

Chairman's Report
2008 season

The 2008 season will be remembered for a number of matches being cancelled due to rain which always seemed to fall on Sundays. On one occasion, because the rain was so heavy, it turned the square into a lake before the surface water had a chance to drain away. However we had some very good matches during the season and some personal milestones were achieved particularly with the batting.

There were 4 century innings achieved during the year. Garry Masters achieved two century innings Kamran Chaudhry scored a century, and much to the surprise of the opposition Bradfield and Aldermaston, the captain Mike Palfrey scored an unbeaten 130 to help us win that match. A 2008 match summary giving details of statistics and performances has been produced by Jeremy.

This year we purchased an outdoor net courtesy of a grant of £1500 from the Wasing Glade Community Grants. The administration for the grant was handled through the Berkshire Community Foundation but the objective of the grants from the Glade festival is to put some funding back into local communities in the Aldermaston area. A big thank you goes to Garry who organised the grant application. The Chairman attended the Berkshire Community Foundation fund raising event on 12 June 2008 at the Swan in Sreatly and made a short presentation on how the new net facility would benefit the club and local community.

As an initiative to follow up the involving of the local Aldermaston community and looking for opportunities to recruit more players, David and Huw had a meeting with the head teacher of the local primary school. Two main objectives were identified. Firstly, playing members of the club could help support cricketing activities in the school to encourage the children. Secondly, the involvement of the club in school activities may encourage some parents to join as playing members. It is hoped to follow this up further in the 2009 season. To help with the activities related to the school we have invited Huw Thomas on to the Committee as a Youth Rep.

Sandra Woodley has successfully taken over as fixture secretary and did an excellent job this year organising the fixtures. We managed to introduce some new venues and hope to extend this further for the 2009 season.

Christine has continued in the role of Secretary/Treasurer, controlling the finances and producing timely minutes from the often rambling discussions as Committee meetings.

The various mowers used to cut the square and outfield have caused a few intermittent problems during the season. However, the wicket cutting mower and the outfield cutting mower have generally given good service during the year. The ride on mower for cutting the square is still out of service pending finding a new engine for it. Another thank you must go to Les Woodley for looking after the maintenance of the mowers and also for a lot of hard work associated with preparing the ground and wickets during the season.

There has been no fund raising activities arranged during the season so therefore nothing specific to report.

Norman has decided to formally step down as Chairman and as a committee member for a number of reasons. As the current Chairman, I must express a big thank you to Norman for all of the hard work he has done over the years supporting the club both organisationally and by working on the ground.

Finally I would like to thanks all the ladies who made the teas, washed the dishes and helped to keep the pavilion clean.

D R Bardwell
Chairman
10-Feb-2009