

# The RidgeBear

The monthly newsletter from BRCC



4. May 2023

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## From The Chair

Dave Wells



Hopefully you have all been to the Club in the past few weeks and can see the immediate impact for Club and Ground as we welcome and support our 2023 Sponsors ... These key relationships help us make decisions to invest in various progressive initiatives such as Junior Shirt sponsorship and professional Boundary fence re-fit. So All Aboard is launched and re have a great platform to welcome and promote other interested Sponsors. If you have ideas on prospective Sponsors please do let me and or Wayne know and we can follow up ... 'All Aboard' with The Ridge Bears!

Now it's time to let the Cricket at the Ridge do the talking! ... We have prepared well since the January AGM and are deliberately innovating and investing to create the most conducive and supportive Club environment we can to maximise enjoyment, friendships and hopefully performance whether you are an up and coming Junior or a POD member in the Senior squad or a newly appointed Vice President. Let's all get behind the Ridge Bears as the season lifts off ...



## Dates for the diary

Every Wednesday 6pm

Every Friday

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Outdoor nets at the club

Junior Academy from 6pm

League cricket starts for seniors

All Stars and Dynamos start

## Around the Club

If you've been anywhere near the club recently, you can't have failed to notice the changes! A new perimeter fence round half the ground, proudly bears the logos of the All Aboard supporters, tree stumps have been ground to flat and Wellsy seems to have introduced a RidgeBear trail.



There's new signage everywhere, a sponsor's interview board as a backdrop for talking the press through your hundred and the changing rooms have now been upgraded to 3\* status with tea and coffee making facilities and their own mini bar! It is Bledlow Ridge after all.





## Captain's Corner Jovan Sahota Sunday XI

We can't talk about Sunday cricket without mentioning we're Steve Dixon Memorial Cup winners! The run had everything; away days to unknown teams, thrillers against old foes, personalised shirts, ball-by-ball commentary and BRCC forever engraved on the trophy. No doubt the aim this year will be to defend it.



Cup games or friendlies, Sunday cricket is an integral part of our Player development programme. It provides a platform for players to try new techniques, get time in the middle, or ready themselves for league cricket in a friendly but competitive Sunday fixture calendar. Even I managed a 100! Also, how good was it seeing the likes of Hugo and Carlton back in the Ridge shirt alongside the emergence of some of the girls from the junior academy?



Hopefully, we see our seasoned pros embrace Sunday cricket again this year. It was so pleasing to watch them not only play, but also offer invaluable advice to our juniors coming through (including a light-hearted intro to the *verbal* side of the game...cheers Mids). In doing so, I'm sure we'll see the full benefits in the short and long-term future of our club. Sam started his career in Sunday cricket, and is now leading out our first X1 – hopefully, we'll see some juniors follow suit via Sunday cricket.



## Playing Update

Pre-season availability was a bit of a challenge, but we got three games in at the back end of April. The pitches are a bit soft and slow (4 weeks of rain will do that)) but the 2s kicked off with a comfortable win at Stokenchurch where Birdie plundered 82 before a bit of him broke. We then lost both ends of a double header against Cheersley, but saw debuts for 4 new players and a blowing off of the cobwebs for some older ones which was probably more important than the results. That's the prep done, now for the serious stuff! League cricket starts 6<sup>th</sup> May with a double header against Horspath



## Bear Cubs

Oli White

A fantastic start to the junior season with junior training sessions running for the last two Wednesdays and Fridays.

A very big thank you to the bar, bbq and cafe teams for providing sustenance on the (slightly) cold Friday nights so far.

We had our first match of the season on Sunday morning where David William's U11 team took on neighbours Stokenchurch in a pairs match. The Bears won by 40 runs and impressively only lost four wickets on their 20 overs. Alexander Coe top scored with 23 runs. With some impressive bowling across the team led by Eisa Yasir and Finlay Ferens both bowling 2 overs, taking 1 wicket and conceding only 3 runs, only to be bettered by Sam Williams who bowled 2 overs, taking 1 wicket, conceding just 2 runs, wow.



Through the month of May there will be a junior cricket match going on nearly every evening. Please feel free to go along to watch and support the teams. It's always good for younger players to watch matches up from their age group to see what's coming next.



Max Modray-Lane became the 100<sup>th</sup> member of the 200 Club on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

The BRCC 200 Club is well underway with the start of the junior season and we hit the halfway point on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April when Max Modray-Lane spent some more of Ricky's hard earned on number 125. The first draw has been pushed back to the 12<sup>th</sup> May to allow the All Star and Dynamos parents the chance to get in on the action but will then take place on the first Friday of each month. A huge thanks to Vicki Fellows for all her hard work signing people up over the last couple of weeks. You still have time and all the available numbers are shown on the website. Don't miss out. Sign up now at:

[www.bledlowridgcricketclub.co.uk/200](http://www.bledlowridgcricketclub.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**

## The Catch



Work on transforming the tree will commence mid May, but there is still time to be a part of this great project. A share in The Catch costs just £25 and your name will be inscribed on the plaque on the back.

Contact Richard Sainter on 07787 244111 or at [richardsainter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:richardsainter@hotmail.co.uk)



## The Clubhouse Café

Happy Birthday to The Clubhouse Cafe! We have just turned 2!

The most enormous thanks and giant hugs to The Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club for opening its doors and kitchen to a mad woman with a vague plan in the middle of lockdown... and allowing the creation of what I think must be the happiest cafe with the best view in Bucks!



And huge thanks to all of you for supporting the cafe through everything! We are only still going because of YOU! We have the nicest, most friendly and fabulous customers a cafe could wish for.... you all make coming in to work such a joy.

From May, in addition to Friday evenings, we will be adding Wednesdays 12-4.30pm to our opening hours. If you have a baby or toddler in your life - come Wednesday 10-12!

Find us on social media to keep up to date with all our news and gratuitous cake shots!

@theclubhousecafebledlowridge

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

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.



## 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 sports supplies and legal!

### Hawkinsport

We're a family run, independent sports shop and online retailer. For over 50 years we have been supplying high quality sports equipment, and sportswear to, sports clubs, schools, professional athletes and fitness lovers alike. We cater for a huge range of sports and activities, including: cricket, hockey, rugby, tennis, football, running and more.



We also have a wide selection of fitness equipment, outdoor games and offer racket restringing services. At Hawkinsport we believe that the best clothing and equipment can help produce the best sporting results.

### Lightfoots

Lightfoots Solicitors provide award-winning legal services for individuals, businesses and lenders and have been at the heart of the community in Thame for over 150 years. We now have four offices in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire and work for a range of clients across the UK. With offices in Thame and Princes Risborough we are proud to be rated 'Excellent' on Trustpilot. Our services include:

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- Probate and estate administration
- Trust and tax planning
- Wills and power of attorney
- Legal services for business
- Legal services for lenders



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
- 1<sup>st</sup> team scorers
- Umpires

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

Next issue, June 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)