Naunton Cricket Club

A new season is about to begin with some changes to the normal format. Charlie Hanks has stepped down from his position as club Captain and we thank him for his nine years of dedication to what is a difficult task. He is to be replaced by four Captains which we hope will:-

A._Lighten their burden

B. Provide a greater pool of players to select from.

Survival of Village Cricket is becoming more and more taxing with fewer teams playing, all finding it difficult to find players who will travel to away games.

On a positive note I am pleased to report that the financial position of the club is still very good although expenditure, this season, will be greater than last.

Arthur Mitchell was made annual president having dedicated hundreds of hours keeping score.

This calendar year has already brought the death of Cathy Turton, having been ill for a lengthy period of time. She was mightily involved in establishing the club and the ground in the early 1980's. The Ladies v Men's match on Sunday May 28th is to be dedicated to her memory.

Many thanks to Penny, our esteemed secretary, who, circulated a letter to most households in the village which covers many of the points raised in my report and a copy is included for you to see if you have not already done so.

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NAUNTON CRICKET CLUB

We would like your support

Village cricket is an important part of rural life and we are fortunate in Naunton to still have a cricket club and a beautiful pitch. However, in order to sustain this valuable tradition, we do need the support not only of people who play and watch cricket, but also all the other people in the village who want to try and ensure that the club prospers and the recreation ground continues to be maintained in its present state to be enjoyed by all.

We again invite all Naunton residents and Club supporters from outside Naunton to join up as Social or Playing Members at an annual cost of £10 per person. Members are invited to attend matches and NCC social events and enjoy the social side of cricket — NCC is a great way to meet up with people — and spend an hour or two in company. Please complete the form at the bottom of the page and return it either to The Black Horse Inn or Spring Barn (opposite Manor) — cheques payable to 'N.C.C.'

In addition, Social Members are entitled to a free cup of tea and sandwich/piece of cake (after players have eaten of course) when they attend our matches. Please let our tea ladies know that you are a Social Member when asking for your tea.

N.B. - Sustaining a Cricket Club and finding teams against whom to play is becoming increasingly difficult — we have adopted a new system this year by appointing four Captains in order to spread the work load and would ask you please to contact Penny Hanks 01451 850459 or penelopehanks@aol.com or any of the Captains detailed on the enclosed Fixture Card if you would like to do any of the following:

(a) play cricket — either regularly or on an occasional basis (b) help with umpiring or scoring (c) help with a tea. If you don't tell us — we don't know so please contact us.

If you would like your membership to continue on an annual basis, it would help with administration if you could set up a Standing Order in favour of the Cricket Club so that your membership automatically rolls over from year to year. Please contact Penny Hanks if you would like to do this.

We are holding our legendary Ladies v. Incompetent Men's match on Sun 28 May in memory of Cathy Turton who was a major force in establishing the cricket ground and the Club in the early 1980's . Lady players play gentlemen who do not normally play cricket ably assisted by some young players. This match has become a most enjoyable village event and everyone is welcome. Please complete the relevant section below if you would like to take part in the Match.

Dog Fouling: Finally, we would **implore** dog-owners to ensure that their dogs do not foul either the pitch nor the children's play area – this request includes asking people not to allow their dogs to run unaccompanied on the recreation ground so that faeces are not collected.

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