

The 'Grass Cutters' Blog December 2023

I suppose a better title this month would be 'The Grumpy Grass Cutter Blog' because we have been forced off the playing area by persistent rain and our new toys remain unused, even though the grass has continued to grow.

You have probably noticed that the ongoing refurbishment of the clubs facilities saw the replacement of the lighting along the driveway, which is very welcome in guiding us home after a few pints on these dark nights!

The next phase of the major refurbishment works to our facilities are now focusing on the practice nets which are starting to show their age and are becoming dangerous. From my days of coco matting dropped over a concrete slab, the specification for practice nets has moved on significantly and the committee have agreed to invest in the latest, ECB (English Cricket Board) approved, facilities. Bob Hyde is driving this forward with the aim of having these installed before the new season training starts. So keep your eyes out for these.

Our reputation as an important facility in the area has resulted in us being invited to host a Primary Schools Cricket Tournament next year (possibly in April), so keep your eyes open for more news on this.

Meanwhile preparations for the festive season have continued apace with Snow White trying to keep her little helpers going with significant liquid refreshments and rather risqué quizzes, much to the amusement to the older visitors to the cave!

Sleeping Beauty, Doc and Bashful are doing their best to keep up with her OTT enthusiasm for the festive season as they toil to satisfy the unquenchable demands from the pesky customers who insist in keeping coming in and spoiling their Xmas cheer. Bashful in particular appears to find it difficult to focus on the strange customers of the strange land particularly after being awarded an award, I think, for the worst haircut of the year despite his recent attempts to tame it.

Sleeping Beauty continues to surprise many particularly when she got a question at the quiz right. Her specialist subject Canine Breed identification has recently led to the sad demise of the three pigs when she mistook a wolf for Labrador. Her reputation has been enhanced by the recent award of the Smoothest helper in the cave.

Doc, being the fountain of all knowledge is constantly in demand for advice (particularly financial and gastronomic) and a sort after quiz team member has not distracted him from retaining his title of Dwarf of the year. But given the competitionetc etc.

Sneezy has been toiling away in the kitchen concocting his brews for the festivities whilst satisfying the dwarves insatiable appetite for brunch particularly during the recent work party clearing the picnic benches.

The annual reappearance of Cinderella to help Snow White with the cave decorations wasn't a disappointment with the tree a triumph again, this despite her

Prince Charming being out of action with a significant case of Man Flu, but rest assured the grass will keep until he is fit for action again wielding his strimmer.

One of the highlights of the festivities will be the annual Christmas Quiz night on the 21st December which will, we hope, give Dopey an opportunity to refocus away from the troubles at the far off land of Old Trafford to once again stretch the knowledge of all (with the exception of The Doc) in Aid of Rowcroft. A small note of thanks here for the question masters who have concocted the quiz questions and largely kept order

through out the year and also the supporters of the book sale, which was only launched in August this year and has raised around £80 towards the appeal. Who knew we had so many members who could read!

The biggest challenge of the night will of course be the annual spectacle of St Nick trying to wrestle the cheque out the grasp of Scrooge..... good luck with that!

It just remains for me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and as always the message for the New Year from your Grumpy Grounds team, come and join us and finally..... 'STAY OFF THE BL*****DY GRASS'.

For the confused, Cast:-

Snow White	Fi
Sleeping Beauty	Em
Doc	Simon
Bashful	Sam
Sneezy	Craig
Cinderella	Kym
Prince Charming	Mike
Dopey	Christian

Scrooge and St Nickgo on have a guess!

