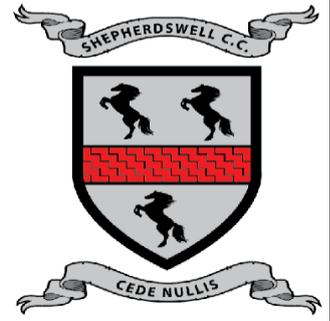


Won, Drawn & Quartered



The Official, Quarterly News Publication of Shepherdswell Cricket Club.

Issue: 7

View from the Chair

Our esteemed Chairman, Wicketkeeper- Batsman & Groundsman, Dr Richard Webster, offers his musings on cricket and life.

The short season is over having only really just begun Still we managed to get in a fair number of games with mixed success. One of the major advances for the club this year were the three development squad games when we saw a large number of our Colts have their first competitive games against Folkestone and Canterbury. They all acquitted themselves extremely well and the club is very proud of their achievements. We look forward to more such games next season with even more Colts playing.

Hard ball nets were run during the week and on Saturdays for the older children and adults. It is a deep regret that we were unable to offer soft ball cricket for our younger members but we were guided by the English Cricket Board on this. Hopefully next year we can once again have full Saturday sessions for all of our Juniors and Colts and some competitive games.

We are very grateful for all of the support we have received from our members, parents and friends. That along with several grants and sponsorships have kept the club afloat and indeed allowed us to continue to develop our facilities.

(Chris D, Keith and myself have just spent the morning doing the next stage of the storage unit!). Hopefully, the cricket club equipment can finally be rehoused out of my garage.

The square has been put to bed with relative ease as there was little damage to it over the short season. Fortunately the weather was dry and the top dressing went down without any bother. Just hoping that the grass seed takes and not too much of it is seen as food by our feathered friends. You may have noticed an absence of any comment on the performances of the Adult team. Once again we saw different players coming to the fore over the course of the season. We saw our younger players developing in to very promising players. We saw the return, late in the season, of one of our former players who was reported to be feeling not bad after the game. The less said about my 25th season with the club the better.

The club continues to develop in many different ways. We hope that we can achieve Clubmark, or its equivalent, next year and that we can attract further funding to undertake some of our future plans. In the meantime, make sure that your kit is clean and well wrapped up before storing it in the garage or loft. After all you don't want to be opening the bag for nets in February/March only to find that you have been providing nesting materials for the local rodents.

Have a great winter break and here's looking forward to some more successful cricket next year. Stay safe and well

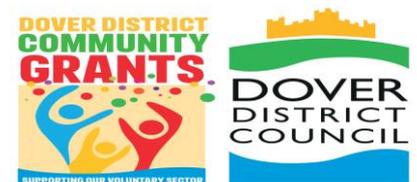
Richard

Chairman Shepherdswell Cricket Club.

Off Field Update

More exciting progress is being made off the field as our storage shelter (being built at The Rec) is nearing completion. This will enable to club the store all our coaching equipment and ground maintenance equipment in a more appropriate location. At present, we are very lucky to be able to store this in a members' garage!

The club are delighted to announce that we have today been confirmed as the recipients of a Dover District Council Community Grant of £279.99. This grant has been provided in order to fund the purchase of a petrol scarifier and aerator, which will help to continue to prepare quality pitches at The Rec, especially given the demands of providing pitches for Junior and Senior Cricket. The Club would like to publicly thank Dover District Council for their continued support, especially during these tricky times!



Youth Cricket

Well it may not have quite been the year we were expecting when we had our first Youth Nets back in February, but it has been another fantastic year for our developing Youth Section.

Firstly, during the peak of the "lockdown" it was fantastic to see our young players getting fully involved in our "Brave the Shave" Campaign (alongside their coaches, senior players, our Tea Lady and members of other village organisations). This successfully raised an incredible £1,160 which was equally split between Shepherdswell Spartans FC, Shepherdswell Scouts, Shepherdswell Guides and Shepherdswell Cricket Club- the total was far more than we ever envisaged. Parents of young players also contributed greatly to our Spacehive Crowdfunding Campaign, which saw a further £235 raised- all the funds raised will be spent on continuing to develop our array of training equipment! The club cannot thank its members, supporters and others enough for their contributions this season, especially given the financial challenges posed by COVID-19.

When cricket was allowed to return, all of our young players deserve credit for making the most of the shortened season. The progress made through training has been immense, with all players really developing their batting, bowling and, as guidance has gradually been relaxed, their fielding. It has been brilliant to see our older Juniors representing the club in our Development XI. This has been the first time in living memory The 'Well have put out sides on a Saturday and Sunday and is a sign of the brilliant strides the club is taking. The side played excellent cricket in all three matches (with a victory in their maiden match)- all the players took to the games brilliantly and the amount of first runs, wickets and catches for the club means we can't mention everyone by name. There is no doubt in the eyes of the coaches that these runs, wickets and catches will be the first of hundreds scored, taken and caught over the coming years! Most importantly, The 'Well approached the game in the right way, with high spirits and a strong sense of enjoyment. The only slight disappointment was not being able to offer Softball Training this summer. However (COVID permitting), these sessions will return next summer for boys and girls aged 6-10.

Looking forward to next season, the club are also planning to:

- * Arrange 7-8 Development XI fixtures in June and July to give our youngsters more chances to impress!
- * Organise an extended Winter Net Programme for all players aged 11+ to ensure we are in a really strong position to start 2021!

We can't wait already!

New Website

We would like to continue to draw attention to our new website, which features lots of information and is regularly updated. Please follow the link here:

<http://shepherdswellcricket.club/>

The website, alongside our social media pages, is a hive of information for all things Shepherdswell Cricket Club.

Junior news, official club documentation, fundraising initiatives, our club shop, senior fixtures and statistics and much more can all be accessed through the website, which we will continue to develop over the coming months!

Sponsor Recognition

We are very grateful for Eythorne Building Contractors for their continued support. "EBC" will continue to be our main sponsor next season and we are looking forward to wearing our new shirts, displaying their logo, when cricket returns next April. Our new website has a sponsorship page, which can be visited by clicking this [link](#).



Platinum Duck

A View from the non-striker's end. Our erstwhile, 2018 Man of the Season, Dmitri Lugthart, reflects on the return to cricket in the sixth of his regular columns.

Another season has drawn to a close, the curtains are drawn, the heating has been on. What has really happened this English Summer?

For starters, we haven't played as much cricket as we should have. We had a full fixture list, lovingly tended by the fixtures secretary. The fixtures secretary is an odd beast, working the opposite timetable to regular cricketers, only surfacing in October and working hard from the box room armed only with the mobile phone and a laptop. Come April time, job done, all fixtures filled, they will retire back to their slumbers, only occasionally being bothered by a phone call questioning a venue or start time. This year, half of the fixtures secretary's work was wiped out, meaning the careful balance between home and away fixtures had been destroyed. Still, no one minds an imbalance, assuming it's in your favour.

We have, though, played more cricket than we could have. When the season was due to start, we were entombed at home, staring blankly out of the window at the bright sunshine, thinking wistfully about swashbuckling innings played and batsmen's stumps cartwheeling from the 'quicker ball' that hits a lump and skids on. At that point, you wonder if the whites will be required this season, or would you be giving the mice in the garage a long run at an entirely synthetic but machine washable diet. That said, it would be an opportunity to check out that new

fangled velcro fixing for your pads. In fact, dangling your old buckle up ones in front of the mouse hole to entice the little fella out of a nibble suddenly became a great idea in your stir crazy mind.

We emerged from our hibernation after the footballers. Who plays football in July? We awoke to new rules and regulations, none of which affected the LBW laws. We were to arrive at our venue ready changed, although it's not easy to drive in spikes. We had to bring our own tea, so Tesco Meal Deals were suddenly popular. We couldn't socialize with the opposition, although that would be a blessing in some cases. The umpires had to learn to count to six, in order to bark the order of "Sanitize" after every sixth over.

Fortunately, everything else stayed the same. Batsmen were still choosing to hit the bad ball straight the a fielder, who was still choosing, in the spirit of true sportsmanship, to allow the ball to bounce off their hands and nestle apologetically in the grass while the batsman scampered a quick 2. Good, no, great games of cricket were still had. A good, no great time was still had by most, apart from the specialist batsman out for a duck (Hello, Dickie). We played, and it was good, no, great.

Interested in Sponsorship? As a club we are always interested in hearing from prospective sponsors. We have a diverse and interesting range of packages available, be it sponsoring a particular element of the club or general sponsorship in exchange for advertising and featuring on our social media channels. **If you are interested please either email the club (via shepherdswellcc@btinternet.com) or contact a committee member directly.**

Fundraising

Dover District Community Lottery

The club continues to be registered with Dover District Council's Community Lottery Scheme. Tickets are available at a cost £1, of which the club receives 50%. There a wide range of excellent prizes available, if your ticket features the lucky numbers! Draws continue to happen weekly so it's definitely not too late to get involved! Please follow the link below to purchase tickets and support the club and Dover community!

<https://www.doverlotto.com/suppo.../shepherdswell-cricket-club>



Easyfundraising

An incredibly "easy" way to support the club is to register with Easyfundraising (for more details please watch this clip https://youtu.be/Sn2dsQGAE_w). The club have currently raised almost £60 through this means, it is completely free to use! All monies raised through Easyfundraising will be spent on purchasing coaching equipment for our Youth Coaching Sessions. Follow the link below to find out more and sign up! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/.../shepherdswellcricketc.../>



Ambition Sports

We are proud to have our own Kit Supplier, local sportswear manufacturer Ambition Sports. This range of kit includes whites (from the Surridge Range) and training kit (from the Blade Range) for Junior and Senior Members, which can also be personalised with initials. Please follow the link here to purchase: http://www.ambitionsport.com/cricket-clubs-shepherdswell-cricket-club-c-315_12_474.html

