



BARNARDS GREEN CRICKET CLUB



# BARNARDS GREEN CC SPRING NEWSLETTER 2011



Champions, Worcestershire County Cricket League 2010



**Barnards Green Cricket Club**

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our spring newsletter. 2011 promises to be another memorable season for Barnards Green, following the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of 2009 and the promotion success of 2010. This is a club going places and these are exciting times to be involved. Reading through this newsletter you will see many examples of activities and developments being put in place to keep the club moving forward.

The big news of course is that our 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> XI's will be playing in the Birmingham League for the first time. More about that on the playing side from Tim below, but what this means to the whole club is that we need to be better funded and better organised than ever before. Everything we do needs to be that bit more professional or just "done better". Therefore, a sincere plea...the whole membership needs to support fund raising activities and also working parties such as Cricket Force. All of us need to do our bit to make sure the club is well looked after on match days and at other times – so get involved, do your bit, and don't leave it to someone else.

I wish everybody at the club a great 2011 season!

*Chris Horne (Chairman Andy Lamb is away on a long trip!)*

## OUR SKIPPER PREVIEWS THE 2011 SEASON

It is fair to say it has been a busy and exciting time since we secured promotion to the Birmingham League last September. The club is entering a new era in its history and we need to ensure we are suitably prepared for the challenges ahead and that we 'hit the ground running.'



*Peter Radburn, WCCL Chairman presents the Division One 1st XI trophy to Tim Williams of Barnards Green.*

The first task for the winter was to source a suitable overseas replacement for Andre Russell, who has signed a contract with the WICB and so therefore unavailable for a return. Former BGCC favourite Daniel Flynn (who incidentally will be playing for Dunfermline this summer) was able to help with finding a player through the NZPCA. We eventually signed 20 year old Matthew McEwan, son of former Blackcap Paul McEwan. Matt comes from Christchurch, Canterbury and is a bustling quick bowler who is also a useful hard hitting batsman. He comes highly recommended and is a player that is fully expected to follow Flynn into a professional

career. He will be joining us from mid-April. You will have noticed I'm sure; Matt is from Christchurch and despite a close scare is here to tell the tale of the recent earthquake.



**Matt McEwan**

On the subject of overseas players it has been fantastic to see 3 former BGCC players make the final 30 in their countries World Cup squads (Andre (WI), Daniel Flynn (NZ) and Andrew Hoogstraten (Holland)). Andre is heading to the World Cup and I'm sure everyone will join me in wishing him the best of luck.

On a less positive note, Mark Hooper has picked up a serious knee injury and will miss the entire season. (Since writing originally Mark has had the operation and things aren't as bad as first feared and may make a return this season). I would like to wish Mark all the best for a speedy recovery. Mark will be joining the first team squad as a match day coach. In a further, if not totally unexpected blow to our preparations George Rhodes has decided now is the time for him to move on in an attempt to further his playing career. He has moved to division 1 side Evesham. I would like to wish George all the best and thank him for his efforts in the last 2 years; he has been a pleasure to captain.

On the recruitment front we have already managed to secure 3 new players. Tom Poole, Jon Dovey and Adam Dovey have signed the relevant documents and are officially BGCC players. The hunt continues for further additional quality new players but at this stage I can say that I am very happy with the squad we have in place.

Adam Binks has taken over as kit manager and he and the committee has agreed a new kit deal with ID Sports (more information will be available shortly).

The 1st team have secured a trio of excellent pre-season friendly matches. On the 16th April the Green will open the season by entertaining Malvern College. The following week will see Stourbridge visit North End Lane and we will complete preparations with another home match vs. Highway of the Warwickshire League. We will then welcome Studley to open up the league campaign.

Finally, we have decided to enter the National T20 cup and also the Birmingham League KO. This is a very exciting opportunity and it is with great excitement that I can announce that we will be playing Premier League giants Kidderminster and division 1's Bromsgrove in these two cups. Let's hope for a giant killing run!!

It's now just a few short weeks until the first match and again it promises to be an exciting season for the club. Hope to see you all soon down at the club.

*Tim Williams*

PS: The Committee would like to sincerely thank Tim for his tireless efforts over the winter to once again secure the best possible overseas player for the Green.

## **BGCC COLTS OUTLOOK FOR 2011**

The Colts section are gearing up for another hectic season and start with winter indoor nets on Tuesday 15th March at Malvern Boys College for under 13's down, the older colts age group have been training with the seniors on a Wednesday evening again at the boys college. Last season we managed to train on all 15 Wednesday evenings that were available to us and we are again hoping that the weather will be kind to us when we start on 27th April at North End Lane. Whilst managers have been found for all teams this year, coaches and assistant coaches and helpers are always warmly welcomed to help out particularly on a Wednesday evening when we can have over 100 young colts, both boys and girls in attendance. Last year the coaches were well supported and Wednesday evenings were enjoyable for all concerned, we are hoping that this season will be the same. This year we are purchasing some training mats which should help considerably in coaching the batting side of things and our thanks go to Waitrose through their community initiative and Inline Engineering Ltd - Dave Bayliss for their generous sponsorship.

A full complement of games has once again been arranged for age groups from under 9's up to under 16's with nearly 50 games to be played, Last season we again saw the emergence of a number of youngsters who came through into senior level cricket and acquitted themselves well, we have high hopes for even more this year to break through into senior level cricket, although it is quite a big step up and we have to ensure that they are equipped for that step up mentally and physically as we don't want their confidence destroyed by playing them too soon. It is however important to harness their talents at an early age before they stray to other attractions!

2011 will be an exciting year for the club and the colts section has a big part to play in the future of the club so we are anxious to discover the next budding Ian Botham or Freddie Flintoff and having seen the pool of youngsters coming through last year, we may just find a few who could just turn into very good cricketers. Full details of all fixtures and other details can be found on the colts section of the club website.

*Robin Longmore.*

## **INDOOR NETS**

Indoor nets have now started and will proceed from 7-9pm on Wednesday evenings until March 30<sup>th</sup> at the superb new facility at Malvern College (as used for training by Worcs CCC). All existing or new senior members are very welcome, as are Under 14's, 15's and 16's. The cost is just £5 per session for seniors and £3 for juniors.

## **PRE SEASON FRIENDLIES**

The following pre-season warm-up games have been arranged:

Sat 16th April 1<sup>st</sup> XI v. Malvern College XI at home

Sat 23rd April 1<sup>st</sup> XI v. Stourbridge C.C. at home  
2<sup>nd</sup> XI v. Hatherley & Reddings C.C. away

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> April 1<sup>st</sup> XI v. Highway C.C. at home  
2<sup>nd</sup> XI v. Dymock C.C. away

## **LEAGUE FIXTURES**

Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League fixtures start for our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI's on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI will be playing in Division Three and the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI in Division Two South, 2<sup>nd</sup> XI's.

Worcestershire County Cricket League fixtures begin for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> XI's on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>. They will play in (respectively) Division 4 - 1<sup>st</sup> XI's - and Division 4 - 2<sup>nd</sup> XI's.

WSCCL fixtures for the Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> XI begins on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

At the time of writing the Evening League fixtures are not yet available.

All fixtures will be published in the Club Handbook prior to the season and can also of course be accessed via the clubs website.

## **LEAGUE RULE CHANGES FOR 2011**

There a few minor changes to cricket law this season, I list below the main ones that will affect our cricket:

- A ball that bounces twice before the batting crease will be a no-ball.
- Umpires are the sole judges for ground, weather, light etc. They no longer have to 'offer' the light to either team.
- Umpires should be present at the toss, and whoever wins the toss must inform the other captain and the umpires of his choice of innings immediately.

There are one or two others that we will probably never come across so I am not giving details of those, so as not to cause confusion!

I wish everyone a happy season, which will soon be upon us.

*Bill Tansell*

## **KIT**

We are delighted to announce a deal to appoint ID Sports as our exclusive supplier across both Senior and Colts Sections for the coming season.

Operating from a location on Betony Road behind the Malvern Spa Hotel ID supply all major cricket brands including Kookaburra, Adidas, Gunn and Moore, Gray Nicolls and Asics.

Regular offers will be sent via email and will be on the ID sports website:

<http://www.idsports.net/>

Discounts will also be available in-store when you show a BGCC/ID sports membership card available from Adam Binks.

You can also sign up to a newsletter direct from ID where until March 31st you can enter a competition to win a Kookaburra Kahuna 1000 bat.

The Cricket Section will also benefit from this tie in with ID as ID have agreed to donate a proportion of any profits they make on the sale of all cricket equipment and playing kit back to the club in return for us using them as sole supplier. We are currently in consultation to use these funds for the purchase of new club equipment and facilities through Sportsmatch.

All core items will be available in store for purchase and any non-core items will be turned around normally within 48 hours but on rare occasions a 2 week turnaround.( during the cricket season there will be a dedicated Barnards Green Display in the shop showing all kit items).

A full list will be available on the ID Website under the Clubs Section.

*A few example items from the new Barnards Green collection...*



Full pricing will be on the website however highlights are below.

- Match day bundle including S/S Playing shirt with sponsors logo, Training T-shirt(cotton) and shorts, £45
- Match day bundle plus including S/S Playing shirt with sponsors logo, Training T-shirt (cotton), shorts, hoody and embroidered badged Green Trim cricket trousers, £80.
- Individual prices are available on the website and directly from Adam Binks.

Product	Price
Playing 'Premier' Shirt Snr	22
Playing 'Premier' Shirt Jnr	20
Playing 'Premier' Shirt Snr L/S	23
Technical Tee Jnr	10
Technical Tee Snr	12
Junior Baseball Cap	8
Senior Training Cap	8
Senior Baggy Green match cap	20
Hoodie Snr	22
Hoodie Jnr	20
Shorts Snr	15

Shorts Jnr	14
Cable Knit Slipover (Green & Gold)	20
Cable Knit Slipover Jnr	20
Cable Knit Sweaters	25
Bespoke TrackPant	23
Baselayer Snr (Badged & Sleeve Art)	23
Baselayer Jnr (Badged & Sleeve Art)	21
Green Trim Gray Nicolls Trousers (Badged)	20
Rain Top(lined)	27
Match Bundle (Shirt, Shorts, Tee)	45
Super Bundle (shirt, shorts, tee, hoodie, playing trousers)	80

To reiterate, this is how to order...

1) Go into the ID Sports shop, present your BGCC/ID Sports Card (available from Adam Binks) and pick up stock items and cricket kit!

2) Go onto the ID Sports website and use the BGCC Page to order items for collection or have them delivered via Royal Mail.

*Adam Binks*

## **CRICKET TOUR 2011**

It is planned to organise a Cricket Tour again this year - once again to South Wales, following last year's successful foray over the border. The tour will take place during the week commencing August 15<sup>th</sup> – i.e. earlier than in recent seasons. Further details will be made available as soon as possible.

## **SENIOR SUBSCRIPTIONS & MATCH FEES**

As decided at the AGM, senior's subs and match fees have been raised for the coming season having been held static for three years. This is necessary to ensure that the clubs activities can be funded. The following rates will now apply:

### Senior Subs:

- Up from £75 to £80 (concessions £35 to £40).
- Payment terms:
  - Pay by June 1st otherwise Subs will be £90 (£50 for concessions).
  - Standing order option to be offered, with payments due on 1st of Feb, March, April, May, June (£16 or £8 per month).

### Match Fees:

- Sat 1st & 2nd XI's - £8 (£5)
- Sat 3rd & 4th XI's - £7 (£4)
- Sun 1st & 2nd XI's - £8 (£5) if first game, £5 (£4) if second
- Evening League – £2 (£1)

### Concessions:

- 16-18 (i.e. not a Colt but not a Senior)
- Student (full time education)
- Unemployed
- All others as agreed by the committee

Note: the benefit of a free Sub for Colts coaches is to be continued.

REMINDER – as last year, any player delivering a minimum of £150 of new sponsorship to the club by 1<sup>st</sup> April will receive their 2011 subscription FREE.

### **PRE-SEASON EVENT – MARCH 26th**

With an exciting season coming up with all 4 Saturday teams playing more competitive cricket than ever before and the junior section going from strength to strength we want to set up the season with an equally exciting event.

This event is for both Senior and Junior members alike. Full details are below. If you have any questions or wish to pre-order kit or ask our supplier ID Sports to bring along a specific items please contact Binks on [adambinks1@hotmail.com](mailto:adambinks1@hotmail.com) or 07976373810.

#### **Saturday 26th March from 4.30pm**

- Bar open
- Join the 2011 BGCC Fantasy League( building on the success of the 2010 League we have new and improved rules and again cash prizes on offer)
- Kit sale and order point. (Our 2011 Suppliers ID Sports will be bringing an assortment of bats, pads, boots, bags and jock straps for the coming season, specific items can be supplied with some notice)
- Playing Kit Order 2011- If you haven't already ordered your 2011 Playing Shirt or Playing/Super Bundle, you will be able to place an order on the day.
- Weather permitting we have H's Special BBQ in action throughout the afternoon in inclement conditions the kitchen will be open serving hot food.
- League Registration/Play Cricket Details- 2011 sees a new initiative with all teams having to submit full scorecards onto the PlayCricket Website. In order to do this all players need to be registered on the PC Website. Help will be at hand to get this done with a laptop available.
- Subscriptions- Both Colts and Senior Treasurers will be on hand to administer the subscriptions process- For 2011 Seniors subs can be paid by cheque/cash in full or by post-dated cheque and even with a series of post-dated cheques or a Standing order. Full details are available from Kevin Golder.
- There is also a raffle on the day. With a major star prize.
- We will also be announcing details of our 1st Major Events of the 2011 season including a follow up to the highly successful BGCC's Got Talent and Details of the Net opening ceremony.

*Adam Binks*

### **PLAYER REGISTRATIONS**

We currently have over 200 registered members of the website.(<http://bgcc.play-cricket.com>).

In order to register players for the coming season we need to update address, DOB and country of birth details for all players, email addresses, phone numbers etc. are optional but very useful.

The Worcester League had previously allowed us to leave these fields blank but in order to standardise data across all ECB leagues in the UK this is changing. We are also required to fill in full scorecards for all fixtures this year so it is imperative that we have this information ASAP.

Please either email me at [adambinks1@hotmail.com](mailto:adambinks1@hotmail.com) with full name, DOB, Email, address, country of birth, Post Code and preferred contact number or log into the site and amend your own record. I will be deleting duplicate records and dormant records by the league imposed deadline of March 31st.

Any questions please call me on 07976 373810.

*Adam Binks*

### **NATWEST CRICKET FORCE – SATURDAY APRIL 9th**

The UK's biggest volunteer event is once again happening and BGCC will be participating by arranging pre-season works on our two grounds during the nominated weekend. Several important tasks need carrying out at North End Lane but the main focus this year is Newland where we will be erecting sightscreens and carrying out repairs and decoration to the pavilion in addition to general pre-season preparation of the ground.

ALL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND FOR AS MUCH TIME AS THEY ARE ABLE ON THE DAY.

A full programme will be publicised before the day, but in the meantime, please contact Andy Wheeler (07791 047073) for further details.

### **NEW NON-TURF NET FACILITY AT NORTH END LANE**

As you probably know we now have our fantastic new 3 lane enclosed non turf net facility to replace the previous nets at North End Lane. Thanks largely to tireless efforts by Andy Lamb we were successful in securing an ECB grant to cover much of the very high cost of the facility. We were also extremely grateful to be getting very generous support from the Joanna Brown Trust towards the costs of the excellent new facility. The new nets will be officially opened at a special event on Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> – further details available soon.

*Chris Horne*

### **NEW SCOREBOARD AT NORTH END LANE**

By the start of the new season we expect to have a new electronic scoreboard in place, positioned at the "far side" of the ground so that spectators as well as players can see the score.



*Chris Horne*

## **BARBADOS TOUR 2013**

The club has decided, following the success of the 2003 tour, to organize another opportunity for you and, if you wish, your partner to spend two weeks in the Caribbean island of Barbados. The tour is organized for March 2013.

The tour will consist of two weeks on the island and will consist of 4 match days to enjoy the joys of playing local cricketers and experience the famous West Indies playing conditions. There will also be free days and organized excursions around the local area, either out to sea or to the native bars to experience the local rum or other alcoholic beverages.

The reasons for choosing Barbados are that the country offers similar climate throughout the year, the standard of cricket is good at all levels and the whole island eats, drinks and breathes cricket. The island also offers freedom and safety, a fascinating history, a completely different culture and a great deal of enjoyment. In addition to this the island is a holiday destination, therefore there are many things to see and do for all and for when you are not playing cricket.

The hotel accommodation is in the Sunset Crest Resort; Barbados includes self-catering, apartment accommodation. The resort boasts restaurant, bar and swimming pools. The resort is also part of a larger resort, which has a Beach Club, Beach facilities, supermarket, shopping plazas and a post office. The larger resort is just a ten-minute walk from the apartments. As well, it is only a leisurely ten-minute stroll to the world famous yellow sandy beaches and beautifully clear blue Caribbean Sea.



The cost for this 'once in a lifetime' experience is in the region of £1500 (due to constant changes in flight costs this figure is not exact, but is fairly accurate), which includes all flights, accommodation, transfers and also the added experience of a part time guide that will come with the tour party who has made at least 38 trips to Barbados. However this cost does not have to be paid immediately, but a deposit does. The deposit for the tour is £150 and another £150 must be paid within four months of the initial deposit. An information pack will be given out once the deposit is paid.

If you have any queries then please, do not hesitate in phoning Andy Wheeler on 07791 047073 for more information.

*Andy Wheeler*

## **SPONSORSHIP AND FUNDRAISING**

The role of 'Sponsorship & Fundraising Manager' is something I've been trying to understand for the past two seasons now. What I've concluded is that everyone at the club is, in some way or another, a 'Sponsorship & Fundraising Manager'. We all have a responsibility to try and attract support or raise funds for the club. It can be getting a local business to sponsor us, organising an event at the club or doing the football card after the game. Whatever it is the end goal is the same – getting much needed money into the club.

We are all aware of the additional costs we'll incur being in the Birmingham League this season but for me it's not just about raising enough money to cover our costs. BGCC is the best club in the local area and we should all be proud of it. Our commitment to have success on the pitch should be equal to our passion to have success off the pitch. As a member of the club I want us to have the best pitch, the best nets, the best scoreboard and the best club house. To do that we need to raise money and we can all play a part in that.

In the past 12 months we've received funding from four different sources. The Joanna Brown Trust provided £9,000 to contribute towards the nets, topped up by an ECB grant of £25,000. More recently we have successfully applied for a £250 grant from Malvern Hills District Council and have had our £4,363 application for new equipment to Sport England accepted.

These grants are a real bonus to our fundraising efforts and what it means is all the additional money we raise through sponsorship, events, raffles and football cards can go towards improving our club and its facilities rather than just sustaining it.

Needless to say we'll have lots of events coming up this year and as always your help and support will be gratefully received.

### **A date for your Diary...**

#### **Official Opening of the new Nets – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 6pm.**

This is going to be a really exciting season and it's a great opportunity to enjoy our success off the pitch and much as we do on it.

*Richard Brown*

### **About The Joanna Brown Trust**

Barnards Green CC is proud to support the Joanna Brown Trust. Set up in loving memory of Joanna Brown, The Trust aims to...

*"Encourage and enhance people's involvement in healthy recreational activity by providing equipment and facilities"*

Jo was passionate about sport and being active. The Joanna Brown Trust wants to provide people with the opportunity to not just experience sport, but excel in it. Whenever there are sufficient funds in the Trust to make a difference, The Joanna Brown Trust will identify a good cause that Jo would have been supportive of and provide them with sporting equipment or facilities. Close consideration will be given to the type of equipment or facilities provided to ensure that the aims of The Joanna Brown Trust are achieved.

For more information, latest news plus forthcoming events please visit our website – [www.TheJoannaBrownTrust.org](http://www.TheJoannaBrownTrust.org).



**BARNARDS GREEN ON THE WEB:**

Keep in touch via...

<http://www.barnardsgreen.com>

AND

The Play Cricket website