



# east bierley cricket club newsletter

Publisher EBCC

Season 2010

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## **Last wicket**

by Ray Davis, Chairman

*"To those who insist on asking who was the greatest batsman, Trumper or Bradman, I feel the only fitting answer is another question: which was the finer seaman, Sinbad the Sailor or Popeye the Sailorman?"*

*Raymond Robinson, From the Boundary (1951)*

Welcome to another cricket season at East Bierley Cricket Club. At the time of writing this article the 1<sup>st</sup> XI have had no additions to the squad from last season despite the loss of a couple of players, the reason for this is that players now are asking for far too much money and this year we will not be held to ransom by mediocre players. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI will be again captained by Paul Hutchison and the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI will be captained by John Davis. I would like to wish both captains the best of luck for the forthcoming season.

On a personal front I would like to announce that at the end of this year I will be standing down as chairman, I have thoroughly enjoyed myself being part of East Bierley CC and I would like to thank everybody who has helped me in my 16 years involvement with the club. Whoever takes over at the helm will receive my full support and backing in making East Bierley a successful cricket club both on and off the field.

## **It's been a tough winter!**

by Phil McKirgan, Secretary

*"That black cloud is coming from the direction the wind is blowing, now the wind is coming from where the black cloud is."*

*Ray Illingworth*

Work continues on the ground right round the year, and so whilst we've had some beautiful views and some great sledging, snow-related rather than cricket-related, this year's winter has proved to be a bit of a nuisance for the ground staff.

In spite of it all, Simon has been maintaining his efforts to keep up with the aeration of the square (spiking) and it was very heartening to see the square emerge after five weeks under the snow, still green and even with stripes in place!

Unfortunately, the drainage work we were going to do in the winter will now have to wait until after the season.

### **Dates for your diary**

#### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Junior Registration night.

#### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

Pre-season entertainment.

#### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

Start of the senior season.

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

Start of the U11's season.

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

Start of the U15's season.

#### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

Start of the U17's season.

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April**

Start of the U13's season.

#### **Wednesday Night Quiz**

Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year  
David Bentley's Mid-Week quiz.

Test your general knowledge  
against the best East Bierley has  
to offer.

Every Wednesday from 9.30pm.

Eddie and I are keeping the equipment in running order and will be tackling bench refurbishment in the rest of February and March. There's always plenty to do.

We'll be having a couple of ground working parties as usual this year, so if you'd like to help out or just come and see what goes on, please just turn up – everyone is welcome and no experience is necessary. The dates are Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March and Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April from 9am.

The fixture list is already filling up as there are some new competitions for us this year. Firstly, we are entering the League's Dyson Twenty-20 competition (mainly Tuesday evenings) and secondly, we have entered the ECB National Club Championship this year and we will be playing Driffield Town at South View Road in the first round on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May. We will also be hosting our own Twenty-20 Tournament in mid summer, with a number of local teams competing – all at East Bierley.

Looking forward to a busy and successful season.

### ***The one and only...***

*by Richard Harrison, Subscriptions Secretary*

*On the Jurassic Park dinosaurs – "I could go to any county committee room if I wanted to see that."*

*Fred Trueman (1993)*

This is my first year as subscriptions secretary and I would like to thank Kevin Holdsworth for all the sterling work he has done over the past several years as the previous subscriptions secretary.

I'd like to congratulate the 1<sup>st</sup> XI on an astounding year in 2009. I'm sure we would all wish them the best for 2010 and cheer them on for another Priestley Cup win and hopefully the league title.

It has been noted that some partners of members are using the clubhouse without having membership. Whilst it may be true that in some other members clubs that partners do not need membership, at EBCC the ruling is that **ALL** people using the club need to be a member in their own right. Non-members may still come into the club as long as they are signed in by a member. Please refer to rule 10 paragraph 4 in the club's rule book. If you require a rule book please ask at the bar.

### ***The little grey cells***

*by Kieran Burns, Junior Chairman*

*"If there were an Olympic event for running backwards, I would be the obvious favourite."*

*Harold 'Dickie' Bird, Not Out (1978)*

When Richard asked me to write something for the newsletter, I was taken aback a little as I didn't think I would have to re awaken the '*little grey cells*' until the season began. When I thought about it though there are some things I need to tell you about the forthcoming Junior Season, so here it goes!

- ◆ Junior registration night is on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March from 6.30pm. To speed the process up I will be sending the forms that you need to complete by email to those of you whose email addresses I have, so you can print them off, fill them in and bring them with you on the night. Blank forms will be available on the night. Could I ask you to re-confirm your email address to me at [kieranburns@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:kieranburns@blueyonder.co.uk) to ensure you can fill these forms in at your leisure.
- ◆ Club membership will also be available on 15<sup>th</sup> March and it is important to note that children who are registered in our Junior section **MUST BE** members of the club, as are their families if they come and watch and use the club facilities. It is important for insurance purposes that this policy is adhered to.

- ◆ The ECB, through the Bradford Cricket League, are concentrating on child protection issues and all the details of the club's policy are available in the club. We will ensure as a club we adhere to those instructions. We have enhanced CRB checks on all our coaches and certain others involved in Junior cricket.
- ◆ The Junior nets begin at Woodlands indoor centre on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February from 9am to 10am, each Sunday until 28<sup>th</sup> March.
- ◆ A date for the beginning of the Junior Monday night academy has not been decided yet but once I know you will know too.
- ◆ We are always looking for new Junior members so if you know anyone who is interested, please let them know about registration night or contact me at my email address and I'll send them the relevant forms.
- ◆ This year we are anxious to get the 'Club Mark' status for the club, so we might get back to you asking for help and support.
- ◆ This year we will be running the following Junior Teams

Team	Manager
Under 9's	Ian Ormondroyd
Under 11's	Matty Anderson
Under 13's	Ray Davis
Under 15's	Mark Loker
Under 17's	Matthew McKirgan

The League fixtures and cup draws for the various age groups is now on the Bradford Junior League website. ([www.bjcl.org.uk](http://www.bjcl.org.uk))

### ***Howzat!!!***

*by Paul Hutchison, 1<sup>st</sup> Team Captain*

*"Drink is a serious problem, particularly on cricket tours, for it can be said, without fear of contradiction, that nothing yet devised by man is worse for a sick hangover than a day's cricket in the summer sun."*

*Michael Parkinson, Bats in the Pavilion (1977)*

I hope you have all wintered well. I would like to take this opportunity to talk to you about the 1XI for 2010. There has been some activity in the transfer market during the winter which I'm happy to inform you about.

Firstly I need to inform you of the outgoing players; Kez Ahmed has lost his appeal over a 1 year ban from all cricket and is therefore unavailable to us during 2010. Kez remains committed to EBCC and you will see him around the ground on match days. Chris Elstub has unfortunately received bad news on his knee injury which means he will miss the entire 2010 season. Again Chris remains committed to EBCC and you will also see him around the ground during the season. I am disappointed for Chris especially as he missed the majority of the 2009 season due to a freak bike accident when he broke his arm. Lee Goddard has secured a return to Derbyshire CCC for 2010. I would like to wish Lee well for 2010 season and beyond. He is a good player who deserves his chance to establish himself as a 1st Class Cricketer. Lee remains registered to EBCC and will be available for selection when DCCC fixtures allow. Steve Simpson has returned to Farsley CC. Steve is a good cricketer and a great bloke and I wish him every success during 2010, except when we play them!!! Gavin Hamilton's commitments as Scotland's cricket captain means we will be without him for a number of games during 2010. Gavin is a firm favourite with the players and members and will be missed when unavailable.

Now for the better news; Mo Azarhullah has arrived in the country and has been practising with the squad at our winter nets which removes the problem we experienced last season with visa's/work permits and he is fit and ready for the start of the season. I am happy to announce we have signed former Yorkshire CCC wicket keeper

Ismail Dawood. Ishy brings a wealth of experience to the club, he is a quality batter with a First Class hundred to his name. He will be available for the majority of the games and is enthusiastic about the challenge ahead. We have also signed Uzi Mohammed from Pudsey Congs. Uzi is a quality all rounder who will offer good off spin and quality top order batting. Uzi could turn out to be an excellent signing for the club. Thomas Owens is returning to the 1st XI for 2010. His sheer weight of runs in the 2nd XI justifies a good run in the team and I look forward to watching him during 2010. Our final signing is Ollie Ashford from Rastrick CC. Ollie is only 15, however I believe he has a special talent who has the ability to go all the way. He is a tall quick bowler who will fit into the team as Chris Elstub's replacement. We must remember he is only young and we will develop him at his own pace.

2010 is a very busy season for the playing squad, we have entered the National Knockout which will see us play against the best of the best from across the country. Adding this tournament to our list means we will be involved in 5 competitions, therefore it is vital to have a squad of players who can rotate rather than just having 11 players who if injured could leave us short. I believe that these new players have strengthened the squad and we will be pushing for major honours on all fronts. I look forward to seeing you all during the season.

### ***Never gonna give you up...***

*by Richard Harrison, Website Administrator*  
[eastbierleycricketclub.com](http://eastbierleycricketclub.com)

*"When you're an off-spinner there's not much point glaring at a batsman.  
If I glared at Viv Richards he'd just hit me even further."*

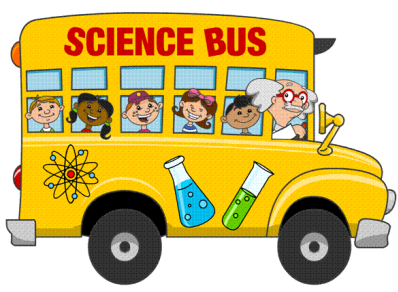
*David Acfield (1982)*

This year looks to be a better year for live reporting on the website of matches in the Bradford League. All 1<sup>st</sup> team scorers in division 1 will be given a notebook (small laptop) for scoring on. The notebook lasts for a full match on a single battery charge, so is ideal for score boxes that don't have power. Scores will be transmitted over the internet via a small dongle. All equipment is being supplied by the Bradford League to each of the clubs involved.

I've opened up the forum for access to all. This means that non-members can discuss cricket with us. Obviously this is subject to good behaviour.

If any of our members are interested in having a blog (web diary for the older generation), then please let me know and I will set one up for you on our domain. I believe that this could be a wonderful opportunity to get feedback from our members, and with your permission, one of your finely crafted works could end up in one of the next newsletters.

I plan to re-organise the website and hopefully make it compatible with mobile phones that can navigate the web. As usual, drop me a line at [admin@eastbierleycricketclub.com](mailto:admin@eastbierleycricketclub.com) if you wish to make any suggestions.



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