

The 'Grass Cutters' Blog November 2023

News

It is with some regret that my first piece of news is that our trusted servant for the last eighteen years, and our great friend' Dennis is going into semi retirement. To some of the club members he may not be well known but to the grounds team he has been a trusted and hard working friend through thick and thin, despite the abuse from some of us very amateur grass cutters The good news is that he is not leaving the club but will be here to assist the new addition to our team, Allen. Allen has not come cheap however, commanding a significant transfer fee from our near neighbours at Shinnars Bridge. A significant proportion of this fee has been provided by the ECB who are keen to help us to clean up our act; because to be honest Dennis is partial to a regular drink (of petrol that is!)



Dennis (without his teeth in)



The New Kid on The Block – Introducing Allen (Aka the Allett)

Allen is multi functional, coming with a couple of little helpers to cut and clean the square and prepare the pitches. We hope to add a couple of other helpers in the future when the committee get over the shock of the bill for these guys.

Allen will however have to wait for a few weeks to go through his paces until the ground dries out, probably March at this rate!

End of Season Refurbishments

Despite the weather we managed to find a small window to do a reduced renovation to the square and had the benefit of a very rare sighting of a fine example of a Great Thatcher (our illustrious Chairman Nick) who was tempted out of the bar in the early Autumn sun to do some aeration on the square.



As storms Babet and Ciaran came in, the maintenance team retreated to the machine hut to give it a much needed clean out (as well as drinking copious amounts of tea and coffee)!

Despite the storms best efforts we emerged relatively unscathed other than the batting cage being taken on an unscheduled tour of the ground.

The trials to assist the spin bowlers to get some deviation in balls by putting some brick ends on a length have been abandoned as Snips didn't manage to hit a length all year!

Appeal for Help



As ever I will take this opportunity to appeal to our members to get involved in whatever way they are comfortable. Our volunteers are at the core of our club and the grounds team support it in so many ways and we always happy to accept help.

Yes we cut grass (and we have plenty of it) but we also need people to

- paint stuff,
- clean and maintain our machines, equipment and buildings
- look after planting
- clear rubbish
- Etc; Etc.

Oh yes and prepare for cricket matches'

- Prepare pitches (despite what some of the players may think!)
- Put covers on the pitch to keep the ran off and water when it doesn't
- Position boundary ropes
- Move sight screens
- Repair pitches both during and after matches

It really isn't rocket science if we can do it, anyone can- but don't quote me on that. Come and join us, Dennis, Allen, Scag and Iseki.

The cricket teams have had exceptional success over the last two years and we want to support this development but with the grounds team now down to just two, with a combined age approaching 150!! we need help now. So if you like like to contribute a few hours a week, in whatever capacity why not contact the club and come have a chat with one of the team, over a cuppa or a pint!