

U's NEWS



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THE NEWSLETTER OF UPMINSTER CRICKET CLUB

www.upminstercricketclub.com



FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Welcome to the 2018 season and the first edition of the Upminster CC Newsletter.

With the new season now looming large I would like to wish all our players, captains, managers, sponsors, officials, coaches, parents, and other supporters my best wishes for what we hope will be an excellent season for the club both on and off the pitch.

On the playing side our 1st XI will relish the challenge of bouncing back into the Premier League at the first attempt, and with the infectious enthusiasm of new captain Nicky Ison they will be well-motivated to be competing for honours come the end of the season.

With our other senior sides all playing in their respective top divisions, the standard of cricket will be tough and these sides should remain a fertile breeding ground to produce good quality and competitive cricketers. If that is not enough, the Windmill Whack will return for a third season. The action kicks off with the Draft Night on Saturday 12 May closely followed by a triple header curtain-raiser on Sunday 20 May.

Our thriving junior section will continue to be the envy of our peers, delivering a full coaching program for in excess of 200 young local cricketers over a 20 week season. Having put through close to 40 new volunteers through their Coach Support Workers badge over the last two winters, the junior section is in rude health and I wish all involved in this a great season.

Off the pitch, your management committee have been working hard over a long winter, and you can expect to see a number of new initiatives over the course of the season. These range from the hiring of a new groundsman for all of our pitches, an ambitious pavilion re-development project, a player sponsorship initiative, a brand new electronic scoreboard, and an innovative and varied social calendar.

Perhaps the jewel in the crown will once again be to welcoming the County Champions, Essex CCC for another Benefit Match on Sunday 2 September. This annual fixture is made possible in no small part of the generosity of our sponsors, and I take this opportunity to thank them for their continued support.

2018 will see more going on at Upminster than ever. It promises to be a vintage summer, and I look forward to seeing you at HQ over the season, getting involved in whatever capacity you can.

Ollie Peck



NICKY ISON - FIRST XI CAPTAIN

With the 2018 season starting in less than a month away, the excitement is building within the camp. The off-season has been challenging with four first team regulars leaving for pastures new, including last year's captain Matt Tigg. Matt had a very tough season as captain last year for a number of reasons, but we are sad to see him leave for East Moseley CC.

We have had some new signings over the close season, and I'd like to welcome wicket-keeper James Ramsden, left arm spinner Muhammad Rahim and seam bowler Ejaz Khan to the club. I know you'll all make them welcome during the course of the season, and we wish them every success on the field.

Pre-season training has been intense and of a very high quality which I will be looking to replicate in our outdoor sessions. Our squad numbers might be low but that has allowed for our batsman especially to really work hard on their games over the winter. It has also been good to see one of our own in Louis Pickering spending a couple weeks training with the Kent 1st XI and gaining experience by training alongside Allan Donald and Darren Stevens. Hopefully he will learn a lot and show everyone how good a bowler he can be.

I'm very much looking forward to the challenge of being 1st XI captain and with 6 years as 2nd XI skipper under my belt, I feel I bring a lot of know-how to the team. The experienced core of the side will still be turning out every week with Shahbaz Butt, Alan Ison and John Curtis still proving to be our most important assets. I'm excited to see what drills and tips Freddie Butt will bring to the team as he takes on more of a coaching role, and hopefully he can turn us into a more agile fielding side.

Our aim for the 2018 season is for the team to improve during the season in all aspects, prepare well and become a really focused well drilled outfit. The results will take care of themselves if we achieve that.



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A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS



We are looking forward to the new cricket season and to our second year as the club's main sponsor. Last year we thoroughly enjoyed the Benefit Day and thank everyone involved in making us feel so welcome.

The new tax year has just begun and we are busy with obtaining information from clients to prepare their 2017/2018 tax returns. These tax returns need to be filed by 31st January 2019. The tax charge on Child Benefit has brought many more tax payers into the Self-Assessment system so if you are claiming Child Benefit and your taxable income is £50,000 or more you should be preparing a tax Return.

HMRC have changed the way they deal with tax free child care and remind working parents that they can use Tax-Free Childcare to pay for regulated holiday clubs. Parents, including the self-employed, can apply online for Tax-Free Childcare – part of the government's Childcare Choices offer – for children who are under 12.

Tax-Free Childcare will cut childcare costs for working families by up to £2,000 per child per year, or £4,000 for disabled children. For every £8 parents pay into their childcare account the government will add an extra £2, up to £2,000 per child per year.

Parents can find out what help is available on the Childcare Choices website.

This website includes a Childcare Calculator that compares all the government's childcare offers to check what works best for individual families.

We hope that members find our article interesting and informative. We are happy to assist members with any accounting or tax matters.

Finally we wish all the Upminster Cricket Club teams in particular our very own Hunter Hurricanes an enjoyable and successful season.

Esin Hunter

SPOTLIGHT ON....

KARIM GOVANI



- Hello Karim, first of many congratulations in getting married over the winter, but most importantly how did it feel to finally win the Upminster CC Bowler of the Year?

Hello Nicky. Many thanks for those kind words; getting married is having a positive effect on life! Well I've come close a few times to winning this award, so it's nice to win it and show what hard work can achieve.

- After being a constant performer for the 3's and 4's over the past couple seasons, what was the reason you decided to take up the 5th XI skipper role?

As UCC historians will know, I've been 5th XI skipper before and really enjoyed it. Now's the right time to drop down a level and let the youngsters push through. Hopefully one or two of them take the opportunity.

- What are you looking forward to most as 5th XI captain this season?

Good question – I think the best thing to look forward to is seeing how we get on as a team and getting everyone to enjoy playing cricket on a Saturday afternoon.

- Which youngsters are you going to be looking to bring through?

I think Max Gordon has had a great pre-season, from the younger age categories I hope to see a lot of Jack Carter, Jay Mayor & Nathan Brown.

- What is your favourite UCC match over the years?

So many to choose from but I have to go with the last league game away to Orsett in 2006. It was my first season as 5th XI captain and we needed a minimum of 8 points I think to win the league. Wanting to win the toss and bat our way to the league, we ended up bowling first. Orsett batted their maximum overs and reached around 170 and as we didn't pick up maximum bowling points we knew then we had to win the game to win the league. We chased the runs quite comfortably in the end and to win the league on the last game of the season was a great moment.

- And finally, which three people would you invite to your UCC Come Dine With Me Special?

Ha-ha well as you know Nicky, I don't cook so would welcome yourself, Elliot Bussey and Matt Chapman for a proper Aussie BBQ feast.





SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

As the clocks move forwards and we move into Spring, I'm sure we're all excited about the season ahead and what it will bring.

Off the field the committee also start to put into place the plans they have created during the winter months be it training equipment, essential grounds maintenance and improvements or the redevelopment of the clubhouse. None of this can be done without commitment from players, volunteers and of course our club sponsors who, through their support, enable all of these ideas to come to fruition.

The main club sponsor, Hunter & Co Accountants, have made it clear to us that they don't want to just be a sponsor with a cheque book – they really want to be part of a community club so we would once again like to acknowledge their support and commitment to the club, and I'm sure that many of our members will be happy to return that support with their custom.

We also have a new Gold sponsor, WPA Healthcare. As we are all another year older, with many of our senior team players having young families, this new sponsor may well be a timely addition and we welcome them to the club.

Of course the Windmill Whack 2018 will see our sponsored teams fight it out during the year and we once again thank those sponsors for their ongoing commitment to the club. Please look through the fixture card and the club website for our sponsors as all are local businesses that would welcome your business – and please let them know that you are a club member!

There are lots of Sponsor opportunities available starting from as little as £25 as a Matchday Sponsor. Or how about joining in with the new initiative to sponsor a player for the 2018 season for £100?

To find out more about being a sponsor please contact Stuart Hulbert stuart@brentsinsurance.co.uk.

The 2018 season will see a brand scoreboard at the clubhouse, thanks in no small part to the ECB Small Grants scheme. The scheme, which also provided funding towards our new covers in 2016, is backed by ECB sponsors Waitrose, and has provided £4,000 towards the project.

The new board will replace the existing manual and electronic scoreboards which have now become beyond economical repair. We can't wait to see the board installed and enhancing the match day experience for players and spectators.



Our thanks go to the ECB, Waitrose, and our partners at Essex Cricket Board, for their support.

200

C L U B

After a runaway start in 2017, the success of the UCC 100 Club has seen it rebranded to the UCC 200 Club for this season! We are currently running at 115 players, with each number costing £50 per annum, providing an opportunity to win a cash prize each month.

Half of the money raised goes into the prize fund, which is split as follows:

	100 Players	200 Players
10 x Monthly Draws	£100	£200
1 x Winter Draw	£500	£1000
1 x Spring Draw	£1000	£2000
Funds Raised for Club	£2500	£5000

Numbers can be purchased via secure payment at the club website <http://www.upminstercricketclub.com/payments>

Please contact John Curtis for further details

HOUSE & GROUNDS

For the coming season and going forward, Upminster CC has secured the services of groundsman Mark Severn to prepare the wicket and work on the main square. Mark is hugely experienced and has worked at many local clubs over the years and it is his passion and ambition to prepare cricket pitches of the highest quality at Upminster. Following an assessment during the winter by an ECB senior pitch advisor, it was ascertained that the main square would benefit from specialised work and in the near future, the entire square will need to be lowered in order to produce as good a cricket wickets as possible. Mark has started his pre-season work already and although he will be doing the bulk of the work, it is anticipated that he may require the assistance of club members in undertaking some of the work. If you see Mark around the club please make him welcome and offer assistance if needed.

The facilities at Coopers School have significantly improved in recent years and it now really is a lovely ground for the third and fourth elevens to play cricket. As in recent years, the club has taken responsibility for the pre-season work and over the Easter weekend, a group of club members worked tirelessly in scarifying and rolling the square, as well as preparing the covers, tidying the container and repairing some damage to the sight screens. The sight screens will need to be erected before the start of the season, so when a date has been identified, members are encouraged to help out where possible.

Post season work at Champion was undertaken at the end of last season and this year's pre-season work was carried out on the weekends of 7th and 14th April. It is likely that Mark Severn will be undertaking weekly work at Champion, but again, members are encouraged to help their captains out as and when required. The square is only small, however with on-going work and attention, the wicket will continue to improve and give our younger members their first taste of playing on grass pitches.

Upminster Cricket Club is striving to offer its members excellent playing facilities and like everything in life, you get rewarded for the effort one puts in. So, if you can spare an hour or two rolling the wicket at Coopers during the week; watering the main square in the park on a Sunday evening; or assisting at Champion, please do not hesitate to contact me, your captains or any member or the committee.

Here's to a great season,

Bobby Mack





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W A Y

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ON THE FIELD

Winter nets for all elevens this Year took place at the Writtle Cricket Centre, and the Sunday evening sessions were generally well attended. 1st and 2nd XI sessions were particularly busy on most Sundays with a number of young bowlers from the lower elevens bolstering numbers and improving their skills at the same time.

Just down the road in Chelmsford, Sunday evenings also saw the Indoor side compete in the Riverside Indoor League for the second year, and Nicky Ison's side came within a whisker of claiming the Premier Division title. A below par performance against Hutton led to a costly defeat and Willingale took the title by just two points.

League fixtures for 2018 will begin on Saturday 12th May with the programme drawing to a close on Saturday 8th September. With that in mind we would like to remind all playing members that annual subscriptions are due by the 31st May and can be paid at anytime before.

Our kit will once again be supplied this year by Surridge, who I am sure you will agree did an excellent job in 2017. A wide range of UCC branded items are available but it is important all players representing the club in senior or colts game are wearing the up to date and correct playing shirt. Kit should be ordered on line by visiting the on line shop at: www.surridgesport.com/upminster-cc



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Full Senior Member £150

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Colts £100 (sibling discount available)

Junior Colts (U7s & Minis) £60 (sibling discount available)

Life Vice Presidents Personal contribution

Vice Presidents £25 (minimum)

Social Members £25 (minimum)

Subscriptions can be paid by cash or cheque (made payable to Upminster Cricket Club) to the Treasurer or to your captain (Team Co-Ordinator for colts) or preferable by bank transfer to the details to the below:

Account Name: Upminster CC Subs Account

Bank Name: Metro Bank

Sort Code: 23-05-80

Account No: 22978114

Reference: *YOUR NAME*

Match fees for seniors are £10 for all games, while for senior concessions and colts playing in senior matches they are £7. These should be paid to your captain immediately following the game.

Colts match fees are £3 per game and should be paid to the Team Co-Ordinator immediately after the game.

S CIAL SCENE

The 2018 social calendar started on 13th April with the traditional Pre Season Gents Dinner, and once again this was a sell-out event and a great night was had by all. Guests were treated to a surprise visit of the County Championship trophy, which provided a photo opportunity you don't get every day. As well as being a great night, the event raised a fantastic £1,100 for the club coffers.

Following the Club's first Pre Season Players Meeting, held on Thursday 26th April, the next event sees Dave Brown in the hot seat as quiz master for the UCC Quiz Night on Thursday 17th May. More details are on the website now, or please contact Dave directly for information. It would be great to see a wide range of members competing for the 2018 quiz crown!

We're delighted to confirm that we will once again be hosting Essex CCC this year, with the game being held on Sunday 2nd September. We will be introducing a new format this year which will see even more entertainment across the day – more details will follow in the next newsletter.

Finally, please note that the Dinner & Dance will be back this year and will be better than ever! Bookings are already open for this, so please pick up your booking form and return this to Elaine Brown as soon as possible in order to confirm your place. This year's event is being held at De Rougemont Manor on Saturday 6th October, with ticket prices at £40 per person.

Details of all 2018 events are set out in this newsletter – please do put these in your diary early and support as many of these as you can throughout the year.

Friday 13th April 2017
Pre Season Gents Dinner

Thursday 26th April
Pre Season Players Meeting

Friday 4th May
Colts Night BBQ

Saturday 12th May
Windmill Whack III Launch Night

Thursday 17th May
Quiz Night

Friday 18th May
Colts Night BBQ

Friday 8th June
Cocktail Night

Sunday 10th June
Vice Presidents Day

Friday 15th June
Colts Night BBQ/Portugal v Spain

Saturday 16th June
Football World Cup Night

Monday 18th June
England v Tunisia

Saturday 23rd June
Germany v Sweden

Sunday 24th June
England v Panama

Thursday 28th June
England v Belgium

Friday 6th July
Wimbledon and Pimms Night/Colts BBQ

Sunday 8th July
Family Fun Day

Saturday 14th July
Cheese and Wine Night

Friday 20th July
Colts Night BBQ

Sunday 26th August
WW III Finals Day

Sunday 2nd September
Benefit Match v Essex CCC XI

Saturday 8th September
End of Season Party

Saturday 6th October
Annual Dinner and Dance

Friday 12th October
Golf Day - Upminster Golf Course

Sunday 9th December
Kushoom Bugh Christmas Lunch

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WINDMILL WHACK III

The 2018 edition of Windmill Whack gets underway on Saturday 14 May with the customary Draft Night, held at the club from 7.30pm onwards. This gives the opportunity for the captains to freshen up their squads and ensure they are in good shape for a tilt at the trophy.

This year we welcome the Kushoom Bugh Tigers to the competition. Anthony Limn's men will be hoping a change of name transforms their fortunes in 2018, having struggled to fulfil their potential in the first two competitions. The return of fans favourite Dan Tyler from an extended training camp will surely also aid their cause this time out.



All team captains are new into the role this season, and I'm sure we can look forward to seeing great competitive games again throughout this summer.

Please remember that all are welcome to come and enjoy the games through the season. You're bound to recognise plenty of familiar faces and we're sure you'll soon find a favourite team to get behind. Hopefully the games will also be blessed with great weather for us all to enjoy.

The Windmill Whack III begins on Sunday 20th May 2018:

Hunter Hurricanes v Chairmans Choice 10:30am
Root 66'ers v Govani Maestros 1:30pm
Apple Finance Firebirds v Kushoom Bugh Tigers 4:30pm

Congratulations



The 17 attendees who successfully complete the 2018 Coach Support Workers course on 14 April. It was great to see such a positive response from so many parents, and a great deal of fun was had!

The Upminster CC Indoor team finished runners-up in the Riverside Indoor League, with notable performances from:

- Louis Pickering (pictured) topped the runs chart with 219 runs at 73.
- Adam Quested, who picked up the wicket keeper of the year award with 12 catches to go along with his 211 runs.
- Nicky Ison and John Curtis who shared the top bowler honours with 10 wickets apiece.

Louis Pickering also made his debut for Kent 2nd XI in April with some notable performances – well done Louis!

100 CLUB

Terry Wyatt scooped the jackpot prize draw of £1,110 in the April 100 Club draw. Also to the other 100 Club winners in 2018:

January: WILL MURPHY

February: IAN TWINE

March: DAVE LOCK



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Each shop is a dispensing pharmacy / chemist able to service your nhs / dental / private prescription needs, and also sells a range of natural alternative herbal medicines (homeopathy, homeopathic), along with various drugs to combat most ailments. They also stock a range of family planning: toiletries: pain killers: baby goods: health foods: female sanitary items: male grooming products: perfume: make up: cosmetic, baby products / food, shampoos and birthday / anniversary / Christmas gift ideas and don't forget the camera. A range of films and prints from digital cameras are also available in store.



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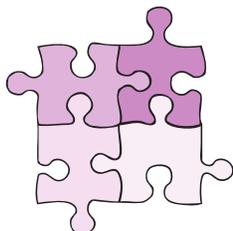
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Sundays & Public Holidays
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(Please phone to check times)



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WITH COMPLIMENTS, WE WISH GOOD LUCK TO UPMINSTER CC



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Shahbaz Butt	Batsman	Jamie Green
John Curtis	Bowler	Dave Middlemiss
Nicky Ison	Bowler	Daisy & George Middlemiss
Alan Ison	All Rounder	Ian Munn
Mike Larke	Wicket Keeper / Batsman	The Brown Family
Steve Limn	Batsman	Karim Govani
Paul Middlemiss	Wicket Keeper / Batsman	Gus Siggins
Jack O'Dowd	All Rounder	Nicky Ison
Shafiq Rahman	All Rounder	Kevin Roome
Kevin Roome	Bowler	Lloyd Sutton
Joe Simpson	Bowler	Billy Wright
Pete Thompson	Batsman	Oliver Peck
Nathan Woods	Batsman	William Murphy

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<http://www.upminstercricketclub.com/news/sponsor-a-player-in-2018-2192235.html>