

GET A THIRD MAN IN!

● The Monthly Newsletter For Thurstonland CC

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LOONY TUNES AND PLASTIC DUCKS

BY ANDREW PEARSON



Late August was a very busy time. Thanks go to all those who were involved in the various activities, not least those which involved the Allsop Cup final on the seventeenth and the Under 17 Walker Cup on Bank Holiday Monday. Raffles and catering brought in around £300 whilst both sessions saw the bar well used. This boost to cash inflow late in our financial year is very welcome. A letter of thanks from the Central League was received and is displayed on the noticeboard in the club.

Sunday August 24th saw the 20/20 challenge match between the Over 30s and Under 30s with the latter being successful. The fringe activities included the playing of theme tunes for each batsman going to the wicket and the persistent trolley mounted duck which accompanied back to the pavilion those unfortunate enough not to trouble the scorer. The second game involved a few people whose playing days are long behind them and was a fitting climax to the day. John Gummerson's video of key moments was viewed with interest during the evening. Thanks again go to bar staff on another busy day and to the caterers. It is possible that this will become a regular occasion in the club calendar like the Golf Day at Wortley which saw its second contest on August 27th.

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 20th September - Harvest Home

Friday 10th October - Pie and Peas Night

Saturday 8th November - Presentation Night

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If you have any articles or ideas you would like to see in this newsletter, please let me know using one of the following methods. These can be related to the cricket club or the village in general.

Lee Booth - 31 Town Moor Lane, Thurstonland - 662348 - lee@thurstonlandcc.com

The Junior Presentation Evening was well attended by young players, members of their families and several first and second team members. It was a very pleasant occasion and we can be proud of the interest shown in this section of the club which provides recreation for the young cricketers of the area as well as being a resource for the future of the club at senior level. Pride of place went to the Under 15s who were champions of their section after winning their vital last league game at Shepley and then defeating Scholes in the play off as both teams finished on the same number of points.

Several individual milestones have been reached this season by first team players although team results have been mixed. David Howarth has now played 314 games, taking him past John Crosland into sixth place on the appearance list. Martin Oldham will end the season on 626 games, a total which will take some beating. David Rishton now has 795 victims to lead the wicket taking list whilst Lee Booth, also in the game at Green Moor, passed your correspondent's tally of 271 games. Dan Peace has now become the tenth bowler to take 200 wickets and Nicky Hoyland reached the 100 appearance total in the game at Emley where victory gave us the double over them.



Thanks are due to Adie Mellor for organising the laying of tarmac at the top of the access road, a small diversion for the workers on the upgrading of Marsh Hall Lane, and near the emergency exit to the club. This will help improve access for anyone who finds the current ramp a little difficult.

The possibility of applying for a grant from the Heritage Fund is being considered. Our pavilion is in need of a major overhaul and fund raising is being earmarked for that. As a temporary measure, some patching work is being done as well as the application to the roof of a waterproofing substance. The latter was completed at the beginning of September and was vital work before the realities of autumn and winter weather begin after the largely dry and sunny summer.



We must all remember that, important though it is, the bar cannot be seen as our only source of income. Application for licence renewal is due at the beginning of 2004 and the necessary documents are ready for completion in the near future. The Pie and Peas evening for players and committee is on Friday October 10th (8.00) with Presentation Night at The Woodman on Saturday November 8th. Tickets are £17. Please sign the list in the club.

The Winter Bonus Ball (50p per week) starts on Saturday September 27th. Please see Steve Adler to get your name on the list and, above all, please sell as many Christmas Draw tickets as you can. The £600 or so raised last year was more than welcome when money does not come in as readily in the winter period. Any prize donations will be welcome with Lee and Andy Booth the co-ordinators.

Under 13's

The season ended with a tidily symmetrical tally of league results with five wins and five defeats. This was a pleasing record in a section where teams were very strong and we were only outgunned on a couple of occasions and generally gave a good account of ourselves. Most of the regulars move up to the Under 15s next time and there is an enthusiastic group of players, largely eleven and twelve years of age, ready to step into their shoes in 2004.

Josh Ainsworth was awarded the Most Improved Player trophy as well as an extra memento for his hat-trick taken over two games. Jordan Thackray took the bowling prize, Jack Oldham the batting and Jack Butterworth the fielding honours. Josh Denton was the leading runscore, closely followed by Angus Cox, and he also bowled very economically without much luck and his positive encouragement of his fellow players in his role as captain continued the fine tradition of Thurstonland junior teams. Thanks go to all who helped with coaching in 2003 and to parents for their duties as taxi drivers. Without them nothing would be possible.



Statto - The Guvnor !!!!!

Please visit the League Website at:

www.hccl.org.uk