



Rainham (Essex) Cricket Club

Founded 1896

Affiliated to Club Cricket Conference

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

April 2011 Newsletter

Playing Update

Indoor Cricket

3rd April 2011 - The final match in the indoor league was for the newly formed 'C' team who had to win against top of the table Seven Kings 'B' to keep their slim chances of staying in Division 2. Rainham lost the toss and Seven Kings decided to bat and they got off to a positive start running singles at every opportunity with a more than one of their batsman retiring on 25. Rainham only managed to take a couple of wickets as Seven Kings accumulated a very strong 130 runs.

Rainham then batted and we did not disgrace ourselves in chasing the required target with Dave Adkins and James Fuller both retiring on 25 and Rainham finishing on 80 after 12 overs. It is now possible that next season the 'A' team will be in Division 1, the newly promoted 'B' team in Division 2 and the likely to be relegated 'C' team will be in Division 3, the final results of these leagues are still awaited. As pointed out in the last Newsletter by our Chairman, we are looking to have a 'D' team next year in Division 4, which we are looking to be formed of 2 senior and 4 junior players. Thank you to James Fuller for all the organising and Captain's Ian Havard, Joe Sarro and Dan Skipper for another enjoyable indoor season.

Saturday 1st Team (James Fuller & James Mansfield)

23rd April v Belhus II - A stifling hot day greeted us for our first home game of the season at Spring Farm Park and there was a feeling of optimism and intrigue after our progress throughout the winter off the field. Club captain Jim Mansfield won the toss and unsure with how the pitch was going to play, put us in the field on a wicket that looked hard and extremely dry. Havard hit his straps early with some vicious swing and some real pace and took the first two wickets with absolute 'snorters'. Belhus dug deep and got to 80-2 before another wicket fell but some grafting mixed with good batting got them to 186-8 with Havard pick of the bowlers with 3-19. With a storm brewing and the light becoming poor Joe Sarro and Paul Collis got the reply off with 26 and 34 respectively. There were more contributions down the order from Hothi (32) Burr (23) and Patel (22) but were not good enough and RCC agonisingly lost by 2 runs. The amount of starts from 5 batsmen was extremely promising but the lack of a big contribution was a real blow and hope we can kick on in future.

30th April v Rayleigh II (The 'Rickygate' match – ask Jimbo) – We were pitted against our league rivals Rayleigh for a final friendly before the league games kicked in on the 7th. It was blowing a gale right across the wicket and in the hope the wind would die down (and still wanting to have a good look at how the newly laid pitch would play) I won the toss and sent the oppo in for a bat. Ian kicked proceedings off with a usual tight spell, removing both openers, the first was simply unplayable! With Fuller bowling a nice tight spell at the other end Rainham were in a good position to attack. Especially when their Captain had to retire hurt, soon after he arrived at the crease. It was then down to the middle order to knuckle down and graft some runs, which they did whilst also having a little ride on lady luck and taking advantage of only 10 fielders with Fuller off injured. Wickets continued to fall, but not as regular as Rainham would have liked and Rayleigh ended up posting a very obtainable 175. Notable performances go to the two Ricky's both playing their first games with Ricky Cooper claiming his first wicket for the club (1-24). Also of note were Joe Sarro 2-29 and Ian Havard 2-28. Rainham reverted back to their opening pair from last season of Paul Collis and Alex Sullivan who got off to a slow start following some tight bowling, yet they managed to get us to 80 runs without loss, where Alex fell to a full toss for 21. Paul

soon followed after scoring 56. The deck then fell apart and wickets tumbled like weeds after a Graham Thwaites joke. Jas was the only other batsman to contribute with a well grafted 36. We were eventually bowled for a modest 143 and left to reflect on another performance which left us feeling like we should have won. Although our first two games have been lost I think that both games have been very useful for me as a captain as I have been able to see the entire team bat and bowl and we have been able to have a good look at the wicket. I have also been able to mix things up a little and try some ideas out which has given me food for thought.

Saturday 2nd Team

23rd April v Abridge – This is the first time in many years that Rainham have managed to field 2 Saturday sides at this time of year and the 2nd team got their opening match under way at the very nice ground at Abridge. Captain Graham Thwaites won the toss and chose to bowl on a sweltering hot day. Good opening spells by Scott Foster and Reiss Sims kept things tight at the start of the innings with good support from Dan Skipper and a batsman friendly surface. The rot set in for Rainham once Captain Graham Thwaites and Peter Reynolds turning their arm over and being hit regularly to all 4 corners of the ground. Further good come back spells from Scott (2-45), Reiss (1-44) and Dan Skipper (3-45) could not prevent Abridge scoring 289-6 in their 40 overs.

Rainham lost the early wickets of Micky Callahan, Jack McMahon and Dan Skipper before Peter Reynolds (51) and Reiss Sims (32) consolidated taking Rainham to 130-3. Some big hitting from Jason Jarvis (32) and Paul Read (21) took Rainham to a respectable 210-9 at the end of their 40 overs.

30th April v Downham & Bellingham II – Another nice away friendly against Shepherd and Neame Kent League opposition Downham & Bellingham 2nds, with Rainham fielding a very young side with only 4 of their players over 21 years of age. Captain Thwaites again won the toss and this time elected to bat with openers Paul Read and Jack McMahon getting Rainham off to a flyer posting 21 from the first 2 overs. Paul Read was soon dismissed to a ‘peach’ of a ball and Jack soon following to a run out. None of the Rainham batsmen looked comfortable against some tight D & B bowling with 7 players reaching double figures and only Reiss Sims top scoring on 20 with Rainham finally being dismissed for 116.

A very young opening bowling attack of Kane White and George Light ensured that D & B had to work for their runs with excellent support from Jamie Adkins and Reiss Sims whom continued to make D & B struggle to score freely. Reiss finally made the breakthrough and then wickets went at regular intervals with Dan Skipper chipping in with a wicket, Kane taking 2 and Reiss further adding to his tally. D & B finally got to their total in 34 overs losing 5 wickets in the process in what was an excellent and encouraging fielding and bowling display from a very young team.

Footnote from this match – Everyone had turned up for the match but with 10 minutes to go before the start of the game Mickey Callaghan had yet to arrive and was also giving a lift to Reiss Sims. Jack McMahon sent a text to Reiss asking “Where are you?” to which Reiss’s reply was “In Mick’s car!!”

Notable performances during April

Batting

Peter Reynolds 51 v Abridge
Reiss Sims 32 v Abridge
Jason Jarvis 32 v Abridge
Paul Read 21 v Abridge

Bowling

Dan Skipper 3 for 45 v Abridge
Reiss Sims 2 for 16 v Downham & Bellingham
Kane White 2 for 40 v Downham & Bellingham
Scott Foster 2 for 45 v Abridge

Sunday 1st Team

17th April v Noak Hill - After a long autumn and winter lay off the first game of the outdoor season took place with a friendly at Noak Hill, with Sunday Captain Dan Skipper unavailable the reigns were handed over to Captain of the day Ian Havard. Rainham won the toss took to the field with two debutants Danny Sadai and Albi Birchmore in what looked like a very green bowler friendly wicket. Ian Havard and Jas Hothi opened the bowling with Ian dismissing Noak Hill’s opening bat with a ‘corker’ of a ball and Jas Hothi bowling a tight spell at the other end. Noak Hill consolidated and went on to 70 for 1 when Jamie Adkins then broke the partnership taking 2 quick wickets (only 23 to go Jamie). Alex Sullivan also bowled

an effective brief spell taking 3 wickets for 9 runs and Ian Foster also chipped in with a wicket in his first over. Noak Hill were finally bowled out for 134.

Joe Sarro and Albi Birchmore got Rainham off to a good start taking the score to 20 before both getting out chasing wide deliveries. Danny Sadai then struck a few hefty blows before being bowled and was shortly followed by Alex Sullivan out 'plumb' LBW. It appeared that this would be a typical Rainham struggle chasing a low score, although on a bowler friendly wicket. James Fuller and Jas Hothi then steadied the ship adding 40 runs before Jas went for 10 shortly followed by James for 43 and then Ian Foster for 4. Rainham were left on 101 for 7 with two fresh batsman Ian Havard and Peter Reynolds at the crease whom then took Rainham to victory with Ian and Peter scoring 10no and 23no respectively.

24th April v Chigwell – Dan Skipper was back as Captain in a game which will long be known as 'Kidbrokegate' (Ask Adrian). This match was against a strong Chigwell team with Rainham winning the toss (this seems to be the only thing we are winning at the moment) and choosing to bat. Kenny Sims got his season off to a good start scoring 41 and only Dan Skipper (10) could offer any kind of support against some tight bowling before finally being dismissed for 102 from 37 overs.

Rainham opened the bowling with the inexperience Tommy Gwillem who took a wicket from his first ball which must have shook the opposition. Dan Elliot also opened the bowling with his leg spin ending up conceding just 11 runs from his 4 overs. Chigwell comfortably went on to victory reaching their target in just 15 overs

A message from Skipper the 'Skipper'

"I am pleased that the team beat Noak Hill but was disappointed with the defeat to Chigwell, but praise to Kenny Sims for his 41 with the bat".

Notable performances during the month of April.

Batting

James Fuller 43 v Noak Hill

Kenny Sims 41 v Chigwell

Bowling

Peter Reynolds 3 for 4 v Noak Hill

Alex Sullivan 3 for 9 v Noak Hill

Youth Section

Under 16 – Friendly (James Fuller)

The first run out for the boys was approaching and we had to come across the might of Harold Wood in the friendly that was to break us in for the maiden league game for the under 15's on May 8th. New captain Daniel Elliott had a glint in his eye and smile on his face when we had won the toss and decided to field, but quickly turned to dismay as some awful fielding attributed to Harold Wood accumulating 334 all out off 30 overs with Harry Light pick of the bowlers with 2-32. It was good comeback from Rainham however from the 20th over mark in the field and with ball as some tight bowling from George Gough, Harry Light and Sam Russell keeping the score down. RCC donned the pads and went to war with willow and helmet against some county opening bowlers. Harry Light and Jack McMahon strode out with high hopes but were undone by some impressive bowling and the difference in age was clear to see as the ball whistled past the batsmen's noses. Not to be undone, Kieran Howard (22) and Ronnie Jackson (19) showed some ticker and batted well for a 49 partnership before a flurry of wickets contributed to RCC being bowled out for 80. After the game the boys voiced their thoughts and reflected on their games encouragingly with most agreeing that training was important for matches and to take what was learnt from training into a game. This shows how far the boys have come from last year and the maturity they are showing and wish them all the best for their first league game against Upminster A on 8th May. We are all sure you have what it takes to have a successful season.

Player Recruitment in Schools

Dave Joynes has arranged another assembly slot for the club to give a presentation to promote the cricket club at Parsonage School on the 16th May. Dave will be working on other primary schools in the area so

we can continue promote the club and establish links within all local schools. Keep up the good work Dave!

Funding & Fund Raising

Jack Petchey Achievement Award & Grassroots Funding

After reporting last month that funding seems more difficult to obtain a couple of opportunities have cropped up with the Jack Petchey Achievement Award and Grassroots funding being extended. If we are successful with these applications then we will be looking to buy a bowling machine and more equipment for training nights for the youth section.

Social Events

Dinner and Dance Photos

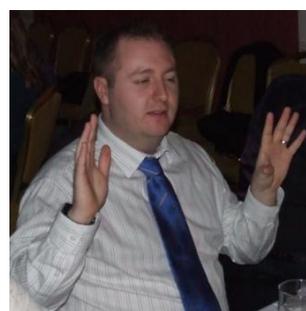
Below are some further photos from the dinner and dance, again thank you to Peter Allen for kindly offering his photography services and capturing some good moments during an excellent evening.



Sharon consoles Barry after our President had got over the shock of awarding an honours tie to our Club Chairman



Dr. Jack making an appearance at the dinner and dance and in action planning 2011's social events on the back of a fag packet



Hands up all those that think Manchester United and Rooney are dross



HOWZAT! Nathan keeps himself amused during the Chairman's speech



Jamie Adkins – to date the youngest recipient of a Rainham CC honours tie



Graham Thwaites – to date the jamiest recipient of a Rainham CC honours tie

Social Events - 2011

After the St George's Day celebrations other social events that will be taking place down the club will be a Quiz night, a Gentleman's evening (what could that be all about?), a golf day, a Casino night and finally President's day which will take place on Sunday 28th August. Actual dates of all social events will be communicated nearer the time.

Bar Licence

An extension to our Bar Licence has been requested for opening hours as follow: Monday 6pm to 9pm, Friday 6pm to 11pm, Saturday 12 noon to Midnight, and Sunday 12 noon to 11pm. A public notice has been published and if we do not receive any objections our new bar extension should be in place within the next couple of weeks.

General News

Nat West Cricket Force 2011 – 9th April 2011



The sun was shining for the Nat West Cricket Force day and was well attended with youngsters Scott McHugh, Kieran Howard, Ricky Cooper, Harry Light, Charlie Puncher, Bradley Manning, Brandon Honey, Jamie Adkins and Ronnie Jackson all taking part. A special mention to Scott McHugh (again) and Kieran Howard whom put in excellent shifts, being the first to arrive and some of the last to leave. Other attendees were Paul Collis, Albi Birchmore, Paul Read, Steve Jackson, Adrian Moon, Lisa Honey, Graham Thwaites, James Mansfield, Derek Sullivan, Jamie Adkins, Graham Burr, James Fuller, Alex Sullivan and finally Julie Kennelly who kept us all well fed and watered. The tasks that that were carried out on the day were washing down the changing rooms, finishing the painting to the changing room doors, painting the rear of the club house, decorating the bar area, finishing the painting in the kitchen, replacing broken ceiling tiles and finally painting the main social area in the club house. Graham Jelley the Essex CCC Development Officer also popped in to see how everything was going and gave the club 6 tickets for an Essex Pro40 game in July. A new flat screen TV with in-built Freeview was also installed. This was a successful day and was even better attended than last year so thanks to everyone that gave their time to these essential pre-season works to ensure that the club is in good order before the season starts. Special thanks to Alex and Derek Sullivan for co-ordinating the interior works, James Mansfield and Graham Burr for staying all day, Jamie Adkins, Ash Foster and Alison Sullivan for putting in some extra shifts and last of all to Ricky Cooper for taking the photographs.



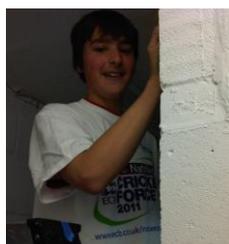
The rear of the club house at the start of the day



The Recorder Boys - Scott, our Chairman, Kieran, Ricky and veteran Graham Burr the outdoor painting team



The rear of the club house at the end of the day



Harry Light – adding some magical touches to the changing rooms



The Rainham CC Nat West Cricket Force team early starters with Graham Jelley the Essex CCC Development Officer



No you are not seeing things! Paul Collis getting stuck into the painting



Adrian Moon – predicting what his batting average will be for 2011



Inside the clubhouse at the start of the day



Derek Sullivan and Paul Read giving the bar a silver style service



Inside the clubhouse at the end of the day

Sharon Adkins & Ann Read – Cancer Research UK’s Race for Life

Sharon Adkins and Ann Read will be taking part in the Cancer Research UK’s Race for Life on 12th June, so if anyone wishes to sponsor them for this worthy cause, then just follow the details in the note from Sharon below.

Once again I'm taking part in Race for Life (12th June 2011) to raise money for Cancer Research UK’s life-saving work and would really appreciate your support.

Cancer Research UK is entirely funded by the public so whatever you can give really will make a difference.

If you can spare anything (even 50p) you can donate either online by credit or debit card at <http://www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/sharonadkins1505> or pop round and fill in a sponsor sheet! If you pay tax please tick the Gift Aid Box - with the £490 I have raised on-line in the past few years, over £130 has been added as Gift Aid, so it really does count.

Thank you so much - it means more to me this year than ever.

Lots of Love,
Sharon

Chairman’s Notes

Firstly I would like to thank the many players that have approached me and mentioned how inspired they were by my approach to captaincy in the second team. I am quite a shy person but told them as I tell you, it’s a God given talent and most of you will only ever dream of such vision and ability!!!

So far it’s been a real pleasure playing on Saturdays and our major aims this year are to blood our younger players into league cricket and ensure everybody totally enjoys the games each and every week. If we do this and manage to win a game or two, I will be delighted.

To watch the attitude on the field this year has been a real lift, all sides are approaching games with a great will to win but more importantly a desire to ensure they and their team mates enjoy the matches. Let’s hope this effort continues.

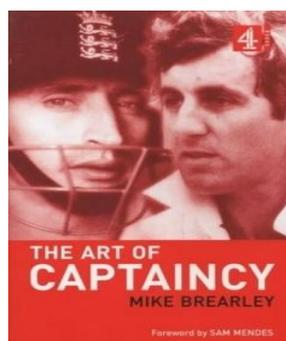
We also saw a good turn out on Nat West Cricket Force day with both youngsters & veterans alike turning out to polish up the club house.

As you will have noted we are applying for a later bar license. This is critical in allowing us to run regular social evenings and ramp up our fund raising. Adverts have been placed in local papers and you may have seen the announcements around the park. Other clubs in Havering have a late license in public parks so we hope to have good news.

Also I have just been informed that our own container will be delivered on Friday 13th at 7.30am. This allows us to lock away our grounds equipment and roller, as well as start using our side screens.

I have been informed that we are being scrutinized closely on our bar usage, please ensure that all members leave the park at 9.30pm [Closing time] in line with our current bar license.

Enjoy your cricket and see you at the club, it belongs to you!!



Nick (Graham) Thwaites