

## Friends of Arundel Castle Cricket Club Autumn Newsletter 2014



### **Friends and supporters,**

*“Plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose”*. Your Club has absorbed a great deal of change in personnel this year. Nevertheless life has continued much as before. To lose such fine servants of the Club as Alan Wadey and Joe Hudson in successive years could have been disruptive but such is the strength and stability of the legacy they have passed on that James Rufey and I have been able to take up the reins as part of a continuum.

The Club has generously shown its appreciation of the sterling work of both Alan and Joe at successive lunches and it has been very good to see them both regularly at matches during the year.

James has already made many friends amongst the membership and the wider circle of Cricket in Sussex and I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate him for the dedication and commitment he has already shown. His role requires a plurality of skills and he has both ably demonstrated and been commended by members for the speed at which he has settled into his duties.

I would also like to pay tribute to the unstinting work of the team supporting James (Johnny, Vanessa, Lee, Annie, Iain & Peter) who have all played their role in making the transition so smooth and of course to Jim for his heroic work in running the Club shop.

***John Stapleton***  
***Chairman***

## The 2014 Season

With wonderful crowds, fixtures and weather the 2014 season has been a real joy.

For once the weather was on our side and such rain as we had during the summer managed to avoid most match days and we lost just two complete fixtures against Oxford University and Northern Suburbs (Aus), though the ECB under 17 match was also badly affected by rain.

Our winter memories will be full of glorious days of sunshine with entertaining cricket. Is it just me or do we all feel a sense of peace and calmness when we arrive at the ground for a day's cricket?

The highlights of the year must be the excellent crowds and atmosphere for the Christopher Martin-Jenkins memorial match hosted by the Cricket Society, the Hong Kong match, the visit by the England Association of Deaf, I Zingari (which the Duke's X1 won!), Lady Mary's X1 and the England Visually Impaired team. These matches all included the wonderful characteristics of sportsmanship, spirit of cricket, high skill and a love for the game as a whole.



At the Sussex Festival the crowd numbers (over 14000 during the week) powerfully expressed the love within Sussex for their first class cricket at Arundel.

We will continue to work closely, and foster our relationships, with Sussex CCC and the Sussex Martlets to maintain the tradition of Sussex cricket at Arundel.

## Improving the Ground



*'This Autumn we have undertaken comprehensive works to the cricket square. Immediately after the season had finished the square was 'fraize mowed'. This process is similar to a conventional planning action and so leaves a firm base to play on next year after it has been seeded with dwarf rye grass cultivars and top dressed with Ongar loam.'*

*On 6th October work started on relaying one of the pitches. This involved removing 20cms of the existing soil and replacing it with 26 tons of Ongar loam. We were greatly relieved when we finished 5 days later as, by then, the good weather had broken and the ground conditions around the 'new' pitch were deteriorating. The pitch is seeded and covered in horticultural fleece to aid germination.*



*If the weather is kind and the grass grows strongly we would look at playing a low key club game there, possibly in 2016.*

*Thank you to Andy and Greg from Sussex CCC for all their help in this project.'*

Lee Farquhar,  
Head Groundsman

## **Membership Promotion**

We thank you for your membership with us and as we prepare for another season we would like to offer you the opportunity to promote our unique Club to your Friends, Colleagues and Families.

If you as a member introduce a new member to FACCC we will happily offer you a free lunch in the Pavilion on a match day as a thank you. The more members you recruit the more free lunches you will receive! Thanks so much for your support.

### **Christmas Lunch with guest speaker** **Peter Baxter - Friday 12th December 2014**

Many of you will be familiar with the voice of Peter Baxter, who joined the BBC in September 1965 after a spell in British Forces Broadcasting. Peter first worked on Test Match Special in 1966, and produced it from 1973-2007.

In tandem with his work on cricket he was also the rugby union producer for eight years and the University Boat Race producer throughout the 1980s.

Peter co-ordinated the BBC's cricket coverage from every one of the Test-playing nations, and has also frequently been part of the commentary team himself. Baxter commentated on the end of the 1992 World Cup Final between England and Pakistan in Melbourne

We are delighted that he has been able to take the time out to talk to us at the Members' Christmas Lunch on Friday 12th December and look forward to hearing him speak then.

## **New Year Talk**

We are delighted to announce that we will be having an informal talk (similar to Johnny Barclay's) between our Christmas and Spring Lunches.

Andy Mackay, Head Groundsman at Sussex CCC, (ably assisted by our Head Groundsman, Lee) will be giving a talk on 'Breaking New Ground'. A relaxed, funny and detailed view of Cricket from the eyes of top groundsman. If you are interested in attending this talk (date t.b.c.) please email [james@arundelcastlecricket.co.uk](mailto:james@arundelcastlecricket.co.uk)

During the Festival, Sussex managed an evenly balanced draw against the eventual Championship winners and lost to Somerset in the T20. The Festival concluded with Sussex Women against Kent Women in front of a crowd of over 500. First class women's cricket has developed so much over the last decade and is ideally suited to the environment at Arundel.

**As we look forward to 2015**, we would like to make your membership at Arundel Castle even more special. Reciprocal days with other similar business partners (such as Plumpton Racing) are being explored and our members are entitled to 15% discount on all food & accommodation at The Swan in Arundel - we will be producing a special card for this.

Following our successful Wine Tasting evening in July, members can expect many similar events, the aim being to become more of an all-year-round club. The Johnny Barclay Talk will have happened by the time you receive this Newsletter but I have no doubt that it will have been a fun occasion.

Other plans in the pipeline include:

- building on our excellent holiday coaching schemes for young people - we will be offering coaching sessions for children aged 5+ years during term time (midweek and Saturday mornings);
- securing further links with local businesses;
- growing our links with Arundel Town as a whole. The Michael Morpurgo talk was a great success and we look forward to further activities in conjunction with the Arundel Festival. We also hosted an Arundel Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting, which was very well received by all its members;
- improving the ground - major works on our cricket square have already begun;
- delivering more regular information to our members via email.

Arundel Cricket draws in the most wonderfully generous benefactors and sponsors. No review would be complete without my expressing our thanks and recognition of the match sponsors for their generosity:

- Nigel and Tess Wood
- Zaiwalla & Co, Solicitors
- The Mezze Group
- Sir Tim Rice
- Thales

Finally, I would like to thank all our **new** business supporters - we are enormously grateful for their input and encouragement.

**Thesis Asset Management plc** – Chichester

**Blue Spire Accountants** - Chichester

**Travel Places** - Worthing

**Allfields Finance** – Bognor Regis

**Winners Sports** – Bognor Regis

**Game, Set & Match** - Chichester

**Mezze** - Bristol

**Zaiwalla & Co. Accountants** - London

**Spofforths** - Chichester

**Caffyns** – Sussex & Kent

**The Swan** – Arundel

**Rolys Fudge** – Arundel

**Brooklands Barns** – Arundel

**Hennings Wine**- Pulborough & Chichester

**Arundel Brewery**

**The Loft Shop** - Chichester

**Durant Cricket**- Nationwide

**7 Ways Production Photography** – Bognor Regis

## **The Future**

Our aim is to continue to provide high class entertaining cricket in front of our marvellous crowds who love the traditions and ambience of cricket at Arundel. Just as vinyl records and fountain pens still thrive in the digital technological age so can traditional cricket in an era when shorter forms of the game have become more prevalent.

To secure this future we have refreshed the square and also laid a new pitch for first class cricket all of which will help sustain cricket at one of the most picturesque grounds in the world.

Thank you for your wonderful support this summer.

*James Rufey*  
*Executive Secretary*

## The Arundel Castle Cricket Foundation



It is now 28 years since the Foundation was formed to give an important charitable purpose to the club which Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk had so imaginatively established in 1975.

Since then, thousands of young people have benefited from our lovely ground and cricket school which have provided the backdrop for our work with the young.

Initially, we were motivated by the lack of sporting activity in schools; then we turned to the deprivation experienced in the inner city boroughs and, more recently in the last ten years, to the needs of those disadvantaged by special needs requirements and disabilities.

Arundel has become a haven in the Sussex countryside for groups of young people for whom life is a real struggle. The combination of activities on our ground with visits to attractions such as the castle and seaside have been a winning formula and one which has attracted support from many generous and like-minded institutions.

2014 has been as successful and happy a year as any - hundreds of lives enhanced by the imaginative scheme of club and Foundation operating together to maximise the social benefit and impact of one of the world's most beautiful and well-known cricket grounds.



***John Barclay***  
***Director of Cricket***



Enclosed with this Newsletter:

Christmas Lunch Application

50 Club Application Form

200 Club Application Form

2015 Membership Renewal

(if you are a Life Member or pay by Direct Debit,  
please ignore this document)

We are very grateful to Mr. Charles Hunt and  
Blue Spire Accounting for their support with this Newsletter.

