



## Rainham (Essex) Cricket Club

Founded 1896

Affiliated to Club Cricket Conference

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

### January 2011 Newsletter

#### Playing Update

##### Indoor Cricket

The 'B' team started 2011 against 2<sup>nd</sup> bottom Harold Wood B winning the toss and deciding to bat. Again Rainham got off to a steady start and lost the early wicket of Peter Reynolds. Ash Foster and James Fuller then steadied the ship and took the score past 40 until Ash Foster played a loose shot and was caught close to the wicket. James Fuller followed soon afterwards just falling one short before being caught off the side wall to a sharp catch. Indoor league debutant Jas Hothi played some skilful shots before loosing his wicket to a full toss. With only about 60 on the board and 4 wickets down it was left to Kenny Sims and James Mansfield to bat out the last 4 overs, which came to an abrupt end with James Mansfield going in similar fashion to Ash Foster and then Kenny Sims being run out with another 2 overs to spare, leaving Rainham with an average score of 70 all out.

Captain James Fuller gave a pep talk before Harold Wood went into bat stating there was lots of room for improvement after the batting display. He the lead by example with an explosive first over almost taking a wicket from the first ball (shabby keeping), and finally bowling a maiden. James Mansfield carried on in the same way with a tight over taking the first wicket with yet another catch from Ash Foster (I still can't remember seeing a jug for his 3 catches in the first match). Some very sharp fielding from all the Rainham fielders lead to 3 run outs from James Mansfield, Jas Hothi and Ash Foster. Kenny Sims also got into the act by taking the 5<sup>th</sup> wicket and finally a James Fuller took the last wicket rounding off a fine Captain's performance taking the last wicket with Harold Wood all out for 22, which leaves Rainham top of Division 2 after the 4<sup>th</sup> round of fixtures with a three wins to one loss record.



Jas Hothi – a  
winning  
Havering  
League debut



James Fuller – a  
fine Captain's  
display against  
Harold Wood B



Dave Adkins – all round  
skills v Upminster A

We had a surprise request from the indoor league organisers requesting if we would like to replace Chadwell Heath in Division 2 by entering a 'C' team. This request was duly accepted with James Fuller pulling together an emergency team which consisted of Kenny Sims, Ash Foster, Ian Havard, Graham Thwaites, James and a welcome to indoor debutant Josh Lamb. A tough opening fixture against second in the league Havering 'A' was the task ahead with Havering winning the toss and electing to bat. Ian Havard and James Fuller opened the bowing and between them contributed to 4 of the Havering wickets to fall with Ian also contributing to a 5<sup>th</sup> wicket with a run out. Kenny Sims wrapped up the opposition's innings with a caught and bowled which saw Havering post a challenging 87 all out.

Openers Graham Thwaites and Ash Foster got Rainham off to an excellent start with both retiring on 25 and with Ian Havard contributing 15 runs with various support from the other batsmen lead Rainham 'C' to an impressive opening 3 wicket victory in Division 2.

The 'A' team were looking to start the new year with their first victory which seemed as though it would be a tough ask, with their first match against unbeaten second in the league, Shepherd & Neame team Upminster A. Rainham A lost the toss and Upminster decided to bat and struggled against Rainham's bowling attack of Ian Havard, James Fuller, Dave Adkins and Alex Sullivan who all performed admirably in restricted Upminster to 80 all out with 2 wickets each taken by James Fuller and Dave Adkins, who also contributed 2 run outs to cap a fine individual display in the field.

Experienced opening pair Graham Thwaites and Dave Adkins got Rainham off to a good start with both making double figures before Dave got out and James Fuller took over where Dave left off keeping the score board steadily ticking over. James Fuller was the next man out for 10 and then 'A' team debutant Ash Foster, who has earned his spot with some fine consistent displays in the B team, continued his good recent form. Graham Thwaites was dismissed for 20, who has had a consistent season also, which meant Alex Sullivan came to the crease with Rainham still needing 20 to win. The 2 'A's then lead Rainham to an excellent 3 wicket victory with Ash finishing on 18 not out and Alex on 10 not out, putting a dent in Upminster A title ambitions by inflicting their first defeat of the season and Rainham taking their first steps to Division 1 survival.

With 3 teams in the league and the 'A' team being in Division 1 the 'C' team in Division 2 and the 'B' team in Division 3 a decision has been made to field our strongest 6 in the 'A' team, the next strongest in the 'C' team and then some youngsters and new comers to indoor cricket in the 'B' team, even though they are currently top of Division 3 (How many other clubs would do this?). This decision has been made on the basis of long term development of the club and to give youngsters as many opportunities as possible.

The young 'B' team of Dan Skipper, Josh Lamb, Scott Foster (welcome back Scott), Reiss Sims, Ricky Cooper and Graham Dordoy were ready to take on May and Baker, but disappointment followed when May and Baker dropped out as they were unable to field a side. James Fuller then rallied around and got Jamie Adkins, Jas Hothi, Ash Foster and Peter Reynolds (who then brought the average age up to 30) to use the time slot to play a 5 a side indoor cricket inter club match. This ended up being a close affair with an encouraging debut from Ricky Cooper, who took the wicket of Reiss Sims in his first over. Some excellent last man standing batting from Jamie Adkins, who took his team from a virtually hopeless task, before bringing the scores level and being caught in the last over by Reiss Sims off Jas Hothi's bowling and ending in a very enjoyable tied 79 runs all match. With May and Baker having conceded the game this then consolidated the 'B' team's top spot in Division 3.

As we now have 3 teams in the Havering Indoor it is important that we give as many people games as possible, the games are normally on Sunday afternoons, with one or two a month, and take about an hour to complete. If anyone wishes to express an interest in playing please contact James Fuller on 07870-557787, as each team still has about 3 or 4 matches each to fulfil.

### Senior Winter Nets

This year's senior winter nets will commence from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at Abbs Cross School from 8pm to 9pm. The cost will be around £5 for club members and £3 for any juniors or anyone that is not working. The nets will continue up to 6<sup>th</sup> April, which will be just before our door nets commences. Well done to Captain James Mansfield for organising these net sessions. Let's all try and support these indoor nets, especially as we have a better time slot, so we can all start the season in good nick.

### Pitch Preparation

Ian Havard, Ash Foster and James Fuller have started works on preparing the wicket ready for the season. We are looking for another 5 to 7 volunteers are willing to put some work in on the pitch, ideally working in pairs, the idea being that the group will be small enough to communicate with each other and it will also ensure that the same people do not do all the work and the knowledge and work rota is spread amongst

club members. Ian and James will be putting together a simple guide of what needs doing and when so any volunteers will have a simple guide to follow.

Ideally if there is also someone that wishes to take the Institute of Groundsmanship Course the club can obtain up to 75% discount on these courses by booking through the London Community Skills Project. Please contact Peter Reynolds on 07711-144497 if you are interested in taking this course or contact James Fuller on 07870-557787 if you wish to be one of the pitch maintenance volunteers.

## **Youth Section**

### **Youth Section Winter Nets**

Winter nets will commence on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February from 7 to 8pm at Hall Mead School and will continue until 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Player Recruitment in Schools**

Dave Joynes has made some contact with Brady School and will be giving a presentation, at the School's Assembly on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February. The presentation will consist of a small cricket quiz, then a brief presentation about the cricket club finishing with all the kids receiving a flyer advertising the club. Dave will be hoping to make the same contacts at Parsonage and Rainham Village Schools so that we can establish community links with these Schools also. Thank you to Dave for the hard work he has put in to develop these links into the local Schools.

## **Funding & Fund Raising**

### **Cooperative Community Fund**

The application that was sent to the Cooperative Community fund was successful, although this was partly down to the application being messed up where I thought I had applied for £1800 with £200 of this being provided by ourselves through fund raising activities. Unfortunately the final sum I applied for was £200 and we were successful. This will be received with thanks from the Co-operative Community Fund and will be used to put towards a new bowling machine.

### **London Community Skills**

The above scheme is designed for more volunteers to become skilled coaches in all different types of sports. I have viewed the website and if someone is willing to become a cricket coach or wishes to learn or enhance their skills on cricket wicket preparation courses then this scheme will enable the club to get discounts of up to 75% on the list price. There is £3 million available in this fund so if we have any further volunteers to become a coach or help the club in cricket wicket maintenance or wishes to enhance their skills in either then please make themselves known to Peter Reynolds on 07711-144497 who will assist in any application made via this scheme.

## **Social Events**

### **Dinner and Dance**

The delayed dinner and dance will take place at The Cranleigh in Hornchurch on 26<sup>th</sup> March. The cost will be £35 per ticket and it will commence at 7.30pm. This will be a nice way to wind down in the evening with a nice meal, a few drinks and get up and join 'Dr. Dre' with your own version of the Hamster dance.

The evening will consist of pre dinner drinks, a 3 course meal, presentation for players of the year, club tie winners (This year's honours will go to Jamie Adkins, Graham Thwaites, James Fuller and our youngest ever club tie recipient Harry Light), a raffle and mini auction where we have a 4 ball at Bentley Golf Club on offer. Tickets are available from Jack Gilliland who can be contacted on 07931-731874, and will buy a shot of Cockspur for the first person that buys 5 tickets or more.



Dr Dre – will he be further inspiration to our Chairman at the Dinner and Dance?

## General News

### Nat West Cricket Force 2011

This year's Nat West Cricket Force weekend will take place over the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April, more news will follow in later editions, although we are hoping that the Chafford School proposal will be successful it is likely that we will still be using our existing club house for at least another season or two. This year's tee shirts have arrived and there will be a free Nat West Cricket Force tee shirt for the first 20 volunteers. So please try and give a few hours on the 9<sup>th</sup> April to contribute to some of the preseason works down the club and make yourself known to Peter Reynolds or Alex Sullivan member that you will be willing to take part.



Alex Sullivan and new club house manager Derek Sullivan (welcome back Derek) met down the club on 29<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the work that will be required prior to the season commencing and the following is all the tasks that will be required to be performed on the Nat West Cricket Force day. We will be planning to obtain most of the materials either free or at discounted prices, also to try and make use of BT's volunteer Team Day and approach the Havering Construction College to see if they could also provide some labour. We will also require club members to bring with them paint brushes, tools, gloves, a carpet cleaner, a sledge hammer and most important of all your time. The exact details of the day will be communicated nearer to the event.

Finish painting the doors to the corridor and changing rooms and refill holes in wall	Re-paint the main bar and seating area, replace tiles and repair the plywood to the large pub style seating.
Skim with plaster, fix a mirror, paint behind the bar and finish off all other works behind the bar	Finish the final bit of tiling in the kitchen
Paint back wall of club house with Weather shield	Clear the rear of weeds and shrubs ready for the container
Fix sight screens	Fix mobile net
Pitch maintenance drag brush, roll, scarify, mow	Deploy Havering Construction College volunteers
Deploy BT volunteers	Provide a skip for the day to de-clutter the Club House
Artificial wicket maintenance	Club House to be tidied prior to the Nat West Cricket Force day
Clean the Carpet	Provide a light lunch for the day

### Chairman's Notes

Our club Chairman has a touch of swine flu at the moment and will include some notes in next month's newsletter. Let's all wish Graham a speedy recovery.

