

## **BARNARDS GREEN CC SPRING 2008 NEWSLETTER**

### **Overseas Player**

We have been fortunate in securing the services of Matthew Shimmell a 19 yr old fast bowler from Melbourne Australia. Matt has not played in the UK before but is due to arrive on April 10<sup>th</sup> at Manchester and will be available for our first friendly against Worcester CC on Sat 12<sup>th</sup> April. We look forward to welcoming Matt and helping him to settle in and become a key member of the first team squad.

### **Equipment and Maintenance**

The Executive Committee has been busy trying to update and maintain ground equipment. We are currently negotiating over a replacement heavy roller for use at Newland and have also identified suitable square mower for the wicket there. Roy has asked for a specific brussssssh and scraper and this has been ordered. We are confident that the equipment needed will be available and in use in good time for the new season.

### **Cricket Force 2008**

The immediate focus for CricketForce 2008 will be Newland as we need to do some basic tidying and decorating in order to ensure the facilities are ready for the new season. As we are also hiring the ground out to other users there is a real requirement to get things up to scratch as it is revenue we desperately need in order to offset other ground expenses at both North End Lane and Newland so it affects all players, not just those who generally play at Newland.

Willing labour is needed for the weekend of April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from 1000 a.m. so reserve this time in your diary !!

### **Plans for 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2009**

You will be aware that 2009 will be the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the club. We are considering a range of celebratory events throughout the year and so far these include a Cricket Week featuring fixtures against representative and celebrity teams, an overseas tour, a Gala Dinner, a Pro-Am Golf tournament, talks from eminent cricketers and commentators, Past Players and Members events etc. Any further ideas and suggestions gratefully received, as will offers of organisational help.

## **Clubhouse Improvements**

Thanks to the Club Chairman there is significant progress on the Clubhouse Extension programme. Some minor amendments to the submitted plans have been made in response to the planners feedback and we are looking to go to tender on these plans shortly. Whilst we recognise that this is a tight deadline we are hopeful that building work will begin at the end of this season and completed in time for the 2009 season. This would see a suite of dressing room facilities and a balcony on the first floor with a function room along the ground floor. In addition to improving member facilities this will further enhance the revenue potential .

## **Subscriptions**

Just to remind members subscriptions have gone up as agreed at the A.G.M.

These are ;

Senior Member                    £75

Unwaged over 18 years    £35

Junior Members                £17

All of these figures are inclusive of cricket and club membership and are payable by the end of May after which date a £10 levy applies.

## **Club Handbook and Fixture List**

This year the Fixture List will be an integral part of a much more comprehensive Club Handbook. This will incorporate key information about the club and will include our policies and procedures , training arrangements, disciplinary codes, club statistics, tables, contacts , sponsor details and the opportunity to purchase cricket gear directly

## **Additional Matches**

A number of midweek touring teams will be visiting the Green this summer and this can be important revenue for us so please make yourselves available whenever possible. To date we shall be welcoming sides from Sussex Hampshire and Warwickshire in July and August.

## **Clubmark Progress**

Thanks to a mountain of paperwork completed - and I think possibly devised - by Andy Wheeler , Barnards Green is ready to be assessed for the ECB Clubmark Award. We will need to be visited on a Colts Training Night early in the season so we need all the coaches available and working so that any assessor will be suitably impressed! Please keep an ear to the ground as recognition and awarding of the Clubmark is vital to us in triggering support funding.

## **Member news**

Just a few health reports . Roy Mayo is feeling rather better after a miserable Christmas and even spent some time on the mower this week.

Max is in good health and has even forgiven me for forgetting the loyal toast at the Dinner!

Andy Lamb has to go for surgery on the 19<sup>th</sup> March in Worcester and is likely to be out of commission for several weeks.