



Greetings

-o-

Into 2020, We need you!

Christmas has gone and thoughts turn to next season. Club cricket is in crisis with local clubs cutting teams or packing up and it means new teams to play as the league contracts. We need you so please everyone, why not become an **advocate** for the club.

- Membership is down 21%, bar takings down 31% and we spent £1,600 on the clubhouse last year.
- It might be mid-winter but start thinking about pulling teams together for next year. Talk to and encourage people.
- Lots has happened off season, work party, AGM, club supper.
- Come to one social next year and support the club ethos. Each side has promised to deliver a social event.

[mikeridge2906@gmail.com.uk](mailto:mikeridge2906@gmail.com)

Go on, give me some feedback! 😊

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Greetings	1
Dates for your Diary	1
Machu Pichu challenge	1
The Youth Conundrum	2
Colts	2
Subs	3
Phil and Mo	3
Around the Ground	4
Easyfundraising	5
Serious cricket	3

COPYRIGHT AND THE INTERNET

The committee recently received a demand for copyright fees as I had cut something from the internet, a picture of Joe Root, for the Trumpeter back in 2017.

I initially thought this a scam, but further investigation convinced me it was genuine. How they picked up this obscure little post beats me, but they even attached a copy.

I post this as a warning to bloggers. Of course, this makes it even more urgent that readers send me their own pictures.

MACHU PICHU CHALLENGE

Who is this ex-NZ Test cricketer? Take a snap of your cap in unusual or interesting places. No prizes. Downtown Tokyo. #Get a cap!

Dates for your diary

INDOOR NETS
March



THE YOUTH CONUNDRUM- another view

The problem of teenagers dropping out of the game between junior and senior cricket remains a critical issue. On top of midweek commitments for club and school, maybe a part-time job, young club cricketers are expected to devote valuable time at weekends to playing the game.

Six or seven hours on the pitch is an awfully long time for a teenager, and many league structures, who are reluctant to introduce shorter formats, still play timed games, meaning a day's slog may not produce a conclusive result. These pups are often used sparingly too, shoved down the order and given a couple of overs. Much of the time, the captain lacks trust in, or knows very little about, their latest recruit, who in turn becomes disillusioned with senior cricket, wonders what all his mates are up to, and questions why he's standing in a field with a bunch of old fogies.

My club used Sunday cricket as a breeding ground. There were two Sunday sides: the first XI skippered by the youngest member of the Saturday first team to help develop his leadership qualities, and the Sunday second XI captained by a club stalwart passionate about nurturing younger players away from the intensity of league cricket. Youngsters

were given responsibility and the freedom to grow into their games, and they soon migrated into Saturday league cricket high on confidence. Sadly, it didn't last. Due to a lack of interest, my club axed the only remaining Sunday XI at the end of last season.

While there are many factors behind falling retention rates, my proposal to try and help counter this is that, whenever possible, clubs ensure they have at least two teenagers on the committee who are engaged in both the junior and senior game. Allow them to weigh in during the selection process by informing captains of the skillsets of their peers, and encourage them to air their views on other key topics, such as social events, ground improvements and training. It will help the committee make informed decisions that cater for a key demographic, helping to futureproof the club. If a youngster feels undervalued and disgruntled with senior cricket, they then have a peer they can speak to who can convey those concerns to the senior committee.

Clubs invest so much time, money and energy developing youngsters, only to see them fall away before they're able to bloom into first-team regulars. We've spent decades blaming outside influences, but maybe our clubs aren't doing enough to listen to their voices.

WISDEN OCTOBER 2019

COLTS UPDATE -

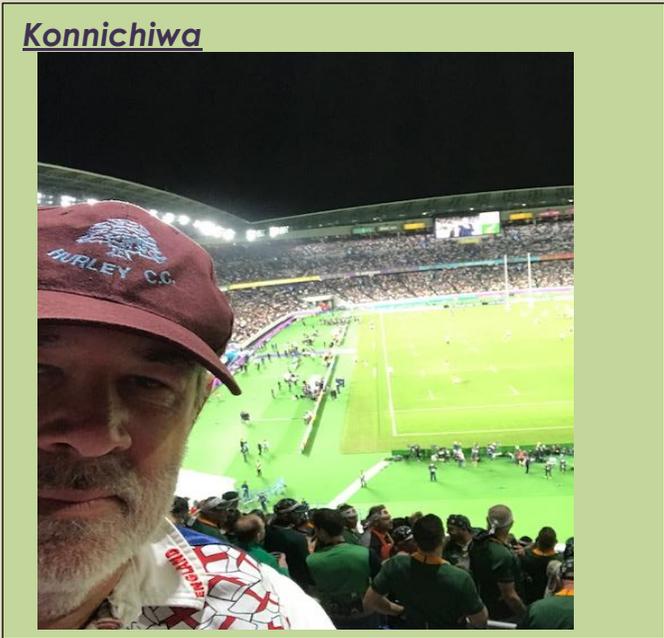
Veg hopes to run 'All Stars' again with help from Darryn and Imran, U11s, and U13s, thanks to Joe who has also offered to pitch in. Phil, MW and Dave W have offered umpiring and bar support. Sadly with only a few U15s and no support this will have to be cut or combine with another club and risk losing these stars. Thanks all. It is essential we keep a colts section running and keep our 'Cubmark' accreditation that Veg has worked so hard to achieve. Please think about offering him some support.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The AGM 2018 passed the resolution to increase subs from £70 to £80 per year, students/unemployable from £35 to £40. This is the first increase since 2012. Match fees remain unchanged. WE ALSO HAVE A 50% DISCOUNT FOR INTRODUCING A NEW PAID MEMBER AND 50% REDUCTION FOR NEW MEMBERS.

Sadly, we only managed to collect 30 subs in 2019 the lowest for 12 years. It is great value. Pinner CC charge £175/year. Remember, you join a club, not paying for a pitch.

Is Mo carrying a bit extra timber?



Around the Ground

The Big Leaf Clear and AGM was held at the club on Sunday 24th November. About 15 committed souls turned up and Val supplied coffee, beans and baked potatoes to warm us up. AGM started at 2pm but the committee, like a Saturday night taxi, had no change. Yasir was elected 1XI Saturday skipper and Clive took 2XI lead. Mo will continue to lead our Sunday All Stars. We are still looking for a social co-ordinator, colts support and bar manager. Our finances are in decline as bar receipts and socials took a tumble with many players just turning up 5mins before the start and leaving 5mins after the end of an afternoon's cricket and entertainment.

Phil decided to go to Japan for the weekend, apparently there was a game of rugby on. He spent more time in the air than on the ground in Japan.

Club supper was an excellent night but only supported by 25. Numbers are declining every year despite the George putting on a great venue, menu, value and service.

Good wishes to Mike Walton who is going through a gruelling radiotherapy program. Have a look at his blog and take a fresh perspective on life.

How scary is this?



Where did I drop my phone?



EASYFUNDRAISING. It's so easy to sign up to **Easyfundraising**, a %age of your purchase goes to Hurley CC. sign up at

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

So far we have raised **£1,671 NOW with 59** supporters (I finally got Mal and Phil signed up). **Please, PLEASE sign up**, it's easy or refer a friend for an extra £5. MW leads the donors with £443.

I generated £15.95 for the club by buying a Sonos soundbar on Black Friday.

Participating retailers include JOHN LEWIS, SKY and M&S

SERIOUS CRICKET

*Why not get kitted out for the **2020** season in club logo? **SERIOUS CRICKET** has lots of club wear. It does make a statement to the opposition fielding a team in club colours. The club receives income from all purchases. So far we have raised **£170**.*

TAKE YOUR CAP ON HOLIDAY AND WHATSAPP A PICTURE.



*Contributors this issue:
Clive, Phil, Mo*