

east bierley cricket club newsletter

Publisher EBCC

Season 2009

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March 2009

Welcome to a new membership year and hope that you have all "wintered well" By the time you get this newsletter the cricket season will only be weeks away, and we can all dream of those hot sunny days, English teas, and good cricket; well the latter two certainly, the hot sunny days?... well who knows! The last two summers as you know have been poor weather wise, and the ground has taken a bit of a battering with all the rainfall. So this winter the whole outfield will be "vertidraind and sanded, hopefully this will help with the drainage and improve the playing surface.

GROUND PREPARATION STARTS EARLY...

On a freezing cold Saturday morning in January (-5c) Phil, Eddie and myself started ground preparation for the coming season. Our first task was to repair a collapsed drain on the village end boundary. We dug through the frozen ground to reveal the collapsed drain. These drains, which run down the whole length of that side of the ground toward the bottom boundary, are beautifully constructed in Yorkshire stone, with a stone slab floor, two stone walls, and a stone slab top.

After repairing the collapsed wall, best we could, and back filling in, we could not help but wonder in admiration the hard work our predecessors' put in to construct these drains; "who did it and when?" we asked ourselves. The three of us had no idea. So, if anybody knows anything about these drains, when they were built, and by who, please contact Phil, Eddie or myself, Kevin (The Groundsmen) and tell us the story and we'll put it on the website.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRMAN...

1st XI COMINGS AND GOINGS

Welcome to a new season at East Bierley Cricket Club, the first XI will be again captained by Gavin Hamilton and the second XI by Matthew Anderson. This year the first XI has signed an overseas professional by the name of Mohammed Ahzarullah who currently plays for Water and Power Development Authority in the Pakistan First Class Cricket Competition. Mohammed is a fast right arm bowler and will be a good addition to the first XI, and we look forward to him joining EBCC. The second signing this season for the first team is promotion from the 2nd XI for Steve Simpson who will bolster our middle order batting line up.

... AND 2nd XI NEWS

The second team will again be under the stewardship of Matthew Anderson who again brought silverware back to

East Bierley by doing the "double" (again). Matthew and his boys won the 2nd XI league division one title, and the Priestley Shield, an outstanding achievement from Matthew and his team. They have now won the shield three years running. To mark this achievement a new collage of photographs of the three cup victories has been placed in the clubhouse alongside the collage of our first teams **triple** Priestley cup achievements. The 2nd XI will be the same as last season with the exception of Steve Simpson moving up to the first team and former player Dave Dawson will be returning to the 2nd XI squad.

ANTHONY McGrath BENEFIT YEAR....

As part of Anthony's benefit year, EBCC, along with Anthony's organizing committee have arranged a 20-20 match here at East Bierley Cricket Club on Sunday 13th September. There will be a gala in the morning with fun activities for all the family before the 20-20 match. There will also be many cricket items donated by Anthony, which will be raffled or auctioned to help raise money for the charities supported by Anthony. (<http://www.mags2009.co.uk/charities.html>)

Anthony will bring a team of Yorkshire players to take part in the 20-20 match against our club team. As usual, check our website for this and further details of upcoming events.

EAST BIERLEY T20 COMPETITION....

This summer will see the biggest cricket event organized solely by the club. We have invited 16 teams from throughout Yorkshire, including EBCC, to take part in the very first EBCC T20 competition. Plans are at an early stage, (at the time of print) but the competition will take place on one Sunday in each month from April through to August, effectively replacing the Heavy Woollen cup. There will be cash prizes for the winners, runners up, and man of the series, plus all of the excitement of T20. See Dates for Your Diary for match dates.

NEW LOOK WEBSITE....

Approval was given this winter to have a new look website in time for the start of the new season.

Richard Harrison, who manages the current website through the Play-Cricket organisation, is to set up our very own website, said "In my first year as website administrator I kept you all up to date with all the 1st XI and 2nd XI fixtures as well as all the social events happening in the club. This year I will be including all the fixtures for the junior sections as well as some new features like an improved forum.

Some of you may already know that we now have our own domain name. The new site allows for more flexibility over the Play-Cricket site we have used in the past (and still use). I welcome all feedback and ideas that you would like me to include on the website". Email me at this address...

admin@eastbierleycricketclub.com

New web address:

www.eastbierleycricketclub.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 6th. Junior Registration Night 8pm

April 18th. Start of 2009 season.

April 20th. Junior Academy Starts 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

April 26th. EBCC. T20. Competition.

May 22nd. Cricket Heritage Roadshow at the tearoom East Bierley.

May 24th. Joe Lumb Competition 1pm.

May 31st. EBCC T20 Competition.

June 4th. Yorks v Leics U14 11am.

June 28th. EBCC T20 Competition.

July 7th. Yorks v Northumberland U14 11am.

July 19th. EBCC T20 Competition.

August 16th. EBCC T20 Competition Final.

September 12th. End of 2009 season.

September 13th. Anthony McGrath Benefit Match. East Bierley CC v Yorkshire

October 3rd. (provisional) Junior Presentation Evening.

October 17th. (Provisional) Senior Presentation Evening.

These are just some of the events happening at EBCC this year at the time of print, and may be subject to change, more events will be happening throughout the year, so to keep up to date check the new club website, or the clubhouse notice boards.

Wednesday Night Quiz

Now in its 21st.year David Bentley's Mid-Week quiz, test your general knowledge against the best East Bierley has to offer Every Wednesday at 9:30pm.