



Newsletter - January 2006

Historic Season Beckons

Happy new year to you all, and what a year this is going to be for the club. After the tremendous successes of last season at all levels we now need to face up to the **challenges** of a new season to enable the club to thrive. The club's flagship team, the 1st XI, will be competing against the best teams in amateur cricket in Sussex for the first time. With the 2nd XI also gaining **promotion** to the top division, this gives us a great opportunity to develop **strength in depth** and even more competition for places. And it doesn't stop there; all teams have a part to play. The 4th and 3rd XI's provide excellent **opportunities** for our young cricketers to make the **transition** to senior cricket and prove their ability. The 3rd XI will also be looking to build on their impressive first season in Div 1 of the Stoner League.



Club Captain Chris Mole

If league cricket isn't for you, don't forget how much **fun** there is to be had with the club's other teams; the Sunday team; the Women's team; the Over 40's on Wednesdays; and Taverners on Thursday evenings.

The Cuckfield Academy coaching team, led by David Fitt, are also preparing for the new season, developing our young cricketers and determined to exceed the very successful season they had last year.

As I always say, preparation is the key to success. The fun and hard work begins with **mens winter nets** at Great Walstead School on **Wednesdays 19:30 – 21:30**.

22 nd February	22 nd March
1 st March	29 th March
8 th March	5 th April
15 th March	12 th April

I look forward to seeing you all over the coming months as we prepare for this season's challenges. I also hope to meet as many of you as possible at the club this season.

Chris Mole

Playing Strength

The Committee are working hard to secure the services of an **overseas player** for the coming season both to improve our playing strength and provide extra support for the **Academy** coaching team. A number of options are still being considered and we hope to be able to bring you more concrete news in our next Newsletter. Additionally we expect to strengthen the club with other new members: Marc Hazelton, Ian Simpson and James Nutter.

As a Cricket Club that continues to grow, we are constantly looking for new recruits for all teams: Men's League; Womens; Sunday XI; over 40's; Taverners; and of course, the stars of tomorrow, young cricketers.

Ed

DINNER DANCE

We hope that you will be able to join us at a new venue this year. We are moving the event to the **Ravenswood** in Sharpthorne on **Saturday 4th March**. Tickets are £30. Contact Tim Mole on 413341 or email tmm@gouldco.co.uk

GOLF DAY

Bill Graham & John Mole are finalising plans for the annual Golf Day, which will be held on **Friday 7th April** at Hassocks Golf Club. This is a fun day and a chance to meet and catch up with everyone before the cricket season starts. For details and costs give John a ring on 01444 450273 or email tjmoler@onetel.com

WOMENS CRICKET

Indoor nets for the women's team have been organised for 7 - 9pm at Ardingly College on Mondays:

27th March
3rd April
10th April

We are hoping to enlist the services of a coach to replace Mandi Godliman who was so good last year. Fixtures are currently being planned – more details in the fixture card. If you would like more information or would like to join our women's team contact Sue Jackson on 01342 311586.

Junior Cricket at Cuckfield

Cuckfield Academy players enjoyed a good season in 2005 with the U13's and U9's **winning** their leagues (the U9's went on to win their area final too!), and we nominated 10 boys to go for area trials in the autumn, resulting in 4 being selected for intensive training during the winter. And we had a wonderful family fun day with a great BBQ at our final event in September – many thanks to all the parents who organised the food.

We are still finalising our **indoor training** arrangements, but the plan is to run practice sessions for Under 9's & 11's at Burgess Hill School for Girls on **Thursdays at 5.30pm** from 23rd February, and for Under 13's & 15's at St Paul's College on **Saturdays at 3pm** from 25th February. We will send out full details of these in the first week in February.

After England's success in winning back the Ashes last year it looks as though junior cricket this year will be more popular than ever. With 80 junior playing members we need to make sure that we have the resources to provide all levels and ages with the support they need, so we will be hiring **additional professional coaches** (in addition to our senior coach Raj Chaudhuri) this year. But we really need more of our own coaches too, so parents, friends, players: **please volunteer!** You'll receive excellent intensive training and make a real difference to our youngsters' progress. Contact David or Nick for details.

David Fitt (461281 david.fitt@btopenworld.com), Nick Wisdom (881832), Rodney Candfield (484111), Belinda Campopiano (413213)

David Fitt

Indoor Cricket

Having destroyed East Grinstead in the North Sussex Indoor finals, Cuckfield travelled to Portslade to compete against 5 other league champions to become Sussex champions of 2006. On home turf Preston nomads won Group A, knocking out Littlehampton and Clymping.

In Cuckfield's first match, Lewes made a good start until Billy Harris drew their captain out of his crease for a stumping, but Lewes still reached a respectable 120. In reply Nick Patterson was destructive with the bat (retiring on 25), putting the game safely in the hands of Cuckfield. The second game between Lewes and Crowhurst Park was won handsomely by Lewes which meant that if Cuckfield lost their final group match, Lewes would be in the final.

Cuckfield then restricted the Crowhurst Park team to 105 in their 12 overs. Having lost Billy Harris and Nick Patterson, lynch-pin Tom Mole and Guy Dixon came together. In uncharacteristic fashion, Dixon punched and flicked runs with ease until he was dismissed by a fabulous catch. After 6 overs Tom Mole reached his 25 and retired with the score on 60. Rod Candfield and Dave Harris forged a handy partnership, and took the score to 75 before Harris was dismissed. Tom Mole returned to the crease requiring 30 off 4 overs. With 2 overs and 11 runs remaining Candfield ran himself out. A mix up in communication saw another run out that would gift the game to Crowhurst Park and thereby put Lewes through to the final. Preston Nomads went on to win the final and now bid to be Sussex and Surrey Champions, a title Cuckfield held in 2003.

For more details visit www.cuckfieldcc.co.uk and click on current news.

Tom Mole

COUNTY LEAGUE

Congratulations to **Chris Mole** who again won the County League Division One 1st XI batting award. Having won the award on two previous occasions it has become known by many as "The Chris Mole Batting Award"! Chris amassed **1,059 league runs** in 2005 including 5 centuries and 5 fifties. He ended the season with an average of 105.9.

MATCH DAY SPONSORS

We are looking for sponsors for Saturday League games. Sponsors names will be displayed inside the pavilion and on the main club sign at the gate. Introducers will have one match fee waived per successful sponsor. Contact Simon Hardy on 01342 325397 or email oldapplestore@aol.com

WORKING PARTY

As ever there is a lot to do to get the pavilion and the ground ready for a new season and we need your **help**. Please look out for emails about this, but these are likely to be the weekends of 1st & 8th April.

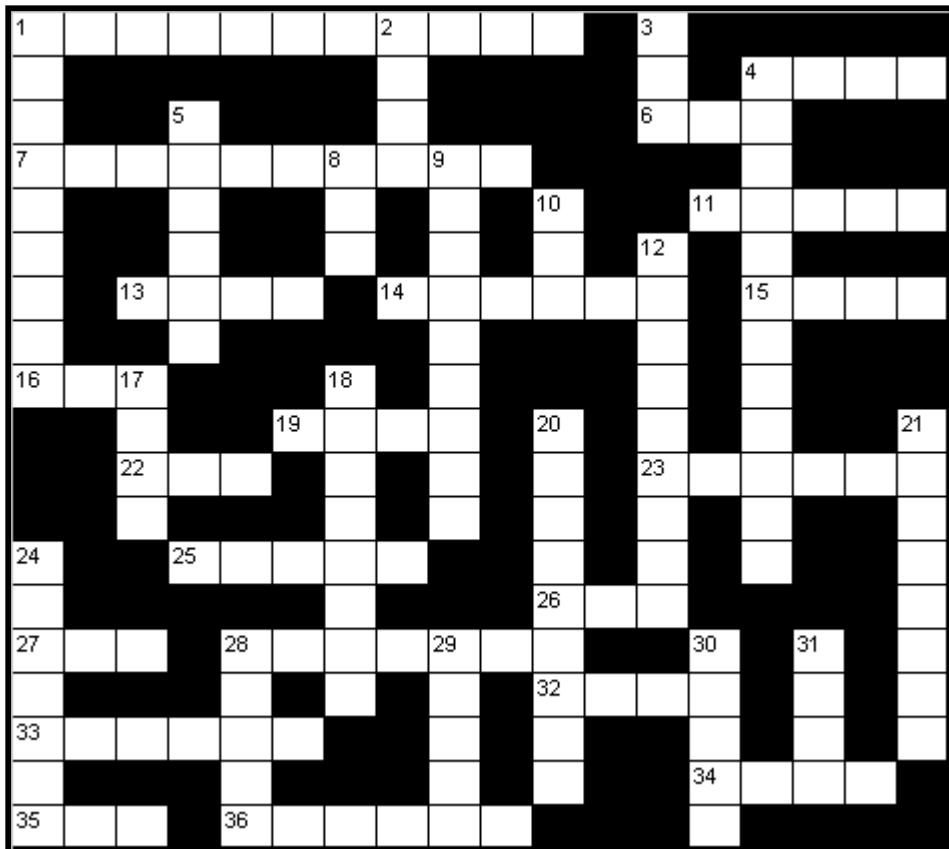
YOUR NEWSLETTER

If you would like to contribute to future editions of this newsletter or have any questions or queries about the club and its activities that you would like answered, please email oldapplestore@aol.com or write to Simon Hardy at: The Old Apple Store, Herontye Cottages, Stuart Way, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 4NH.



Prize Crossword

A bottle of Champagne (or equivalent) will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution drawn at random from those received by 19th March. For your chance to win, send solutions to Tim Mole – 57 Gordon Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. RH16 1EL. The winner's name will be announced in the next newsletter.



Name:

Address:

Tel:

Email:

Across

- 1 Arthritic Umpire (5,6)
- 4 Adam Gilchrist is known for the fact that he will ---- if he hits it (4)
- 6 A run without contacting bat or batsman (3)
- 7 Famous leg spinner (5,5)
- 11 and 23 across. Ashes winning captain last year (5,6)
- 13 See 21 down
- 14 Marcus Trescothick's nickname (6)
- 15 You'll find these on 22nd February this year (4)
- 16 Stumps are made of this (3)
- 19 See 5 down
- 22 Run around for a much sought after trophy (3)
- 23 See 11 across
- 25 ---- alba. Latin for White Willow (cricket bat willow). Also a bat manufacturer (5)
- 26 Could you live in this protective garment? (3)
- 27 Governing body of world cricket (3)
- 28 Name of both Thor's hammer, and a model of bat (7)
- 32 See 12 down.
- 33 Indian test venue (6)
- 34 See 10 down
- 35 A single (3)
- 36 Surname of batsman nicknamed 'The Wall' (6)

Down

- 1 Leading test runs scorer (5,4)
- 2 This visits the WACA as the Freemantle Doctor (4)
- 3 Freddie's idol initially? (3)
- 4 The type of tree inside the boundary on the main ground at Cuckfield (12)
- 5 down and 19 across. Anglo-saxon name for Cuckfield (6,4)
- 8 and 18 down. She is reported to have haunted Cuckfield Park (3,8)
- 9 The first fossils for this dinosaur where found in a quarry in Whitemans Green (9)
- 10 down and 34 across. Nickname for West Indian fast bowler Joel Garner (3,4)
- 12 down and 32 across. What on a cricket pitch is 48ft long and 2ft wide? (9,4)
- 17 A hatful (4)
- 18 See 8 down
- 20 Ran out Ricky Ponting at Trent Bridge (4,5)
- 21 down and 13 across. North end at Hove. (8,4)
- 24 Someone who imparts revolutions (7)
- 28 One of the stands at Lords (5)
- 29 Makhaya _____. South African bowler (5)
- 30 Cricket ground in suburb of Wooloongabba (5)
- 31 Worcestershire fruit (4)