



# Chester Boughton Hall CC January 2014 Newsletter

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Welcome to the first newsletter of 2014! We hope you enjoyed the holiday season with family and friends and are in good health moving into the New Year.

2014 promises to be another fantastic season at the club as we look to build on the outstanding success of last year where first team captain Steve Ogilby lifted three major trophies - The Cheshire County Premier League, Cheshire Cup and Liverpool Echo T20; our ladies also completed an outstanding treble; our juniors grew from strength to strength and the club enjoyed some wonderful social events, culminating in the summer ball.

Despite the success of the season we cannot afford to stand still and are seeking to engage as many members as possible in taking an active part in the club, whether that be volunteering for roles in the club, organising social activities, managing junior teams or merely enjoying the fantastic facilities we share.

Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts on any matters relating to making our club even better.

Jim Gillson  
Chairman CBHCC

## **Rest in Peace Martin Griffiths**

As most will be aware we recently said goodbye to Martin Griffiths, husband of Gina and father to Lauren and Matthew. Martin was an active member of the club for a number of years, combining summer seasons in the third and fourth teams with winter with the Nomads.

His untimely departure was marked at the club with a celebration of his life among family and friends. The boundary will seem a different place without Martin's presence.

## **Civic Reception**

On Friday 8 November the Lady Mayoress of Chester, at the advice of Councillor Dave Robinson of Boughton, welcomed the all-conquering ladies and men's first teams for a civic reception at the Town Hall in Chester. It was a wonderful culmination to several events where we have enjoyed the shared success of both teams.

## **Changing times**

At the AGM in October Roger Cash spoke with great eloquence about his time as President and welcomed John Legry as his successor. Roger has been an active committee member for decades at CBHCC and continues to volunteer his time on Saturdays helping at the ground. We are indebted to Roger's service to our club.

Graeme Vernon and I changed roles as Chairman and Vice Chairman - I would like to take this opportunity to thank Graeme for his commitment in his time as Chairman of the club as we look forward to working together in the season ahead.

After his fantastic success as first eleven Captain Steve Ogilby stood down and hands over the baton to Lee Dixon, who will combine his captaincy role with his duties as club coach. Warren Goodwin will continue as his vice-captain.

Dan Riley continues as second eleven skipper, Dave Fisher takes over from Pete Balac in the thirds and Phil Evans will combine his player manager role with great support from Alan Axon.

Dave Killoran continues to oversee the ever impressive junior section.

## **Changes to membership**

The club has invested tens of thousands of pounds of recent years to ensure our facilities are the best in the region, both playing fields and clubhouse. Last season we installed two artificial pitches, completed an extensive drainage programme and levelled the outfield near the score-box, ensuring players safety.

These improvements come at significant cost and ensuring our financial success as a club is of paramount importance to the clubs Directors, the cricket management committee and all members of the club.

For the first time in ten years the management committee have made the decision to raise annual subscriptions for members. Full details are below:

Playing members:	£90 (£110 if not paid by 1 <sup>st</sup> June)
University:	£50
Ladies Adult:	£50
High school age:	£50
Junior school (Yr 3-6):	£40
Junior school (Yr 1-2):	£5
Vice Presidents:	£40
Social Members:	£20

Match fees will be £5 for all senior games, while juniors will pay a £2 match fee.

## **Discounted drink incentive**

One significant investment that we have undertaken will benefit all paying members. We have upgraded our till system and can introduce membership incentives over the bar. Once annual subs are paid all paying members will receive a membership card for the bar, where discounted prices have been established.

Phil Thomas works tirelessly at hiring the club out, ensuring the facilities make the much needed money for the club to survive. If you have an event coming up please contact Phil at the club to make the most of the facilities we enjoy - without the profit from the bar the cricket club would not exist in the way it does today.

## **Volunteering - We need you!**

The committee serves all club members but we need help. Fundraising, helping on the ground, offering expertise is always welcome - please contact me on 07852303082 or via email at [james@gmhomeservices.co.uk](mailto:james@gmhomeservices.co.uk) if you have thoughts, ideas and/or time to benefit our club.

## **Captain's corner with Lee Dixon**

As the wind and rain gets up who would have thought a moment about cricket especially after the Ashes disappointment of this winter, but after such a successful season throughout the club it is time for us to get the cricket bag out the shed and put some hard work in ready to build on the good work and feeling from 2013.

The committee has committed to the biggest indoor program in the history of club, with nets and coaching for Senior Men and Women plus Junior Practice every Sunday for players from Under 9 through to Under 18. After seeing so many seniors supporting the junior section last year I hope that that momentum is carried forward.

This is the first opportunity to state what a great honour it is to take on the Captaincy of such a fantastic club and I would like to thank and applaud the work of the previous Captain Stephen Ogilby who brought the club their first Cheshire Premier League championship as part of the treble last season.

It is my wish to try and continue to bring success to Chester BHCC not just at the Top level but in all areas of the club and to ensure that we set the bar as high as we want it.

Thank you in advance for your support

*Lee Dixon*

## Winter programme

The indoor nets will this year be held at Kings School and start this week on the following days and times:

**Senior nets** are spread over two nights to facilitate more players:

Wednesday 9-10pm 4<sup>th</sup> xi, 3<sup>rd</sup> xi and colts

Thursday 6-7pm Ladies

Thursday 9-10pm 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> xi

Nets start on 15/16 January and run to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of April

### Junior nets

Start on Sunday 19 January at the following times:

Under 11's - 9am until 10am

Under 13's - 10am until 11am

Under 15's - Under 18's 11am until 12

Cost are £3 per session.

Further details are available from Lee Dixon on 07813 524884

## Dates for your calendar

It is our intention to host a series of events throughout the year. These fundraising events are crucial to our financial future so please take an active part in the social events of your club.

### Friday 7th February 2014

Family friendly disco at the club! It is our chance to get together for the first time in 2014 for a social evening. Bring along the children for food, entertainment and a disco.

### Friday 28th March 2014

A first for us at CBHCC sees us welcome the award winning Rhos Mail Voice choir.

Tickets are priced at £25 per head for a three course meal, with a chance to listen to the forty strong choir at the club.

Club Captain Chris Fleet is co-ordinating the event and tables of up to twelve are available now.

### Sunday 6th April 2014

Nat West Cricket Force day. Following on from last year's successful day where volunteers from across the club worked together in completing jobs around the ground alongside staff from Nat West bank

### Sunday 13th April 2014

Champagne reception to mark the start of the season at the clubhouse as the 100 club draw takes place.

### **Events to be confirmed as details are finalised:**

Pre-season Golf day

Vice Presidents and sponsors lunch

Dads and lads supper

Summer ball

## **Gossip Column**

- Several club members made the trip to Australia catching up with old friends along the way - Geoff Foley and Heath Pritchard welcomed Steve Ogilby, Graeme Vernon, Lee Dixon, Jordan Clarke and Snippy and eventually Jeff Fleet and Jeremy Jordan, who have unveiled personal sponsorship deals with Emirates Airlines!
- Club Captain, Chris Fleet and family were joined by Club President John Legry at the over forties training camp in Sandy Lane Barbados over the holiday season. Taffy Roberts and Andy Chamberlain were leading the recruitment campaign in numerous rum shacks, alongside full time tourists Tommy and Bob Evans, and Uncle Jeff. I can report that there is no truth in the rumour that the struggling over forties have signed Ambrose and Benjamin for their second stints at CBHCC.
- Lee Dixon organised informal 'pre-winter winter nets' before Christmas at Kings School. The open sessions were very well supported (22 players on one particular cold December evening) although Lee was disappointed that no over 40's players showed the commitment he as club coach is looking for.
- And finally.....at the recent team bonding event that took place on the final Saturday before Christmas in and around the pubs of Chester, ex-Kings School student Dave Atkin was pleased that Lee Dixon had booked translators for the night to assist with breaking down the language barriers of our players from the Wirral. Chair of Directors Jeremy Jordan (also ex Kings School) led the way and offered guidance to all as the elder statesman of the group - before retiring to his apartment for cocoa at 7pm!