

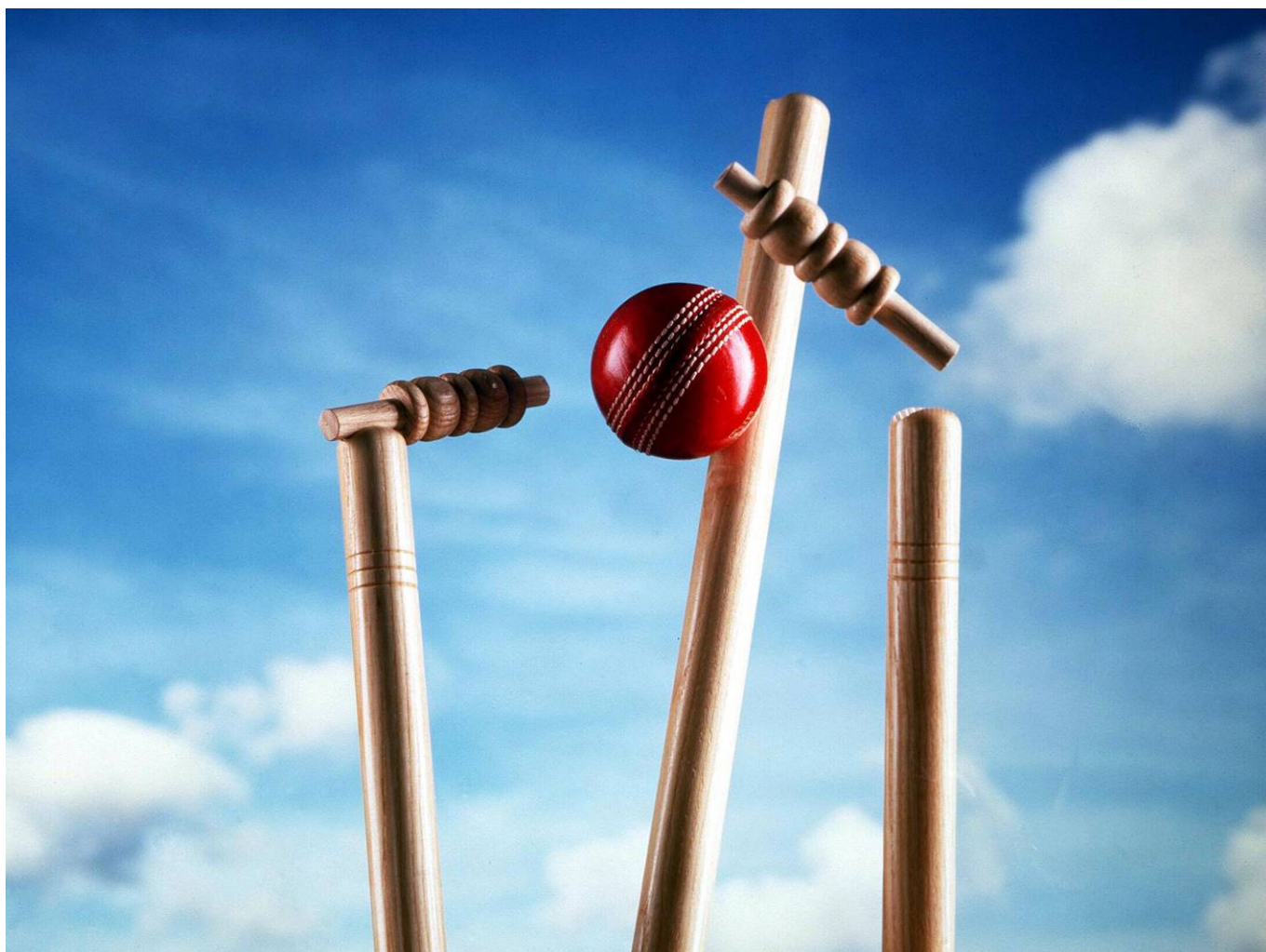
# BEAR FLAT CRICKET CLUB

## Pre-Season Newsletter 2019

APRIL 2019

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### The Nightwatchman



Welcome to the April 2019 issue of The Nightwatchman, BFCC's newsletter.

You can catch up with news of The Bears in between newsletters by following us on Facebook, Twitter or by accessing the club website: <http://www.bearflatcc.org.uk/>. If you don't use social media, but would like to stay in touch, email [comms@bearflatcc.org](mailto:comms@bearflatcc.org) to be added to our mailing list.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions on the content of the newsletter, please send your feedback to [comms@bearflatcc.org](mailto:comms@bearflatcc.org).

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## Club Roundup – Club Captain - Simon Cox



I reflect on last season with mixed feelings. The disappointment of the Saturday XI relegation being the low point, but the All Stars success was a refreshing tonic, together with the new faces in the Sunday XI.

Our Club remains in a strong position and with further new additions in 2019 I am sure we can regroup and put last year's disappointment behind us.

So we must look forward to 2019. We welcome back Ross Newman to the Saturday XI and healthy numbers at nets bodes well for the season ahead. For a second successive year we will run the All Stars programme and we are also looking to build on this with a possible extension of the number of weeks to continue momentum. A sub team of Fi Isaacs, Eddie Kane & myself are looking at Youth Cricket in the Club and we hope to share plans in the near future.

The Glasshouse remains an exciting project of which that we want to be part. A new groundsman has been appointed and we hope to see some immediate benefits. However the real benefits will be in the medium term with the wicket needing time to improve. A new roller has been purchased and will be housed at the ground and we may be able to use it ourselves to improve the playing surface.

A social calendar of events is included in this newsletter and those events are really important for the Club to be able to keep its profile. I appreciate we cannot all make all events but I would ask playing and associate members to make every effort to attend them. It really does make a difference. We pride ourselves on the social side of our Club.

I hope you have all wintered well and I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

## Cricket Roundup - Mark Gunning, Saturday XI Captain



After the disillusionment of the 2018 campaign, the Saturday XI have 'just about' recovered, 'certainly' regrouped and are in the 'process' of reassessing what their targets and aspirations as a group are.

Life in Division 2 will see the team renew old acquaintances (Swindon United Church, Swindon NALGO, Beehive Southwick) and begin new friendships in the form of WEPL 2<sup>nd</sup> XL outfits - Goatacre, Biddestone and Warminster. It is a real shame that we won't be rekindling rivalries with Bath Hospitals who have folded after many years of participation.

As a club who have come very close in recent years to succumbing to the same fate I can sincerely empathise with the management of the Hospitals - surely now the authorities both locally and nationally must listen to the concerns of the 'smaller' club.

In brighter news we welcome back Ross Newman from his sabbatical in Midsomer Norton and to Bath University students; Ashiwn, Yasir and Dreuvh. It is hoped that by deepening the squad we will be relying less on club legends to get us out of selection holes!

Really looking forward to getting going now and here's to another great year as Bear Flat CC Saturday XI Captain.

## Club Secretary – Outgoing Chris Bence, Incoming Fi Isaacs



Chris decided after many years in the role it was time to hang up his ipad and concentrate on the finer things in life, in the guise of forthcoming parenthood. Always one to look to the future, a succession plan in mind, Chris collared Fi at her birthday party to discuss transference of responsibilities. After several glasses of prosecco and feeling God was in his heaven and all was right with the world, in a moment of weakness Fi agreed to replicate the role she had held on the management committee more years ago than she cares to remember. With the imminent arrival of young Noah Bobby Bence, Chris was delighted to have found a replacement Club Secretary, and almost immediately began writing his change management plan, in his head at least.

Fi's only salvation was if a) someone else wanted to do it or b) she didn't get voted in at the AGM. Given neither of those events occurred, and so The Bears now have a new Club Secretary.

"Times have changed a bit since I last did this! Chris has done an amazing job and deserves a well-earned rest, if nothing else so he can concentrate on his batting. Not much will change, I will probably get a few things wrong to start with, so be patient with me! I will be doing my best....."

The Club is truly grateful to Chris to everything he has done for The Bears, both on and off the pitch, and know he will be as successful in his new role as Noah's dad as he is at the crease.

## Dates for the Diary 2019

### Friday 12 April at 7.30pm

BFCC Annual Quiz Challenge  
Devonshire Arms

### Saturday 11 May – 29 June at 09:00 – 09:45

All Stars Programme for 5-8 year olds  
The Glasshouse

### Friday 19 April (Good Friday) at (TBA)

BFCC Annual Cider Ramble  
Meet at:  
Back at the Devonshire Arms – Reggae Band -

### Sunday 21 April at 14:00

Pre-Season friendly v Hampsett Cricket Club  
Hampsett ground

### Sunday 28 April at 14:00

Pre-Season friendly v Babbington House  
Babbington

### Friday 11 – Monday 14 October

Tour to Valencia, Spain

**Saturday 16 November at 7:30pm**

BFCC Annual Dinner  
Bath Cricket Club

**Dates to be confirmed**

- BFCC Race Night

**Club Umpires – Ted MacKenzie, Eddie Kane and Rich Bahadoor**

Ted Mackenzie



Eddie Kane



Rich Bahadoor

Umpire Ted Mackenzie has some new information following on from the Umpire Forum he recently attended. "Our slow bowlers will be pleased to know that bowling a full toss above waist high is no longer automatically considered to be dangerous. It is still a no ball, but it is the bowler's end umpire's decision as to whether the delivery is dangerous and warrants a warning. Obviously a Woody special is still likely to be considered dangerous but a Parkin dolly drop is not. If the umpire thinks a beamer is deliberate there is no warning and the captain will be asked to remove the bowler from the attack.

For the purposes of clarity, and for those in the team under 25 whose attire tends to have more in common with the hipster jeans of the sixties than the vintage skinny fit destroyer styles, the definition of "waist" has been clarified to be the top of the batsman's trousers when worn in the normal position.

If a bowler accidentally hits the stumps with the ball in his hand as he is about to bowl it is still a no ball but if the non-striker is out of his ground and there is an appeal the player will be given out.

These guys do an awesome job for the club season on season, but we are always looking for others to take up the white coat, umpire wise as opposed to psychiatry wise, although there are potential similarities for sure. If anyone is interested in training to be an umpire, and would be prepared to give up a couple of Saturdays, or indeed Sundays, Captains Gunning and Cull would welcome you with open arms. Why not chat to Umpire Ted and find out if you are man, or indeed woman, enough for the job?

**Annual Dinner 2018**

The prestigious Annual Dinner was held in November at Bath Cricket Club. It was a truly memorable night, with great food, great company and fine wines.

No dinner would be complete without the award ceremony.....



Saturday XI Bowler - Shreyas Malhotra



Saturday XI Batsman, Players' Player and Clubman – Mark Gunning



Sunday XI Batman – Ross Newman



Sunday XI Players' Player – Damien Cull



Saturday XI Captain's Player - Sam Vesey



Andy Isaacs All rounder – Jay Morris

(If Jay wins this next year Fi says she will stand on a box for the photoshoot)



Ted's champagne moments – Sam Vesey



Ted's champagne moments – George Ellis



Ted's champagne moments – Chris Bence



Just One More Year – Mark Gunning



Infamous Teas Team



Scorer's Reward....



Scorer's Reward....



Welcoming the latest umpiring addition



Lifetime Member – Dave Godman



Lifetime Member – Dave Godman

## 200 Club

The 200 has been a run-away (excuse the pun!) success! There are still plenty of spaces left though, so get your form to George (my boy) Ellis to participate! Income since the 200 Club started - £6,160, and a phenomenal £3000 paid out in prizes! Top 3 Winners:

Mark Gunning - £310

Ted Mackenzie - £300

Michael Smyth - £200

## Easy Fund Raising



EasyFundRaising (EFR) ([www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)) helps The Bears raise much needed funds. It works by paying the club a donation every time you shop online via the easyfundraising site. The retailers included in the list are those you would expect to see – Amazon, Apple, BT, John Lewis, Debenhams, Tesco, Thomas Cook, booking com – the list is endless! In fact over 3,100 retailers participate in the scheme. You pay exactly the same price for your goods or services, and the retailer pays the donation fee. The big brands love this as it gives them lots of positive public relations at a reasonable cost, plus their donations are tax deductible. To date EFR has raised over £22 million for good causes – so get shopping online and raise funds for The Bears! It is a really simple way to raise funds, takes less than 5 minutes to register, and could make all the difference to the club. To date the EFR fund has raised £130.24 for The Bears. ***If you haven't already signed up, please do so and raise money for the club at no expense to yourself!***

## 2019 All Stars Programme

Following an incredibly successful first season participating in the All Stars Programme, The Bears are following this up with a year 2 foray. All Stars 2019 is set to launch on Saturday 11 May, 09:00 – 09:45, and run for eight weeks. The programme is designed for 5-8 year olds. The lead activator is the talented Mr Gunning, ably supported by the equally talented but more modest Mr Ebdon.

In 2018 The Bears signed 32 All Stars. At the date of publication we have signed 15, the majority of which are returners from last year, which is great testimony to the coaching of Mark and Andy, and all the support given by other players and non-playing members from the club. With six more weeks to go, we are confident of more sign-ups.

It is hoped with the building of the new facilities at The Glasshouse, The Bears will be in a position in the 2020 season to launch an official youth side (under 9's). In preparation for this, a sub committee has been set up (Eddie Kane, Simon Cox, Fi Isaacs) to formalize the club's youth team strategy and implementation plan. The side will be called The Bear Cubs, and the All Stars programme is being extended until the end of July under The Bear Cubs banner. Watch this space, and if you are able to help in any capacity on Saturday mornings with the All Stars, please contact the All Stars Support Team manager, Simon Cox ✉ [simonjcox100@gmail.com](mailto:simonjcox100@gmail.com) or ☎ 07764 340455.

## Club Members – News

### Noah (Bobby) Bence



Noah Bobby Bence was born on 14 January (sharing a birthday with the late, great Andy Isaacs, which hopefully bodes well for his cricketing potential) at the RUH, weighing in at a healthy 8lbs. A couple of months on and Bence Jnr. has nearly doubled in weight thanks to his no-nonsense approach to feeding and general lack of mobility. Mum, dad and baby are all doing well, with Noah even occasionally allowing his parents some sleep. Rumours that Bencey is already giving Noah throw-downs have been somewhat exaggerated...

## Management Committee

We are lucky to have a management committee with a wealth of experience, not only of Bear Flat CC but of the game in general. We welcome to the committee Ross Newman, Jack Mainwaring and Jay Morris.

## Annual General Meeting

The Club's AGM was held in February, after being postponed from January due to the snowy conditions. The previous meetings' accounts and minutes were signed off. A brief summary of decisions made is below:

- The subscriptions and match fees remain unchanged;
- Concessionary match fee of £5 agreed for those in full time education;
- Nets will be charged at £3, concessionary fee of £2 for those in full time education;

- Officers elected en bloc, new appointment of Club Secretary Fi Isaacs, and Saturday XI Vice Captain Ross Newman.
- Agreement to share the Saturday XI Vice Captain with Jay Morris will be endorsed at the next management committee meetin.
- Card reader will be purchased to assist with collecting match fees etc

Topics discussed included:

- Progress at The Glasshouse;
- All Stars Programme;
- Youth team;
- Pre-season friendlies – Saturday 21 April v Hampsett (away) and Sunday 28 April v Babbington (away).

A full set of minutes will be sent out once they have been compiled.

## BFCC Clothing

It is now possible to buy BFCC endorsed clothing from O'Neills.



For details of what is available, check out our site: <https://www.oneills.com/shop-by-team/cricket/bear-flat-cc.html>. Remember Christmas is coming – time to get some new gear!

## Communications

Please keep in touch via the [BFCC Website](#), [BFCC Facebook](#) or [BFCC Twitter](#).

If you like this newsletter, please share and tell your friends! If you don't, please tell us! Suggestions for improvement to this newsletter, the website or facebook page, always welcome.

If you have anything you would like to bring to the attention of the club, please send by email to [comms@bearflat.org.uk](mailto:comms@bearflat.org.uk).