

# The RidgeBear

The monthly newsletter from BRCC



3. April 2023

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## The Catch

A couple of years back another of our magnificent trees at the ground had to be monolithed for safety reasons. After the huge success of the RidgeBear carving, we have decided to create another landmark sculpture to transform the remaining trunk into a Ridge landmark.

Our very own Bucks Banksey (Saints to us) has taken on the project and this time it's going to be The Catch!

As we did so successfully with the RidgeBear, we will be selling shares in The Catch for £25 per person and all contributors will have their name on a plaque on the back of the sculpture.

To secure your share in The Catch, contact Richard Sainter on 07787 244111 or at [richardsainter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:richardsainter@hotmail.co.uk)





## Dates for the diary

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 6pm

Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April

Outdoor nets start at the club

Junior Academy starts

1<sup>st</sup> senior matches (H & A to Stokey)

Senior friendlies (H & A to Chearsley)

## From The Chair Dave Wells

Like Spring, the Club has really come to life in the past few weeks, and it's now less than 3 weeks to the start of an exciting 2023 season. Saturday working parties have been tremendously effective and the ground and clubhouse are looking spectacular already, but there is still plenty to do, and we would like to see a few more faces for the next 3 weeks please.



Big thanks to Rolfie, Sam, Shaun, Jovi and Tags for hosting a really successful the Captains' Evening and I would particularly like to thank Tags for the profound talk about mental health that is relevant to so many of us (a bit more on that later in this issue).

The Bar is up and running and the Club recently hosted a superb Safari supper raising funds for the playground and the Club. I am pleased to be able to share that Bianca has kindly agreed to act as our Bar Manager for this season and work with and orchestrate our great Bar team mentored by Saint (Ian, Matt, Humphrey and the 4 rota teams) ... A big thank you to this team!

Two big calls to action this month for everyone. The **200 Club** has the potential to be a game changer of the Club, so please give it your support, and the **The Catch** is another innovative programme that will help show what the Club is about, so contact Saints and secure your share as soon as possible.

Lots going on. Let's go RidgeBears!



## All Aboard Update Dave Wells & Wayne Gough

The great news is that we have hit our target number of sponsors for our April launch. We have 16 committed sponsors, and you will see this come to life and the impact on the ground in the next few weeks. All hands on deck now to get the ground set-up and welcome our sponsors to the Ridge. Beyond the launch we are pulling together a small tiger team that will work through the season and beyond to recruit additional sponsors.

Behind the scenes supporting myself and Wayne, we have a great pal of mine, Oliver Dillon (Oli), who is a freelance graphic designer. He kindly volunteered his time to work with each of our sponsors and produce a high quality and tailored sponsorship board. We could not have advanced the project without his help. We have included Oli's bio below if anyone needs professional graphic design services.

Hello RidgeBears!, I'm a freelance conceptual designer with over 20 years experience. Matching creativity with intelligence to produce integrated advertising, branding and marketing communications. I develop ideas from concept to implementation.

Experienced in advertising, branding, campaigns, corporate guidelines, direct mail and digital communications.

## Around the Club



On Mothers day we had a young local artist host a painting class. The pictures Hannah and her students shared are fantastic.

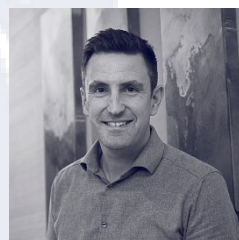
Look out as well for the falcons who will be at the ground on a number of occasions in April (usually a Friday).



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## Captain's Corner      Shaun Dryden 2<sup>nd</sup> XI

Last season can only be described as a successful one for the 2s with a fifth place finish in the League and a cup final victory. We had been promoted from division 6 in third place and survival in the division would have been a perfectly reasonable goal, but just one loss (to the eventual League winners) in the first 12 matches, meant our position was secure by the end of July. The difficult part about being the 2<sup>nd</sup> team however is that even when we have good availability for the 2s regulars, if there a couple of drop outs above, it all gets a bit difficult a bit quick and that led to a tail off at the end of last season.

The signs for this year are promising though with pre-season nets seeing more juniors engaged and developing well and most of the 'crocks' still looking like they can last an afternoon, so we'll take it one game at a time and look to improve on last year with a successful cup defence and who knows what we can achieve in the League if we can keep the numbers good.

## Bear Cubs      Oli White

Less than 3 weeks to go to the start of the Junior Academy and we're all very excited to get going. Key information :-

Player registration is still open. You can complete the registration using this link <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/356548>

Training nights (boys and girls)

U10, U11, U12 & U13      Friday nights from 6pm, 21<sup>st</sup> April to 14<sup>th</sup> July.  
Hawkinsport will be there for kit sales on 21<sup>st</sup> April

U14 & U15      Wednesdays 6pm from 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**BAR & BBQ OPEN EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT DURING JUNIOR TRAINING**



All Stars and Dynamos start 12<sup>th</sup> May and run for 8 weeks from 5-6pm.

The All Stars programme is now full, but there are still a small number of places available on Dynamos. You can book at

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/dynamos/>

## 200 Club - Exclusive Offer for Juniors

Join the 200 club and get your number as your child's squad and have it printed on their new playing shirt. Details below .



Just under a month now until the first draw of the BRCC 200 Club. As well as being a lot of fun, this can be a financial game changer for the club in the longer run so your support for the programme can make a big difference for less than the cost of a pint a month. Don't miss out. Sign up now at:

[www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/200](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/200)

**£5 a month by standing order (or £60 annually)**

**Monthly prizes of (up to) £200, £100 and 2 x £50**

**NB. Bank details for the 200 Club are not the same as subs. See website for details**

Fantasy Cricket

Jovi Sahota

BRCC Fantasy Cricket is back and pre-season friendlies count!. For more details, contact Jovi, or log on at:

<https://bledlow-ridge.fantasyclubcricket.co.uk>



At the Captains' Meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> March, as well as a comprehensive outline of the playing strategy for the season from Sam, Tags gave an introduction to some of the principles and ideas around mental health to the 30+ attendees.

## Mind Games



*"Of course it's all in your head Harry ... but why on earth should that mean it's not real?"*

Albus Dumbledore (2011)

As is known to most now, Taggart is in the later stages of L4 training to become a counsellor and has over 80 hours of counselling experience with young adults and teenagers. The presentation was informative, occasionally humorous and gave both general background information and specific advice that could help in a number of different situations.



To support the material presented, the club website now has a page with details of organisations that anyone can contact if they feel the need for support for themselves or someone they know. There are also some slides from the evening looking specifically at steps you can take to maintain your own wellbeing and how to help others.

Go to [www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/mhfa](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/mhfa) for the list of organisations or [www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/mhfa-slides](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/mhfa-slides) to see the information on '5 Steps to Mental Wellbeing', Grounding Techniques and First Aid for panic attacks.

We are hoping to run this presentation again a little later into the season for anyone who could not attend and/or junior parents so watch out for more information.

BRCC has first hand experience in this area and anything we can do to raise awareness and help anyone who needs it feels not only like a good thing to do, but a moral imperative.



## Introducing some of our Key Partners

The All Aboard programme has been launched this year to engage the club with friends and businesses who are passionate about supporting our goals of making cricket accessible to all, and making it the best experience it can be, regardless of who you are or where you come from.

This month it's guns and wine! Probably not to combined!!

## E J Churchill

E.J. Churchill's internationally renowned pair of shooting grounds herald the name as two of the finest shooting facilities in the world. Their success has been celebrated with many industry awards

over the years and they have played host to the bi-annual CPSA World Championships four times back-to-back, with the upcoming 2023 championships secured as well. E.J. Churchill boasts an unrivalled reputation within the events & entertainment sector of their business as well as running a successful sporting agency, gunroom and country clothing store, all under the same roof.



## Lloyds Wines

Lloyd's Wines is your local (Prestwood based) one stop shop for the highest quality wine, artisan cheese and cold meats.

We offer a next day private customer wine delivery service throughout the UK via our website [www.lloydswines.com](http://www.lloydswines.com)

You can also access our wines in several local Pubs and Restaurants - The Bird in Hand, The Hampden Arms, The Griffin, 12/20 Bistro and Brazils to name but a few!

If you're looking for a fun and informative tasting experience (Private, Charity or Corporate) we run events for groups of twelve up to several hundred.

Full bar and field venue services for Weddings, Balls, Birthdays.

Why not give us a go? Give Simon Lloyd a call on 07547 645917 or email [sales@lloydswines.com](mailto:sales@lloydswines.com) for further details or to place an order.





We never turn down a volunteer and we are particularly looking for people to help in the following areas:

- Bar rota helpers
- A Social Media Guru
- 200 Club Manager

If you think you might be able to help in any of these areas, talk to Wellsy or Taggart, or mail on [imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk](mailto:imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk)

Next issue, May 2023 but for real time updates on everything from fixtures to who's who, go to [www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk)

Something you would like to see in the next issue? Fancy yourself as a bit of a journo? All feedback and contributions are welcome. Mail to [imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk](mailto:imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk)

Raise free funds for us every time you shop online

*Find out more >*



Don't forget, you can raise money for the club every time you shop online with easyfundraising. If you haven't registered yet, go to;

[www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/ef](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/ef)

We have raised almost £1,000 already at no cost to anyone so sign up and start earning money for the club.