

# Drighlington Cricket Club

## Newsletter

November 2009

### Cricket Matters, Yes it really does !!!

With Drighlington Cricket Club newly promoted to Division B of the Dales Council League after finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 2008 season, the aim for the coming season was to ensure the team were not relegated back into Division C. At the start of the season we all thought that we should set our sights realistically and only dared hope for a better result. This was to be the case as the season unfolded.

The first team squad was pretty much unchanged from that of the previous season as no new players had been recruited, in the closed season, and the wastage of the existing players was minimal.

Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> April was due to be the first game, but turned out to be an anti-climax as Leeds Sikh were unable to raise a team and thus forfeited the game and the six points that went with it. All in all not a bad start to the season, joint top of the division without a ball being bowled. The next 4 games came and went without much mishap with Drighlington winning all the fixtures and collecting a full compliment of points.

The Shipley Providence game was next, always a needle match with Drighlington historically the better team on the day. Unfortunately on this occasion all the team could manage was a losing draw with Shipley taking the lion's share of the six points on offer.

Again the next 3 fixtures went totally to plan with Drighlington collecting a full house of the 18 points available. Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of June saw the first clash of the top of the Division with Drighlington playing away to Mount. Again all Drighlington could manage to do was prevent Mount taking all of the points and bagging 2 for a losing draw, a fair result for the day.



Captain King

The next game was billed to be one the hardest of the season, last years Division C winners Hepworth & Idle at home. Much to the pleasure of the team and that of the ever growing following on the veranda at Victoria Park, Drighlington were to run out the winners, extending their lead at the tope of the table. This marked the halfway point of the season and the outside possibility of back-to-back promotions was definitely on the cards. By this point there was no way the Drighlington would end up in the relegation zone of the Division, first objective well and truly accomplished.

Leeds Sikh and Pudsey St. Lawrence came and went without much of a do. We were now 3 games clear at the top and the pre-season nerves were well and truly a thing of the past.

Thoughts were now turning to the end of season celebrations and the silverware that we could proudly display in the clubs trophy cabinet. But fate was to have a different outcome of the closing part of the season. The next 3 games were all against the bottom teams of the Division, thinking these points were already in the bag the team seemed to take their foot off the accelerator and this was to mark the beginning of the end of the promotion hopes. Losses to Rodley and Tong Park then the game with Old Modernians cancelled due to rain whilst some of the other teams managed results meant that our lead was cut to just a couple of points. Further problems ensued when the next game with Shipley Providence ended in defeat.

The equation was now simple we had to win the remaining games to guarantee promotion to Division A on our first attempt.

Farsley CC kindly obliged as did New Farnley and Baildon, just leaving the two other big hitters in the division (Mount & Hepworth & Idle). If things had gone to plan by now we would have been 3 games clear of the chasing pack with only 2 games to go, as it happened we found ourselves in 2<sup>nd</sup> place six points behind Mount only a win would help ensure promotion as division champions. It was a hard fought game but Drighlington eventually came out in second place with only the prospect of beating Hepworth & Idle between us and promotion in second place. Again this result was not to finish in favour of Drighlington, leaving us to finish the 2009 season in 4<sup>th</sup> place.

To be fair this was a better result than we could ever have dreamed of at the start of the season, but, disappointing taking into account our position in the division up until the closing games of the season.

I would like to close this review of the season with heartfelt thanks to those that have made this season the success it was. Marlene and Margaret, where would we be without our sustenance on a Saturday afternoon. The players who stuck with the team even when the luck was going against us. Tom Farnell and Andy Keyworth for doing probably the most boring job in cricket (scoring). Alan Smith and Peter Gamble for preparing the wickets and keeping the ground up to scratch. Kirstie Draper and Claire Pearson for helping out with teas when the tea ladies were on holiday. Finally all the members of staff at the club, the committee and above all - you the

members so supporting the club and the team in their endeavours. Cricket at Drighlington really does matter and without you all there would be no club, let alone no cricket.

Here's to a fruitful 2010 season.

Kevin King

Senior Team Cricket Captain

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## Discos every month with Star DJ Ian

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### Coaching

At the start of the season 3 coaches, Kevin King, Jez Gamble and John Varley qualified for the level 2 coaching awards. Including Neil Proverbs this means that the club currently have 4 ECB qualified coaches.

Although the club has 4 qualified coaches we could do with more so if any member or parent would like to go on a level 1 coaching course the club will offer plenty of support. The level 1 course consists of two full training days and then an assessment day. This course is suitable for both players and parents, in fact anyone with an interest in cricket and who wants to help coach the younger teams. Come on Mums, the course is user friendly and it would be nice to have some female coaches working with the kids. The course content will cover cricket games, fielding, batting, bowling and wicket keeping.



Umpire Jez

A view from the Pavilion

# Cricket Force 2009 - another Great Success



Wet Paint !!

Another successful weekend saw 35 volunteers tackle more maintenance work on the club house. This year painting was high on the agenda with the external woodwork having a good work out with the changing rooms also having a lick of paint on the walls. The entrance between the toilets and the shower area was a major project with a door and partition wall being built and tiled. The field received a good tidy up with the sight screens being painted. A fence was also erected to enclose the rear of the club house.



D.I.Y

The cost of this work was paid for by the club due to the economic climate hitting our sponsors. Hewden who were the major sponsor last year pulled out during the week before the event which was a big disappointment.



Falling Down!

The fascias and soffits turned out to be too big a project for the team to undertake so we employed a contractor to do this work for us. Also as this was a good time for a make over of the external lighting we employed an electrician to replace the old flood lights with low energy fittings which will save the club a lot of money in the future. The entrance is now well light at a fraction of the previous cost of electricity.

Again the weekend was a huge success but without certain volunteers it would not have been completed. No names need to be mentioned here as they all know who they were, they deserve a big thank you.



Group Painting



The Support Team

## Cumberland Cream Ale ABV 4%

### New to Drighlington Cricket Club

A superb golden coloured ale, brewed with malt made from specially selected Maris Otter barley and using only the finest English aromatic hops.

Traditionally brewed for over a hundred years, using pure Lakeland water drawn from the brewery's own

well. Cumberland Ale has become a firm favourite nationwide and is Jennings best selling brand outside the Lake District. Cumberland Ale has won silver in this years International Beer Challenge

Jennings Brewery was established as a true family concern back in 1828 in the village of Lorton. In 1874 the company moved to it's current location in the shadow of Cockermouth Castle where the rivers Cocker and Derwent merge (currently under water, but not affecting our stock at the moment).

## Martin House Children's Hospice Charity Events August 2009

In support of the above Charity two events were held, a Fun Day and a Cabaret Evening with Phil Smith.

Both events proved to be a great success with a lot of support from everyone who thoroughly enjoyed both days. There were many events organised throughout the Fun Day and everyone seemed to get into the spirit of things.

As the event was such a success we will try to stage something similar next year.

On behalf of the Cricket Club and Martin House Children's Hospice, I would like to thank everyone who came along to support the Events and help to raise a total of £1600. We could not have done it without your generous support.

I would also like to thank the local businesses who donated prizes for the raffle, the Bar Staff, Phil Smith and all the people who gave their time and help in organising the event.

Shane Kao - Secretary

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## Junior Cricket

In 2009 we had over 35 Junior Players play in league and cup games. In addition we had regularly 50 juniors attend training sessions at both indoor nets and at the club on Friday evenings. We hope to have even more in 2010. Next year the club is investing heavily in both our junior and senior training and development programmes, this already includes the purchase of automated bowling equipment, plans for new nets and more equipment and more qualified coaches.

The club received sponsorship from several companies, organisations and private individuals in 2009. Both Mars and Bedford's made large cash donations which helped both the junior and senior cricketers. For next year Londis, King Street, Drighlington has already committed £500 towards Junior Cricket at the club. This is excellent, especially in today's financial climate. We are committed to improvements and developments at the club, especially in our junior participants, as they are our

cricketing future and we are already seeing the benefits.

Some of our juniors played in first team matches this year, and gave an excellent account of themselves. Our first team captain, Kevin King, is a qualified coach and we are all grateful for his enthusiasm and commitment to our junior cricket development.

Tony Willis - Senior and Junior Cricket Manager

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## Management News

The Management Committee are pleased to bring you this 2009 newsletter, once again bringing you up to date with events over the last year. Regular monthly committee meetings have taken place, keeping the affairs of the club in order. We negotiated a satisfactory deal with Marston's enabling us to continue to keep prices as low as possible. The bar prices have remained the same as last year despite the increase in duty. We also obtain supplies of wine and soft drinks from Clark's of Wakefield.

Work will soon commence on an all purpose weather shelter which we hope to complete by Christmas.

The club has subscribed to ESPN following the collapse of Setanta to bring an even greater range of football matches to the big screen. This will supplement the existing Sky package which has all the Rugby, Cricket and other sports channels for members to watch. Forthcoming matches are displayed on the notice board.

The cricket club has been used during the year by other groups including Drighlington Bowling Club for meetings and social events, pensioners association meetings and a number of parties as well as charity events and funeral teas.

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**New Years Eve**  
**Grand Raffle**  
**Fantastic Prizes**  
**1st Prize - Flat Screen TV**  
**Plus lots of other top prizes**

Tickets available from Emma Walker

**Bedford Transport** hired the ground for a corporate day when they challenged the senior team to a match. Despite having the advantage of playing 30 overs to Drighlington's 20 and batting until all their overs were used up they still lost.



Bedford Supporters enjoying the day



Another of our "famous" cricket teas

Despite the result they all had a fantastic day and enjoyed one of our famous cricket teas. Following on from their great day Bedford's have sponsored the match stumps.

## Charity Matches.

The club played host to a charity cricket match during the season for the Society for Mucopolysaccharide diseases (MPS), this charity works constantly to secure treatment for children with serious genetic conditions. Recently the charity has campaigned and been successful in bringing a groundbreaking infusion treatment to many children in the UK which is at the very forefront of Genetic science. A treatment which gives a better quality of life to children who previously had little help. Amongst them local boy Oliver Moody, who is seen regularly in the Cricket club, initiated the day and much of its success was due to his efforts and enthusiasm.



Chasing the Balloons across the field

The ladies took on the Senior Team, with the help of one or two feMALE players. The ladies raised sponsorship for the game which was also supported by Barclays Bank. Many parents and friends donated items for the tombola and other stalls which were very successful. One of the highlights of the day was a ride in a new Bentley limousine following the release of the balloons for the guess the number of balloons in a car competition.

The delight on the young people who benefit from our efforts is a fine reward as is the enjoyment of the youngsters who took part on the day raising a grand total of £2,600. The MPS society were so surprised by the amount raised that their CEO travelled from London to thank us all! Well done everyone!!!

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Have You Got What it Takes - Could you be the next Susan Boyle, Mark Knopfler or Diversity? In the New Year the Club will be hosting it's very own Drighlington's Got Talent Competition in February and March

It will be open to club members and the residents of Drighlington only. All acts and age groups welcome, so bring your family and friends along for a great night out. Full details of the competition, cash prizes (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) and how to enter will be displayed on the club notice board early January

For more information please contact the organiser Mick Pickup.

# Maintaining the Square

The cricket square is probably the most important asset to any cricket club so it is vital it is kept in good condition. Because we run both junior and senior teams and host matches for Whitehall cricket club the ground is in use seven days a week during the season so our groundsman spends most days preparing the pitches for match days. This involves cutting and rolling the square, preparing the wicket for the match and then repairing any damage afterwards. At the end of the season (usually mid September) the work starts on preparing for next year with grass cutting, scarifying and poking holes in the square. Seeding and fertilising then follow so new grass will grow during the winter months.

This year we were advised by Rod Heyhoe who is the Chairman of the Groundsman's Association. By hiring the equipment and using volunteer labour we probably saved over £600 and again had a good day. The new grass will need to be cut during the closed season to encourage growth and reduce the growth of weeds.

Next season we hope to have more volunteers to help with this vital task so any one interested please contact our volunteer groundsman Alan Smith.



Preparing for next season

## Can you Help?

The Cricket Sub Committee would welcome any offers of help with junior cricket, being part of the committee, general help with the junior teams, scoring or looking after the increasing amount of equipment. It has been encouraging to see some of the parents getting involved with practice and supporting the coaches and particularly supporting the juniors. It would also be most appreciated if more help was available when we have a 'clean up around the field' weekend and help at the beginning and end of season with putting up and taking down the nets around the field.



## The New Scoreboard

One Saturday afternoon during August 2008 a discussion took place between the players about the state of the scoreboard. Following years of use the numbers were worn out and although Kevin King, Barrie Jones and Peter Gamble had fixed them many times the time had come to think about replacement. Enquiries had shown that replacements were expensive so John Varley was asked if a digital scoreboard was feasible using LEDs. John asked what information the players required and a plan started to take shape.

During the winter many designs were tried and discarded due to a number of technical problems. These field trials were witnessed by the local residents who were amused and sometimes sceptical of the feasibility of using LEDs in the sun and the angle they could be viewed at.

The final design used state of the art high brightness amber





LEDs with a 120° viewing angle. After making the digits a display was constructed so they could be used during a match. The first day the prototype was used we had a shower soon after the start and the rain affected the display for about 15 minutes but during the tea interval hailstones fell and the display went wild with lots of random numbers. Although following a drying out period all worked OK it was realised that the display must be weather tight so a fascia using polycarbonate sheet was installed. The club now has a state of the art scoreboard which can be seen from Station Road and is the envy of the visiting teams.



## Social Events

The end of October is the time for Halloween so this year a party was held for junior and senior members who dressed in fancy dress for the night. Prizes were awarded for the best outfits and once again all had a good time.



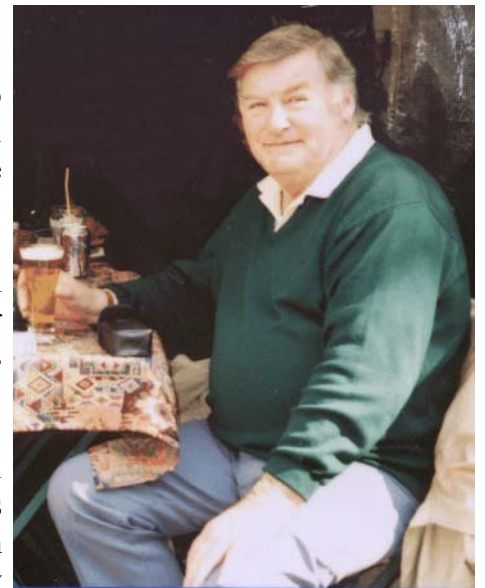
## Barrie Jones 1939 - 2009

Barrie lost his fight against his illness on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009 age 70.

Barrie was one of the key people who decided to form a committee to restart cricket at Drighlington, who with Doreen Smith, Peter Smith, Phil Jones, Bryan Oades, Peter Gamble and Neil Proverbs did much of the groundwork required to have junior teams in place for the 2006 season.

Barrie had a dream that he would be able to watch cricket at Drighlington during his retirement so his main goal was to restart Junior and Senior Cricket. Many of the Junior players will recall his phrase “as much use as a chocolate fireguard” when describing their performance in training.

The senior team restarted in 2007 and was elected to the Dales Council Cricket League with Kevin King as team Captain. For the first matches we found ourselves short of players so I said “I used to play and if I am dressed in whites the opposition won’t know that I don’t play now” my brother Bob also joined the team even though he hadn’t played cricket since leaving school. The first season produced some great matches from a very enthusiastic team which finished in a very creditable position mid table. 2008 saw the team finish second and so gaining promotion to division B.



I had the pleasure of attending his birthday party at Gomersal Park Hotel where he was joined by his family and many friends.

Although I only knew Barrie for a few years I know he was held in high regard by all those who knew him, especially those who were involved in local cricket.

So thank you Barrie for all your hard work for Drighlington Cricket Club.

John Varley

## PRESENTATION EVENING

Starts at 7.00 pm on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November

We would like to thank the 12 sponsors for the Junior Achievement Awards, which included local Companies and Organisations and also private individuals, who have donated 18 additional trophy awards this year for the Juniors. In addition there will be a special award in memory of Barrie Jones for the Junior who has had the greatest impact in the senior team this season.

## Supporting Junior Cricket

Thank you to our supporters who not only donated essential and much needed equipment and match balls but also contributed funds for club shirts for our junior squad.

New club shirts will be provided for Junior Players next season with donations already promised.

Junior indoor nets start in January and all players will be notified of the dates and times.

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## Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

	Monday	21 <sup>st</sup> December	7.30 to 11.00	Normal hours
	Tuesday	22 <sup>nd</sup> December	7.30 to 11.00	Normal hours
	Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> December	7.30 to 11.00	Normal hours
Christmas Eve	Thursday	24 <sup>th</sup> December	7.30 to 11.00	Normal hours
Christmas Day	Friday	25 <sup>th</sup> December	12.00 noon to 2.00 pm	
Boxing Day	Saturday	26 <sup>th</sup> December	12.00 noon to 11.00	Family Fun Disco
	Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup> December	12.00 noon to 11.00	
	Monday	28 <sup>th</sup> December	12.00 noon to 11.00	
	Tuesday	29 <sup>th</sup> December	7.30 to 11.00	Normal hours
	Wednesday	30 <sup>th</sup> December	7.30 to 11.00	Normal hours
New Years Eve	Thursday	31 <sup>st</sup> December	7.30 to Early Morning	
			Optional Fancy Dress Karaoke + Disco (Families Welcome)	
New Years Day	Friday	1 <sup>st</sup> January	12.00 noon to 11.00	

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## 2010 Membership

Enclosed with this newsletter is a new 2010 membership application form. The membership fee remains the same for 2010.

### Classes of membership

Family Membership (with children under 18)	£15.00
Adult Membership	£8.00
Senior Membership (over 60's)	£4.00
Junior Membership	£2.50

Please fill in your membership form, enclose the appropriate fee and hand it to one of the committee members or over the bar. It is important that we have upto date details for all members. Remember if we do not have your address we cannot send you a copy of the news letters.

Membership subscriptions are due from January and a discount is offered if paid before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2009. Family and Adult membership saving £1.00 and Senior Membership saving 50p.

## 2009 AGM

We wish to invite you to the 2009 AGM on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at the Cricket Club, starting at 8 p.m. When there will be a presentation of the Club's Finances, Management and Cricket Team Reports.

Seven places on the management committee will become vacant at the date of the AGM so if you fancy becoming a member please put your name down on the nominee list which will be on the notice board. If there are more than 6 nominees then there will be a vote with the seventh candidate only serving for one year.

The management committee are responsible for running the club on behalf of the members. So new members who can offer their time and skills are most welcome.

Any members wishing to raise any issue please put it in writing and pass to any committee member so it can be included in the agenda for discussion at the next committee meeting. Finally the Management Committee wish to thank all members for their support throughout the year and would like to wish everyone

**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS**