

Dickens Heath Parish Council – Newsletter April 2017

A warm welcome to the 2017 season at Tanworth and Camp Hill Cricket Club, a season that will see continued development of the club both on and off the field. Yet again, both grounds in 2016 were a picture; a reward for the tireless work of Andy Brazier, Dave Brazier, Paul Shortley and Andy Turnbull.

In 2016, we managed to get a grant from the ECB for 80% of the cost of new covers at Tanworth Lane which has made the wicket playable all season. We also laid the new patio at Tanworth Lane and we have further plans for refurbishment of the club house and wicket ends in 2017.

The refurbishment of Rumbush Lane is now complete at a cost of £321,000 financed by the Football Association, Sport England and the Club. Work has also been done on the drainage system and the car park has been improved in terms of both size and surface

Due to the delay in completing the building work at Rumbush Lane the grand opening has been deferred until 25 June 2017. This is a date for the diary, with children's entertainments, a BBQ and bar open all day forming the basis of what should be a fun day catering for all tastes. During the year there will be a number of supporting events such as the Annual Dinner and Awards, Junior Presentations evening, BBQ's, several race nights and a Summer Ball.

One of the outstanding successes for 2016 was the development of junior section, which has grown from 12 in 2015 to 55 in 2016 with plans to increase it to 100 by 2018. This will then hopefully enable us to increase the number of senior teams we run in the next few years. Andy Turnbull's commendable efforts in promoting our junior section have also been recognised by Warwickshire Cricket Board & Midland CCC who awarded him an OSCA and Midland Young Volunteer of the year, respectively. He also came second in the National ECB OSCAs and received his award in the Long Room at Lords. Andy has since been employed by Warwickshire Cricket Board as a Cricket Development Coach on a full-time basis. We are very proud of his achievements for himself and the club.

We are also pleased to be supporting a new initiative from the ECB, which has been branded 'All Stars Cricket'. This aims to provide 5 to 8 year olds with the opportunity to play cricket, develop skills and have fun. We will be running sessions on Friday nights starting Friday 19th May from 6-7pm for 8 weeks. The £40 subscription includes personalised clothing, kitbag and bat! We are also continuing our Thursday evening training for the squad from 5.45-8.15 (2 sessions) If you are interested in more details, please contact Andy Turnbull on [07720867547](tel:07720867547) or andyturnbull@edgbaston.com. We are always keen to welcome new members to the club.

On the field, Neil Wright remains captain of the 2nd XI but the 1st XI will have a new leader as James Carey steps in to take over from Chris Barber, who has stepped down after 3 very successful years in charge. He has led our young side and seen them progress to the extent that our points total in the Premier Division, of 196, achieved last year, was the highest total the club has ever achieved in the top tier. Thanks for all his efforts in the past and we know that he will be there to support James as he grows into his new role. James, of course, comes to the job with a strong pedigree, being the son of club chairman Pete Carey who has vast experience of captaincy at all levels of the game.

So, we are only a few days away from the start of the new season, with the juniors getting things under way on Sunday 30th April. We have 4 teams in the under 11 age group. The Blues and the Maroons are entered in both the Cotswold and Warwickshire Leagues. The opening fixtures are Dorridge Hurricanes at home and Dorridge Thunder away, respectively. We also have an under 9's team playing in many tournaments and Under 12's in the Warwickshire League,

Then on the following Saturday, the 6th May the 1st XI get their season under way with a visit to Catherine de Barnes whilst the 2nd XI entertain Henley - in- Arden at Tanworth Lane

As the season gets under way it will be good to see the familiar faces and catch up with everyone's news. And let's hope we also see some new faces who can enjoy watching some cricket and sample the hospitality on offer. May the sun shine and the cricket be competitive. And let's have some fun

More information can be obtained on Facebook and twitter (@tachcc) and we have a new website for you to enjoy. Have a look.

<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/tanworthandcamphillcricketclub/>

Alastair Turnbull