



DARTFORD

Cricket Club est. 1727

CLUB NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2011

Welcome to the April edition of the DCC newsletter. Thank you all very much for emails on last months edition. Keep your suggestions coming throughout the season. As always keep checking www.dartfordcc.co.uk for the latest updates.

THIS ISSUE:

- Membership Day
- April Outdoor Training
- Fund Raising & Social Events
- Wedding Announcement
- NatWest Cricket Force - again
- New nets and roll on cage
- Pre-season friendly fixtures
- Cup fixtures
- New Groundsman
- Cricket Ball Amnesty
- Academy Updates
- Hola From Harry
- Nike Club Kit

PRE SEASON CIRCULAR & MEMBERSHIP DAY

Membership day will be **Sunday 3rd April** any time between **1 and 6pm**. Please make sure you attend as it allows all of the pre-season administration to be dealt with. You should have received the pre-season circular by now, please take the time to read this as it contains important information regarding the upcoming season and reports from our Club Captains and Officials.

If you cannot make the day, or are still waiting for your pre-season circular, please contact Pat on palippiatt@aol.com



RENAULT
RETAIL GROUP

 **orchard garage**
01322 271000



If you have any news or are interested in helping with this newsletter please get in touch, during the season we would like match reports from all games and plenty of pictures taken so if you're the next David Bailey drop me an email: cranie123@googlemail.com

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APRIL OUTDOOR TRAINING AND PRE-SEASON FIXTURES

With the season fast approaching it is time to start thinking about outdoor training. Here's a run down of what is taking place during April for both Seniors and the Academy:

SENIOR TRAINING:

Sunday 3rd April at 11am to 1pm

Adults - last indoor session at the Glaxo/Acacia Hall. Followed by registration day at Hesketh Park (bar open etc).

Sunday 10th April at 11am to 1pm

Outdoor training for adults starts at Hesketh Park – time to use the new nets!!

Saturday 16th April at 10am

Cricket Force weekend – the most important day of pre-season. Interclub practice match – 10am meet! please RSVP!

Sunday 17th April at 10am

No training – but you are needed for Cricket Force!

Wednesday 20th April at 6pm

First mid-week training session ahead of first pre-season match.

Saturday 23rd April

1st, 2nd, 3rd XI matches vs Bromley Common

Wednesday 27th April at 6pm

Outdoor training

Saturday 30th April

1st and 2nd XI matches vs Bexley.
3rd XI league match vs Bromley.

Sunday 1st May at 1pm

1st XI home in the standard cup competition.

ACADEMY TRAINING: the following training times have been arranged for each age group...

	u9	u11	u13	u15	u16
3 April	13:30 to 15:00	13:30 to 15:00	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30
10 April	13:30 to 15:00	13:30 to 15:00	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30
17 April	13:30 to 15:00	13:30 to 15:00	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30
24 April	13:30 to 15:00	13:30 to 15:00	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30	15:00 to 16:30
1 May	No training – please come and support 1st XI!				
9 May	18:00 to 20:00	18:00 to 20:00	18:00 to 20:00	18:00 to 20:00	



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FUND RAISING and SOCIAL EVENTS

Race Night - Friday 29 April at 7pm

Another reminder for this event, there are now only a small limited amount of tickets left so please get yours now. Lots of fun for all the family, please come along and enjoy yourselves! Tickets from Spencer and Alex, see website for details.



Club Away Day - Sunday 8th May

A limited number of tickets to the Kent v Yorkshire CB40 match at Canterbury have been secured and tickets will include return transport from Hesketh Park leaving at 11:30 sharp.

Tickets are priced at £30 for Senior and £20 for Academy members - a **fantastic** offer so please support your club, it will be a great way to kick off the 2011 season and a fun day out. We have some tight deadlines to meet with this event so a prompt response and payment would be appreciated. For further information please contact:

Lee Crane – lee.crane1@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Shaun Parker – sparker@haywards.net

There is a friendly fixture on this day vs. Linton Park at Hesketh, so if you are not coming along please try to make yourself available to play.

DCC WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

On the 9th April 2011 we see our first club wedding of the year (there are 3!) with former Club Captain Garry Cook tying the knot with Jane. We wish them both the best of luck for the future and hope they have a fantastic day. The celebrations are sure to go on until the early hours and we look forward to seeing the photos.

INTER CLUB PRACTICE MATCH



Taking place Saturday 16th April at 10am!

We will be linking this up with Cricket Force so don't expect to be sitting around watching the game, grab a Brush or a Broom and get busy. Meet is 10am at Royal Hesketh, the format will be decided on the day as it will depend on attendance. Remember to bring some old clothes with you. Please confirm your attendance to Jay or Webby.

Jay – 07875 005430

Webby – 07788 841270

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NATWEST CRICKET FORCE – SATURDAY 16 AND SUNDAY 17 APRIL AT 10AM

Probably the most important day(s) in the year is for Cricket Force – get it in your diaries now! We are progressing plans for a new pavilion at Hesketh Park but in the meantime we have a very long list of mini-improvement projects we want to achieve this year at the current pavilion. The more people and pairs of hands the better – we need everyone, juniors, parents, any family or friends to come along and help us. The day is about coming together and improving our facilities. Refreshments will be available (breakfast, teas/coffees, BBQ, and bar open!).

I know that this was in last months newsletter but I cant stress how important this day really is. Please contact **James Fitzgerald** this week by email if you are going to attend. We need to know numbers so we can allocate jobs etc. Fitzy may even cook you a burger!!!

james.fitzgerald@saffery.com



NEW NETS AT HESKETH PARK

The new and improved nets are now in place, with a total overhaul including re-laying the mats to provide a better surface and brand new netting. A brand new roll on cage has been purchased and will be stored inside the nets. We hope we have all learnt our lessons from last year and we look after these valuable assets. The cage will be locked when not in use but please contact a club official if you wish to use them outside of club hours. **Remember no spikes inside the nets and no throw downs or ball games against the perimeter fencing.**

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PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES

On page 2 there is a list of pre-season matches taking place. Captains will be selecting their sides in the coming two weeks so please check your availability!

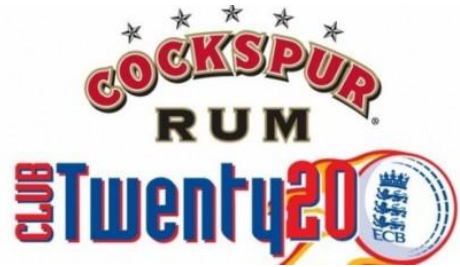
These friendlies are very important as it will be our first competitive cricket of the season, so take them seriously. Performances in these games will reflect in selection for the 1st league games. **COYD!!!**

5th TEAM CAPTAIN

We are yet to receive any interest in the 5th team captaincy role. This a fantastic opportunity and a vital role within the club as you will be nurturing the future 1st team players. If you are interested please come forward now and speak to Jay or Alex.

CRICKET BALL AMNESTY

Our cricket ball and incredi-ball stocks have depleted significantly through indoor training. We are asking if you could have a look through your bags to see if you have any. You will not be reprimanded we just want them back as the club spends a large amount of money each year on balls, and they are for the coaching team to run your sessions – not for every member to take a couple of balls each for their own bag. In future sessions please make sure that all balls are placed back in the bag once they are finished with. **This applies to seniors and juniors.**



Cockspur Twenty20 Cup draw is out, and the Darts are away to Rodmersham CC in the 1st round. Date of this is yet to be arranged but we will let you know in the May edition.

The **Conference Cup** (replacement for the Evening Standard competition) has drawn the 1st round ties. DCC have received a home tie for the first time in a couple of seasons, and will face London Maccabi Vale. Last year in the first round we were drawn away to Tunbridge Wells and after a spirited performance we narrowly lost out on a victory after Mark Lewis-Ranwell scoring a fine 104*.

More information about our opponents from Barnet who play in the Middlesex league can be found here: www.lmvcc.com

The tie will be played at Hesketh Park on **Sunday 1 May 2011 – 1pm start.**



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WELCOME TO OUR NEW GROUNDS MAN

Many of you will have heard that Terry Reynolds gave notice of his intention to stand down from doing the ground at Hesketh due to work pressures. Whilst Terry's work hours have impacted more and more on the work he could do over recent years his experience has remained an invaluable asset to the club. The thought of replacing this without busting the clubs financial budget was a daunting one. After investigating a few options the Chairman is pleased to announce that we have secured the services of **Mac Costen** who many of you will know from Horton Kirby where he has done a fantastic job on their playing surface.

Mac is someone with considerable experience and ability and we are confident he will be able to take the playing surface at Hesketh to new levels with the continued support of those who lend a hand throughout the summer. I know Neil is also keen to learn from Mac which can only benefit the facilities at Waller Park as his skills and knowledge increase. Whilst Mac doesn't officially join us until the end of June I hope he will start to become visible around the club and I'm sure you will all make him feel very welcome when you see him.

ACADEMY UPDATE

Our indoor coaching sessions have now finished and there has been great attendance across all age groups. Outdoor training times are listed on page 2, any queries please let me know.

The coaching team and I hope that you have enjoyed yourselves and we are aiming to make all of the training sessions as varied and enjoyable as possible.

I receive regular feedback from the coaching team about progress and development of you all, so keep up the hard work!

Alex



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HOLA FROM HARRY

I was delighted to accept the invitation from the Editorial team at DCC to drop you all a few lines about life here in Madrid. What follows next should be taken into context with the fact that I have just seen Anderson deliver the biggest pile of rubbish against Bangladesh tail-enders. I have not seen bowling like that since....I was playing perhaps !!!



Before I go further I must congratulate all the team that has got the Newsletter off the ground. Not only is it invaluable for those of us who cannot be around the Club as often as we would like but it is of such high quality and full of content that.... quite frankly I did not believe the Club had such gifted off the field/non-alcohol related talent. Well done and keep it up.

So to the winter here in Madrid. Obviously it has been much better than in the UK. There has been a little occasional snow and the evening/early morning temperatures can be quite cold with a heavy frost. All of this is made up for though by plenty of clear sky days. All of you that have been to Spain on holiday/business will recall how wonderfully blue the sky can be in this country – truly amazing and uplifting.

My work keeps me very busy and I continue to travel a lot – probably more than I used to when based in the UK. I am pretty much used to it by now and have become an expert in on-board flight entertainment. Nevertheless I continue to get a great kick out of visiting new countries – recently Mexico City at high altitude with 22 million inhabitants and a chaotic infrastructure set within a deeply historic throwback to the Incas was a city that will live long in the memory. I do manage to relax somewhat at the weekends. Sky Sports is installed in two rooms and I get to play some golf now and then. At the Races keeps me in touch with the GG's but I have experienced that the horses that I back continue to run just as slowly when you back them from even further away.

Leah has settled in well to her new school and surroundings. Sandra, however, is really struggling with the life out here. She has many challenges ahead of her each day....(a) when should I get up?, (b) when should I shower? (c) what time shall I go shopping?, (d) will I have lunch at 12.30 or 13.00h?, (e) a glass of wine or three before or after lunch? (f) will I have a siesta outside (see picture below taken last week) or inside depending on the weather? (g) who is Harry ?

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Seriously though we have settled in pretty well. Clearly we miss some home comforts from time to time – it is only natural. Nevertheless the opportunity to live and work away from the country that you are familiar with is very rewarding in many areas. Having said that our roots are based firmly in the UK and we try and get back as often as we can – Sandra will shortly become an Easy Jet Gold Card holder !



As I finish, the sun is starting to shine through and we are set for a glorious day. Thoughts start to turn to cricket and the great game that we love. So in conclusion, Sandra and I wish all of you a good and enjoyable season. We shall be watching from afar by e-mail and via the Newsletter. We shall certainly be paying a visit or two to Royal Hesketh and the Waller whenever we can.

All the best
Harry & Sandra

PS: This is the first time I have been allowed to send out such a note without it being proof read by the Boss. She is currently still asleep !!!

DCC NIKE CLUB KIT

The new club whites should be available this month, and Ian Sels will be providing some samples at the membership day for you to try. Please get your orders in as quickly as possible as it would be nice to see us all in the new gear at the start of the season. The Playing Bundle containing Shirt, Slipover Jumper and Cap retails at £62.00 in adult sizes and is extremely good value for money. If you have any issues with your orders please give them a call on 01666 840 622 or email enquiries@sportreach.co.uk

