

Stock Cricket Club Newsletter

12 July 2008



Dear Club member,

We have just passed the halfway point in the season and so thought it apt that we bring you up to date with all the news from Stock Cricket Club. Following some inclement weather, variable pitches and inconsistent performances, news is mixed! Unfortunately the First XI is not having the best of seasons in the Premier Division, and despite a very strong batting line-up, it is currently misfiring. There is still a long way to go however, and impressive performances against Hatfield Peveral and Aythorpe Roding should provide some confidence. The Second XI is prospering under the captaincy of Steve Morley and is successfully combining the wisdom and experience of the likes of Colin Tant and Paul Fielding with a host of youthful exuberance and sit in the upper levels of Division 6. Promotion is definitely within sight! Perhaps the greatest success of the summer so far is the re-emergence of the Third XI however. Thanks to the hard work of Kenneth Hodges and Chris Trower, the Thirds, made up largely of under-18s, are putting in some good performances and could also be seeking promotion. As Chris departs for the US we thank him for his all round 'clubman' performance and wish him well. Two teams also operate on a Sunday, and although the Firsts have struggled in a newly formed league against strong opposition, the Seconds again represent a successful combination of youth and 'experience'. Graham Boxer's Mid-Week XI perhaps contains more experience than youth but also highlights the current success and popularity of the club. Further highlights for those of you who haven't been able to make it to the Common yet this year include Jon Lewis' masterful 149*, Jake Hiskett's unorthodox yet highly destructive opening innings for the Second XI, and the development of a number of the younger members in the club who are now performing well at senior level.

Off the field the club is prospering too. A highly successful tour to North Yorkshire took place at the end of June. 'Tour' may not have been the most suitable description since only one game was played... 'visit' may be a better description! However, we did win our one game against Matt Westwood's Bolton Percey on a lovely scenic ground just outside of York. Obviously we would love to tell you more, but 'what goes on tour stays on tour' unfortunately!

Fundraising is also going well, and special mention should go to Ted Woodgate for organising a Euro 2008 sweepstake. Begrudgingly I inform you that Dave Wharram was the eventual winner. We're all very happy for him! Westers continues to organise the Stock CC Fantasy Cricket league, and the mid-season result *should* be released soon.

We also thank Michael Mellany of *M Estates* and Keith Nicholls of *Wise Beds* for their generous sponsorship and all those who have sponsored boundary flags. Just a reminder that the bar is manned from 6 in the evening so please do come down and join us for a beer or a glass of wine and (hopefully) watch some excellent cricket! If the cricket doesn't quite fit the bill, hopefully the social environment of the bar will!

A final note of thanks should go to Ross Holland for all of his hard work in redesigning the Stock CC website. Please do all visit www.stockcc.co.uk for match reports, upcoming fixtures, photos of some of the Stock CC all-stars and a host of other features. It is a work in progress, so feedback is always welcome! And if you would like to follow the ups and downs of all three teams please visit www.trippon.cricket.btinternet.co.uk for the T Rippon league tables.

That just leaves us to inform you of President's Day on 27 July 2008, when Woody's team take on a select Stock CC XI. Both teams look strong, suggesting that it should be a good game, so please feel free to come along and watch!

We hope to see you soon,

Matt & Steve