a large scale celebration).

Elsewhere we’ve moved the annual Dinner Dance centre-stage with a special Rec-based event on July 14, more of our highly successful music evenings and a September finale with the arrival of Happy’s Circus (jointly promoted with our friends at the Rowledge Village Hall).

As ever we’ve been busy over the winter. You’ll find a major facelift inside the Pavilion, a new website on stream and continuing developments at our third ground at Holt Pound where we’ll play first junior matches this summer. So restoring cricket to one of England’s historic cricket venues.

Meantime, my best wishes to everyone for a wonderful summer, for some great cricket and for many happy hours in and around the Club.

Bill Nichols, Chairman

Lewington’s Lead Again

In early April, it was confirmed that village-based Lewington Homes, a great supporter over several seasons, continues for a second year as the Club’s principal sponsor. The construction firm’s logo appears on all match shirts for senior men, youth and junior boys.

“We’re absolutely delighted to continue our relationship with Lewington and with Richard and Yvonne Gray,” commented RCC’s head of marketing and events, Clare Kefford. “From RCC’s viewpoint, it’s absolutely critical that we continue to develop our commercial operations in this way.”

Dance the Night Away at RCC Dinner Dance on Saturday 14th July

With over 150 tickets already sold, this year’s Dinner Dance to celebrate the Club’s 125th Anniversary promises to be a memorable evening.

Tickets are £50 each for a 3 course meal and live music in a beautiful marquee on the Rec supplied by Buckwild. www.buckwild.co.uk. There will be a cash bar with drinks at usual Club prices.

For tickets or to sponsor a table or provide a raffle prize, email clare.kefford@gmail.com or clareturl@gmail.com.

Book your tickets quickly as the event is nearly at maximum numbers!

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Preview of a Special Season for Senior Teams

Australian overseas Tristen McDonald returns to Rowledge for a second season, following a highly successful winter in Sydney Grade cricket, which saw him second in the averages and make his debut for New South Wales 2nd XI.

He will link up with the 1st XI in time for the opening game on May 5th when David Lloyd's men head down to the New Forest to begin their Southern Premier 2 campaign versus New Milton.

Meanwhile, following two successive promotions and just two tiers down, Leigh Rogers' 2nd XI open up at The Rec in County 1 against Lymington II.

Elsewhere, Carlo Bruno's 3rds will look to go one place better than last time and secure the promotion that very narrowly evaded them last September. They begin on the road vs. Basingstoke and NH IV.

Finally, what is expected to be a young side fielding many of the club's promising youth players under new skipper, Elliot Nichols, the 4ths begin at home to Lindford II. Opening 3rd and 4th fixtures relocate this year until July to Frensham Heights.

It's 'Serious' Kit

Dummer-based Serious Cricket continues as the club's exclusive supplier of club kit and leisurewear. The comprehensive range can be viewed, and ordered, online at the RCC store at www.seriouscricket.co.uk.

Meantime, for cricket equipment (such as bats and pads), RCC continues to recommend Hale-based Berkeley Sports (www.berkeleysports.com).



After a successful launch last year, the Club will again be selling polo shirts and caps for junior players. These will be available to buy at welcome drinks on 27th April and at the first junior cricket session on 4th May, or contact clare.kefford@gmail.com. The unisex polo shirts (in sizes 5-6 and 7-8) are priced at £8, the caps at £5 or a special offer of £12 for both.

This year we also have our own 125th Anniversary T-shirts available in a variety of sizes at £10 for adults and £7 for youth.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 27th April

Members evening

Friday 4 May

First Junior Training Night

Wednesday 30th May

Jubilee Match v Hampshire X1

Friday 1st June

Jubilee Music Evening

Monday 4th June

Rowledge Village Fayre

Friday 6th July

Jazz Evening – live music at the Rec

Sunday 8th July

Presidents Day (I'Anson X1)

Monday 9th July

3rd/4th Select X1 vs Vice Presidents X1

Wednesday 11th July

SE Premier League X1

Friday 13th July

Casuals X1 v IOW Lawyers

Saturday 14th July

125th Anniversary Dinner Dance

Monday 27th August

Casuals vs 20 Pounds

Friday 7th September

Junior Presentation Evening

Saturday 8th September

Youth & Senior Presentation Evening

Sunday 16th September

Happy's Circus





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Record Club Membership in 2012

Membership for 2012 is well on the way to reach record levels. The new online system has proved very successful, with little or no teething problems. Sharon Watson has done a great job in developing this for the Club. Next year we are looking to see if we can automate payment of fees at the same time.

At the time of writing (17th April) we have 274 families and 654 individuals registered. In the Junior and Youth sections (from Reception Year Group up to and including Under 17s), we have 290 children registered. Most people I speak to who do not know the setup at Rowledge are truly staggered by this figure, and it's a tribute to Peter Brinsden's organisation and the huge amount of time put in by the various group leaders that we can sustain this position.

We are of course also very grateful for the volunteer support that parents also provide – we often remind you that what we achieve would not be possible without this support from you and perhaps in the light of these figures, you can see why it's true!

A very gratifying aspect of our membership is that in some groups we actually have almost as many girls as boys registered. One of the objectives of the Club has always been to develop and promote girls' and women's cricket, and it's really great news that we are meeting this objective so well.

The only downside of our popularity is that unfortunately we cannot meet total demand. This year we have had in excess of 50 families wishing to join the Club who were not members last year, and some of these we have sadly had to turn down, because we cannot maintain the quality and safety of our groups if numbers become excessive.

In some cases we have even had families who were previously members (but not in 2011), whose application we have had to decline. We always encourage these families to become Social Members because this both brings its own benefits and also increases the likelihood of their children's application being accepted in the following year. This year we had applications for 21 children of existing members for the Reception Year Group, which in each case we were fortunately able to accept, even though it came close to our maximum capacity in that group of 24. So if ever you think about suspending your membership of the Club for a year, just be aware of the risks you run!

Bob Blightman, Membership Secretary

The Circus is coming to Rowledge

On Sunday 16th September, a special event has been organised by Rowledge CC and Rowledge Village Hall – Happy's Circus will be giving a two hour performance in a big top on the Rec.

Happy's Circus is a traditional all-human Circus which tours the country, focusing on bringing the Circus Arts to audiences, old and new. Since 1992 they have performed to millions of people and raise over a £250,000+ a year for schools and other good causes in the south of England.

On 16th September, the fun starts at 13:30 with the first act at 14:30, an interval at 15:15 and the second act at 15:45.

There will also be entertainment from the local community with the Octave Youth Choir performing and talent competition winners (KS1 and KS2) from Rowledge School performing at the beginning of the second act.

Tickets are priced at £8 each and will be available from the week commencing 11th June. Email clare.kefford@gmail.com, tel: 07595590341. There will also be opportunities to advertise in a special event programme.





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New Goals for the Youth Section

Rowledge Cricket Club is committed to the development of young players and in 2012 will be running 12 League teams from U9 years old upwards. There are approximately 150 young playing members who will play in around 140 games.

This season, Neil Gregory and Dave Royan have taken on the responsibility of joint Youth Section Managers. Their first priority was to set out some clear goals and guidelines, which they endeavour to achieve on behalf of the Youth Section and ultimately to the benefit of the whole club:

- To monitor the technical content, accuracy and style of the coaching sessions delivered by Rowledge Cricket Club Coaches.
- To address any matters within the Youth Section that does not conform to the Club's vision of safe practice.
- To strongly promote the practice of good behaviour, good sportsmanship and smart appearance from all members and Coaches within the Youth Section.
- To support the Youth Section Year Group Managers with all aspects of good coaching practice.
- To actively support and promote the most able of our older Youth Players, in order that they are confident to play at the highest level appropriate for them, within the Club.
- To promote and support a Club Youth Academy for all youth players that show strong potential and have the required attitude and dedication to succeed.
- To promote our profiles within the club in order that any Youth Player will feel comfortable enough to approach us confidence for guidance and technical advice regarding their personal game.
- To monitor the standard of our Youth Players who may be selected by the Year Group Managers for District Trials.
- To increase the level of playing standards within the Youth Section over the next 3 years.

Coaching starts on Friday 4th May with the usual popular features of BBQ, bar and sweets stall. This year, formal coaching will stop in August and will be replaced with a series of family sport and fun nights. Neil and Dave would like to wish everyone a fun and successful 2012 season. We look forward to hearing about the progress of the Youth teams in future issues.



Rowledge Cricket Club 125th Anniversary Dinner & Dance

Marquee on Rowledge Rec
Saturday 14th July 2012 7pm

Three course dinner and live band

Tickets £50 each (£40 to members of RCC for a limited time only)
Dress code **Black Tie** or **Lounge Suit**

For tickets

(individual/tables of 10) For information please contact
Clare Kefford 07595 590341 clare.kefford@gmail.com
or **Claire Turl** 07771 533339 claireturl@gmail.com

Drinks from 7:00pm including opening music; Dinner @ 8:00pm.
Bookings open Monday 2nd April 2012 (contact Clare Kefford) and payment in full is required.
Please note that the first 50 members booking on or before Thursday 12 April (17:30) are entitled to a special £40 per head rate per adult member. For example: a family with one registered senior playing and one social member is entitled to two special tickets.
Tickets for all guests at any time and all members or guests booking after Thursday 12 April are priced at £50.

Club Photography

In this special Anniversary season, the Club is looking to create a complete photographic record of the events and matches. This will be an important record for the Club and village, and will be helpful to promote the Club to members and sponsors in the future.

Paul Hinxman, a parent of junior and youth players, will be taking photographs at Club events. He will have id displayed so you can identify him as the official photographer. All photographs will be stored securely and your permission will be sought before photographs are used for internal or external publicity.

So please, relax in front of the camera and let Paul snap away. If you have any concerns, please talk to Bill Nichols, Chairman.





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Back Online: RCC Gets A Make-Over

Last Friday night saw the quiet launch of the club’s updated website. It’s online now at www.rowledgecricketclub.com.

As you’ll find, it’s carried over many of the features of the former website – built up successfully over several years by our former webmaster, Carlo Bruno.

In addition, we’ve redesigned the format, introduced a range of new options and integrated Facebook and Twitter.

“While we will continue to use a wide range of communications - including all-club emails, fb posts and tweets – the website should remain first port-of-call for all sections,” explained chairman, Bill Nichols. “And the more involvement from members the better.”

“Special thanks go to the team of Chris Finney (programming), Marc Chaumeton (look-and-feel) and Claire Turl (content) who worked with me to put this project together”, added Bill.

Comments and feedback please to Claire Turl (claireturl@gmail.com).

Take Action on Traffic and Road Safety in Rowledge

As part of the Village Plan exercise started last May, more than 140 issues have been identified. The single most important group of issues raised by the Village Plan was traffic, roads and road safety.

The workgroup set up to deal with these matters has met with local County Councillor David Munro and officials from the Highways Department of Surrey County Council.

The discussion focused on a number of dangerous roads in Rowledge, particularly The Avenue and Chapel Road areas, due to narrow carriageways, lack of footpaths, overgrown hedges and poor signage. It was suggested a petition to Surrey County Council to provide ‘safe routes for pedestrians in the village’ would reinforce residents’ concerns and speed up remedial action.

The petition is now online and can be ‘signed’ until **6th June** on the Surrey County Council website at: <http://petitions.surreycc.gov.uk/rowledgeroads/>

Every additional name reinforces our case so please spread the word and remember that all adults in a household can sign.

For more information on the Traffic, Roads and Road Safety Workgroup or to submit your detailed concerns and ideas, contact Dorcas Podger, email: robindorcas@hotmail.com

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