

# The RidgeBear



The monthly newsletter from BRCC

1. February 2023



BRCC 2<sup>nd</sup> XI. Winners of the Steve Dixon memorial Cup 21<sup>st</sup> August 2022

## From The Chair

Welcome to our new e-Newsletter which is a part of our commitment to regular two-way communication across the Club.

As the new Chair of our leadership team, I am super excited at the prospect of the season ahead and beyond. A big thank you to our outgoing Chair, Wendy Langan who stepped into the role as we began to exit Covid. The team for this year is inheriting a Club that is in good shape on and off the field with huge forward potential.

The leadership team comprises – Oli White (Juniors) and Vice Chairman, Ian Murdoch (Secretary), Mike Stevens (Treasurer), John Rolfe (Club Captain), Pam Rolfe (Safeguarding), Paul Cheshire (Membership), James Rowe (Facilities), Sam Rolfe (Player Development) and Wayne Gough (Sponsorship and Social). Thank you to them all for volunteering their time in the interests of the RidgeBears. We would like to strengthen this team during the season and co-opt a lead for Marketing & Social Media, and Clubhouse development ... both important topics for the future.

Over the coming months we will share updates on several exciting initiatives to further develop the Club's strengths. Your feedback and input is always welcome, and we will need to seek help across the Club to pull off a number of our plans. More on this below.

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year and a great 2023!



## Dates for the diary

Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 4.00pm	First junior nets
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 5.00pm	First Senior nets U14+ welcome
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 6pm	Outdoor nets start at the club
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Junior Academy starts
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	First senior match (friendly)
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	First League match

## Captain's Corner      John Rolfe, Club Captain

You already know how good the cricket is, how good the ground is, how well the square played last year and how much fun we have. Here are some more reasons to play cricket at Bledlow Ridge:

- seven weeks of indoor nets at PR school: 4 lanes, bowling machine, 2 hours good batting and bowling time (5-7pm, Sundays). **NEW PLAYERS WELCOME**
- a senior bowling machine has been refurbished, PLUS we now have:
- a **new** senior bowling machine with autofeeder, to 95mph
- a **new** junior bowling machine with autofeeder, mobile with battery, to 60mph
- new net practice stumps
- updated Player Development Programme, new pods
- a high-quality junior section
- 5 pre-season friendlies starting 22 April, to get us up to speed
- 18 weeks of competitive league cricket from 6 May
- Sunday matches including 2s Cup Competition
- outdoor net practice each Wednesday

not to mention our many experienced cricketers committed to bringing young players on. Let's not beat about the bush, league cricket will be tough this year, we won't win games by turning up late and unprepared; let's practice properly and start focussing now. 👍





## Bear Cubs

In preparation for the 2023 season, we have entered 9 teams into the Bucks league next season in the following age groups:

Mixed teams U9 (softball), U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15

Girls teams U11 (softball) and U13 – in combination with Bledlow Village CC.

You will notice we have not entered an U15 girls team this year as we struggled to fulfil our matches last year. All U14, U15 and U16 girls are invited to play in the U15 mixed team, ensuring we continue to offer junior cricket to the older girls.



Junior winter cricket nets will run from 19th Feb to 2nd April from 4pm to 5pm. Junior nets will be mixed (girls and boys) and open to players in age groups:

- School years Y5 (U10s), Y6 (U11), Y7 (U12), and Y8 (U13) 4pm to 5pm
- School years Y9(U14) and Y10 (U15) are invited to senior nets between 5pm to 7pm – email [John Rolfe](mailto:John.Rolfe@btinternet.com) for more details [j.rolfe444@btinternet.com](mailto:j.rolfe444@btinternet.com)

Players younger than Year 5 will not be able to attend winter nets this season. We will run the nets at Princes Risborough school and will be coach led sessions, with a cost of £5 per player per session.

If you haven't already registered please email [oli@oliwhite.com](mailto:oli@oliwhite.com)



## 200 Club is Here – All Aboard

- Open to all members
- Monthly draw starting May 23
- Four winners each month
- Top prize of up to £200

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



## All Aboard with the RidgeBears

The Club is proud to announce an exciting programme called 'All Aboard with the Ridge Bears'. This programme which will be led by Dave Wells (Chairman) and Wayne Gough (Sponsorship & Social) seeks to establish a progressive and repeatable year over year sponsorship programme to attract much appreciated funds for Club development. We are currently recruiting and securing a minimum set of 10 foundational sponsors, and we will formally launch on the ground in line with our first home game in April. The programme will build from there and be a core catalyst towards longer term Club development.

## The Clubhouse Café

Happy New Year from the Clubhouse Cafe!

After what has been a pretty crazy 2022, I am thrilled to be back with Louise behind the cake trolley, serving up a whole host of deliciousness. If you haven't already, come and try out our new home made soup, perfect for warming you up from the inside out. Like our cakes, it changes frequently, so make sure you are following us on facebook / instagram to see what's available - or just pop in!



Our opening hours are currently 10-4.30 Thursdays and Fridays, and 10-2pm Saturday.

Find us online @theclubhousecafebledlowridge /

[www.theclubhousecafebledlowridge.com](http://www.theclubhousecafebledlowridge.com)



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

- A Bar Manager
- 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, March 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)

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

We have raised over £800 already at no cost to anyone so sign up and start earning money for the club