



**Orpington Cricket Club
Goddington Dene
Goddington Lane
Orpington, Kent**

OCC January 2014 Newsletter

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2014 season. An exciting year ahead, lots to plan and accomplish. It's the intention of the club's committee to issue monthly summaries of meetings held written by different members who no doubt will add their own flavour and humour (possibly) to the piece! It's time to put the Ashes behind us and focus on the season in front of us. That said, for those of you that missed any part of the recent Ashes campaign and ongoing ODI series, I will be more than happy to take time out to chat to each of you individually about the highlights in vivid detail.

Club Welfare / Clubmark Renewal

All club captains and coaches must be CRB checked and where applicable provide evidence of first aid course completion and SPC. 2014 sees the tri-annual main Clubmark renewal which will result in all documentation being scrutinised by external reviewers. If you have any concerns with this please contact Mary Mason (mary333mason@googlemail.com); as you will all appreciate successfully renewing Clubmark status is critical for the club and its future prosperity.

Westcombe Park Clubhouse Redevelopment

The OCC are due to meet with WP shortly and a full update will be provided in February's newsletter. Unfortunately it is our current understanding that WP have encountered some difficulties to date and progress is slower than was hoped for.

Winters Nets

Chris Watts, our Chairman of Playing, is overseeing Winter Nets. These are £40 for the whole pre-season or £5 a session. Please make sure you pay Watsy in a timely fashion. He has his clipboard and list of attendees and will be after you!

Colts (U18 and still at school); the committee have taken the decision to once again provide these sessions for free (subject to availability). It's also pleasing to see there have been 3 new members at training already. Say G'day and make them feel welcome. Rob, the new 6 foot 5 recruit, is certainly easy to spot!

'Watsy' is also beginning to look into a change of location for winter nets 2015; a closer venue has been suggested on numerous occasions now, if anyone has any ideas please let us know.



Facilities and Equipment

'Moff' is in the process of applying for another Jewson's grant, which will mean for a cost of £50 that we have £400 to spend with this company. This will be put towards the pre-season working party in April, details of which will follow in due course and will of course require the support of you the members. As members of NatWest Cricket Force, OCC was entered into a competition, and we won! The prize... a 25m x 4m plastic wicket cover. It is hoped that those using the 'top' pitch take full advantage of this welcome addition!

There was some damage to our net facility during the storms pre-Xmas. The white plastic sheeting at the batters' end has fallen away, otherwise facilities survived relatively unscathed. Thankfully the sightscreens did not fall down despite the severe storms which is more than can be said for one larger trees near the club's car park!

Unfortunately, several metal spikes and the blue rope for the bottom square have been stolen. Always a difficult one to solve at committee meetings, any ideas are always appreciated. This means that we have to dip into limited OCC funds to replace these items. Approx 160m of rope is required to act as a deterrent to prevent the general public walking over the square when not in use.

Finances Update

Kelly is organising a Sponsor Evening to encourage local business to get involved with the OCC via mutually beneficial business relationships and sponsorship. Details to follow. This is a big initiative and we wish Kelly and her team well. Should anyone have any 'hot' leads regarding sponsorship, please could you contact Kelly directly at kellyfreeman8170@aol.com

Next Social Event

Our new social secretary, 'Pabs', has organised a second monthly drink, this time on **Friday, 31st January from 7pm at the Daylight Inn, Petts Wood**. These events are open to everyone and cost nothing (barring your drinks money) and are as successful as you the membership make them. So make the effort and turn up, everyone always says during the season that we don't get together enough in the Winter months, well here's your chance!

On behalf of the OCC Committee Pete Shaw (OCC Secretary) Email: secretary@orpingtoncc.co.uk