



Rainham (Essex) Cricket Club

Founded 1896

Affiliated to Club Cricket Conference

Spring Farm Park, Lambs Lane, Rainham, Essex, RM13 9XF

February 2011 Newsletter

Playing Update

Indoor Cricket

January was an excellent month for Rainham in the indoor form of the game with the 'A' team gaining their first win against high flying Upminster 'A', the 'B' team winning both of their matches, even though one was by default of the opposition failing to field a team, to remain top of Division 3 and the newly formed 'C' team winning against Havering 'A' in Division 2, who had only lost one game up to that point.

6th February 2011 - The first match in February was a completely different story with the 'C' team taking on Upminster 'B' in a Division 2 match. James Fuller had 3 late withdrawals from the team, but managed to recruit some strong replacements in Alex Sullivan, Dave Adkins and Graham Dordoy, who joined regular 'C' team squad players Joe Sarro, Kenny and Reiss Sims. Joe Sarro captained the side and chose to bat first and Rainham put on a creditable performance in scoring 74 from their allotted 12 overs. In the field Rainham had no regular wicket keeper and Joe then lead by example by giving up his normal opening bowler's role and taking the gloves for the duration of the Upminster innings. Upminster got off to a fast start and continued to maintain this rate of scoring losing only 1 wicket in the process and still had 3 overs in hand once they had reached their target and a comfortable defeat for Rainham. Consolidation will be the name of the game for the 'C' team this season, with 3 games remaining against Woodford Warriors, Seven Kings 'B' and local rivals Hornchurch Athletic, so as to try and maintain their status in Division 2.

13th February 2011 - The 'A' team's first match in February was against Ardleigh Green 'B' who are also struggling near the bottom of the league, so it was important for Rainham to do well in this match. Rainham batted first and even a touch of flu could not keep opener Graham Thwaites down as he went on the score another 27 retired not out. Alex Sullivan and James Fuller (even with a broken thumb) gave good support both scoring 14, but some tight bowling by Ardleigh Green restricted Rainham to a below par score of 60.

Wickets from Dave Adkins and a creditable bowling spell from Alex Sullivan, taking 1 for 5, could not prevent Ardleigh Green 'B' reaching their target comfortably. There are only 2 matches remaining against Goresbrook 'A' and fellow strugglers Seven Kings 'A' and victories in both these matches will only be good enough to try and stave off relegation back to Division 2.

20th February - The 'B' team needed to win their penultimate against Eastonians, who had also only lost one match, in order to gain promotion to Division 2. New 'B' team captain, Dan Skipper, won the toss and put Eastonians in to bat. A good opening spell of bowling from James Fuller restricted the opposition at the start of their innings with James finally removing one of their openers cleaned bowled. Some good running between the wickets and a below average fielding performance from Rainham ensured that Eastonians score continued to tick over at a rate of 7 an over, with the opener finally retiring on 25. Tight bowling at the end of Eastonians innings by Ash Foster kept the score down to 84 for 5 and a challenging target to chase.

Openers Peter Reynolds and Ash Foster got Rainham off to a good start keeping up with the required run rate before Ash was run out, and was quickly followed by the loss of Graham Dordoy. Captain Dan

Skipper continued a good scoring rate with Peter Reynolds taking Rainham's score to 62 for 2 with 4 overs remaining. Dan Skipper then lost his wicket to a catch going for a 6 and this was quickly followed by the loss of Peter Reynolds who did not listen to the call of James Fuller and ran himself out needlessly just a couple short of retiring on 25. Kenny Sims followed a couple of balls later, which then left James Fuller as the last man standing to try and score 20 runs for victory. One ball later it was all over with Rainham losing disappointingly after being in a strong position to win. The last match against Noak Hill 'A' will still leave it the hands of the 'B' team to gain promotion if they secure a win.

27th February 2011 – The final match of the month was the 'C' team facing a very strong Woodford Warriors side who were sitting at the top Division 2. Rainham lost the toss and Woodford Warriors batted first and got off to a fast start scoring at around 10 an over in the first 4 overs. James Mansfield then stopped the rot taking a caught and bowled which was quickly followed by a run out. The Woodford opener continued to bat well and soon retired on 25 which brought 2 new batsmen to the crease and a change of bowling for Rainham with Jamie Adkins taking the ball. Jamie took 2 wickets in his first over, which Rainham then thought they were well and truly back in the game and actually ended up being the worst thing that could happen with Woodford's number 6 taking the bowling apart and scoring a very quick 99 (this is not a typo!). Ably supported by Woodford's opener who resumed his innings, Woodford finally went on to make a very daunting 193 (is this another league record we have been on the receiving end of?) from their 12 overs.

Rainham went into bat with young debutant Ricky Cooper opening the innings with Peter Reynolds and both being dismissed within 4 overs with Rainham scoring less than 10 at the time. Only James Mansfield batted with any assurance taking Rainham score to 25 before being the last man dismissed in a below average performance (shades of the infamous 2003 - 7 all out!).

The month of February has been in complete contrast to January with 4 defeats out of 4 for our indoor teams, so roll on March and a change of fortunes.

Senior Winter Nets

This year's senior winter nets takes place every Wednesday from 8pm to 9pm and will continue until 6th April. The cost will be around £5 for club members and £3 for any juniors or anyone that is not working. Let's all support and show our full backing for this year's first team captain, James Mansfield, who has organised the winter nets.



James Mansfield – organised the winter nets and needs the full backing of the first team squad

James Fuller – Level 2 Coaching

James attended his Level 2 ECB module 8 which focussed on Group Training Sessions and just needs to follow this up by taking a Group Session net in the presence of an existing ECB Level 2 qualified coach. James will be looking for 6 youngsters to be part of this net session so if there are any youngsters within the club that would like to take part please contact James Fuller on 07870-557787.

ATTENTION – A Training Session Note from James Fuller

There is a new net starting up for 15-21 year olds ONLY on a Wednesday night starting on 13th April at Spring Farm Park for beginners, intermediates and advanced players.

Ideal for some one-to-one coaching for batting, bowling, fielding and wicket keeping. Also some group sessions including some light fitness/cricket skills, practice on the wicket to get some time batting and bowling in the middle using the mobile net and some tactical coaching for game situations.

If you are interested before then however, there will be an opportunity to do some work before the season on a Sunday morning starting 6th March. If you could let me know then I will be willing to accommodate!

Thanks for your time and look forward to seeing you soon

J. Fuller

Pitch Preparation

We are still looking for further volunteers to help with the pitch preparation pre season and during the season. At present we have 5 volunteers and are looking for at least 3 more. A simplified preparation document has been written and the work will involve one night a week pre-season once a month and 2 nights a week once a month during the season. Unless we get at least 8 volunteers the work will be left in the hands of the council and the chances of our pitch playing better are slim. If anyone is interested please contact Peter Reynolds on 07711-144497.

The Battle of the Rainhams

One Sunday fixture to look out for in 2011 is on Sunday 17th July, which is Rainham (Essex) v Rainham (Kent), so let's see if we can win this South East battle. This will be a tough game as Rainham (Kent) play their cricket in the Shepherd and Neame Kent League. I am sure this was a regular fixture years ago so thanks to Fixtures Secretary John Read for bringing this match back onto our fixture card and hopefully this will continue to be a regular fixture in the future.

Youth Section

Youth Section Winter Nets

Winter nets will commence on Monday 28th February from 7 to 8pm at Hall Mead School and will continue until 4th April. There will be a small charge of £2 per night for all that attend to cover the cost of the hire of the hall.

Havering Youth Cricket League

Dave Adkins and Peter Reynolds attended the Havering Cricket League meeting on the 1st February to organise the fixtures for the under 13 and 15 teams, which will be their first season of playing league cricket. The following fixtures have been arranged for 2011, so put these dates in your diary to either play or support our junior teams. The vast majority are Sunday mornings, with the odd game being mid week.

Under 13s			Under 15s		
Date and Start	Home or Away	Opposition	Date and Start	Home or Away	Opposition
22 nd May 9.30am	Away	Upminster C	1 st May 9.30am	Away	Harold Wood (U16)
29 th May 9.30am	Home	Upminster A	8 th May 9.30am	Away	Upminster A
5 th June 9.30am	Home	Hornchurch Athletic	29 th May 9.30am	Away	Ardleigh Green
15 th June 6pm	Away	Hornchurch	5 th June 9.30am	Away	Upminster B
19 th June 9.30am	Away	Gidea Park & Romford	12 th June 9.30am	Away	Goresbrook
26 th June 9.30am	Home	Upminster B	19 th June 9.30am	Away	Harold Wood
29 th June 6pm	Away	Goresbrook	3 rd July 9.30am	Away	Hornchurch Athletic
10 th July 9.30am	Away	Harold Wood	10 th July 9.30am	Home	Upminster B
24 th July 9.30am	Away	Ardleigh Green	20 th July 5.30pm	Away	Goresbrook
			24 th July 9.30am	Away	Gidea Park & Romford
			31 st July 9.30am	Home	Hornchurch

Player Recruitment in Schools

Dave Joynes gave a presentation at Brady School's assembly on 14th February, which was very well received by all the pupils that attended. Part of the presentation was a questions and answers session about Rainham Cricket Club where Dave set the questions and the pupils answering the questions, with the successful pupils winning some Nat West Cricket Force tee shirts (someone likes them) for giving the correct answers. The enthusiasm of all the pupils in answering these questions was very encouraging and their knowledge of cricket, especially the girls, was very impressive. Brady School wish for us to continue our links with the School and would also like us to arrange some coaching sessions in the School. Again a big thanks to Dave Joynes for arranging the presentation and the Head Teacher Mr. Bradbury for allowing

us time to promote the club at their Monday morning assembly. We will be looking to forge the same links within other local primary schools La Sallette, Parsonage and Rainham Village.

Ronnie Jackson

Ronnie Jackson was nominated by the club to attend Essex Trials and we are pleased to report that Ronnie got through the first round of trials and has progressed to the second round of trials that will take place on 22nd February. We all wish Ronnie good luck, as it will be a real feather in our cap to have a junior club member representing an Essex team.



Ronnie Jackson – a successful first trial for Essex

Funding & Fund Raising

Daily Telegraph Amateur Sports Club Grants

An application was sent to this grant scheme on 9th February who award 5 clubs per month £1000 each by stating our case as to the recent successes of the club, unsung heroes and how we aim to involve the community. Hopefully at the time of the next newsletter, we may find out if we have been successful or not.



Social Events

Dinner and Dance

The Cranleigh



The dinner and dance will take place at The Cranleigh in Hornchurch on 26th March. The cost will be £35 per ticket and it will commence at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available from Jack Gilliland who can be contacted on 07931-731874, and he will buy a bottle of Cockspur for the first person that buys 5 tickets or more. This is always an enjoyable evening so please arrange to book your tickets early as we are restricted to 100.

General News

Nat West Cricket Force 2011

Organisation for this year's Nat West Cricket Force day on 9th April is starting to take shape. Weathershield paint has been purchased from the Dulux Decorator Centre with £50 worth of vouchers donated by Essex CCC, paint rollers, weed killer and expanding foam have also been bought. Other materials we require are as follows, so if anyone has any contacts where we can obtain these materials either free of charge or at discounted rates then please contact Alex Sullivan or Peter Reynolds.



Emulsion paint for the interior of the Club House (colour to be decided by Alex)	1 x Drain down pipe & fixings
1 x 6mm sheet of Plywood approx size 1800 x 600mm	1 x Moss killer
2 x boxes of 16 Ceiling Tiles	3 x Paint brushes
1 x Mirror 1200 x 600mm	1 x Notice board 1200 x 900mm
2 x pairs of Gloves for weed clearance	1 x 240 litre Wheelie bin
32 x new Chairs	8 x new Round Bar Tables

In order to ensure that the Club House is at a point where we can immediately commence work on the 9th April Kevin Newton, James Mansfield and James Fuller recently attended the club to clear up all unwanted items and remove any rubbish. Believe it or not 2 large van loads of rubbish were taken down to Gerpins Lane. Thank you to Kevin, who also supplied the van, and the slippery locksmiths of James Mansfield and James Fuller who all spent 3 hours of their time in getting the Club House ready for painting on the Nat West Cricket Force day.



Kevin Newton – an early starter for the Nat West Cricket Force day

There were some others who were also keen to get stuck into the Nat West Cricket Force day preparation nice and early with Jack MacMahon and Reiss Sims giving James Fuller a helping hand in erecting the mobile net. As you can see from the photo below, it looks as though it was a job well done and that there is still work to be done on the Nat West Cricket Force day in tidying up the rear of the Club House, so that we have room for the container and the soon to be delivered sight screens. All that is required for the mobile net is some wheels which are available to buy. Well done to Jack, Reiss and James for braving the elements and erecting the mobile net, which will ensure that we have more options during coaching session in 2011.



Jack MacMahon – practising his wicket keeping skills or building the mobile net?

There is also potential that BT volunteers and Havering Construction College will be involved in the Nat West Cricket Force day, as both have expressed an interest in participating. Hopefully more details of their participating will be available next month. Please also try to give some of your time on the day, even if it is just for a couple of hours.

School Cricket Tournament

Contact has been made with Simon Reed and Nick Goldsmith from The Chafford School to arrange another 4 team under 14 school cricket tournament. The date has provisionally been set for Tuesday 28th June and as with last year we will be looking for around 8 volunteers to carry out scoring, umpire and bar duties.

Container

The ongoing saga of the container to be provided by the Council looks as though it could be coming to a final conclusion. Below is the note sent to Chairman Graham Thwaites from James Rose who is the Council's Parks and Open Spaces Co-ordinator.

"To confirm what we discussed over the phone, we will be meeting Emerson Crane Hire in early March at the park to see how they could access the back of the pavilion and drop off the container. Once the ground conditions improve in late April/early May (subject to weather) the container should be delivered. Once we have a confirmed delivery date I'll let you know".

Although not quoted in the note they have also promised to move the existing container so that we can gain access to the double gates.

Chairman's Notes

Sorry for my recent absence but I've been hit by the worst virus I've ever experienced! 10 days laid up with 2 in hospital. Still not over it yet!!



We come to the time of year once again when thoughts begin to turn towards warm summer days and the sounds of willow crashing a new cherry to the boundary! Then thoughts turn to Rainham Cricket Club.

This season can be the most exciting for many years! Both teams in the new league now, generally youthful nucleus of players and the promise of growth for our club both financially and with new infrastructure.

I want to use my notes this month to appeal to all members, juniors & parents. Can you afford 1 hour every 2/3 months? That's all it takes to volunteer and trust me that hour makes a massive difference. You can help with cleaning the clubhouse, help with the pitch, help with selling tickets, fundraising and a whole host of other activities. The more that participate the larger the club can grow and the better facilities will be for all members. Don't wait to be asked, send an e - mail, do it now!!

The indoor league has been exciting this year, certainly standards in the top division are very high. Still hopefully many of you are finally beginning to accept the obvious, I'm a genius!!!!!! I applied to the office of registrations Friday and my name is no longer Graham it's now Sachin Thwaites.

See you at the club!

Nick (Sachin) Thwaites