



The Horse's Mouth

July 2020

Welcome!

After a difficult and uncertain few months, we are delighted that the club is up and running again this summer.

Cricket is back and the bar is open again (with some important safety measures in place) so we look forward to seeing some familiar faces at the club again in the coming weeks.

This month's episode of *The Horse's Mouth* features the usual news and events and a feature on the club's successful charity fundraiser.

Get Social:

Keep up-to-date with all things FCC by following our pages on Social Media.



@findoncc

Getting Social this Summer

With the shutters of Gee Gee's bar closed firmly shut due to Covid-19, we've had to improvise to make sure our members have stayed suitably sociable this spring/early summer.

Who knew "Zoom" was even a thing before this year?? Many of us became very familiar with the platform during Lockdown and have enjoyed several Quiz & Bingo Nights to help keep spirits up – a big thanks to Harry & Charl, Brad & Elsie, Simon Cairns, Kat Chapman & Dave "Kenny" Everett for all hosting very enjoyable evenings!



Cricket returns..!!

After a long period without cricket, PM Boris finally decided that a cricket ball is not a “vector for disease” after all and we were given the green light to get back to action.



Cricket returned on 11th July and at the time of writing we have played 11 senior matches (friendlies and the Sussex Slam); winning 4 of them.

There may be sanitation breaks every 6 overs and no changing rooms or teas but it's fantastic to have cricket back at Long Furlong after such a difficult and uncertain time.

August sees the return of competitive cricket in the form of the 'August Cup'. We have 3 teams entered in groups of 6 which are aligned by location and broad ability level, with a finals event for group winners in early September.



Upcoming Senior Fixtures (August Cup)

1st August

1st XI at home vs Littlehampton

2nd XI away vs Pagham

3rd XI away vs Rustington

8th August

1st XI away vs Broadwater

2nd XI at home vs Clymping

3rd XI vs Bosham

15th August

1st XI at home vs Slinfold

2nd XI away vs Arundel

3rd XI away vs Broadwater

22nd August

1st XI away vs Steyning

2nd XI at home vs Eastergate

3rd XI vs Chippingdale

29th August

1st XI at home vs Henfield

2nd XI away vs Aldwick

3rd XI away vs West Wittering

Charity Fundraiser

£3,348 raised for 3 local charities!

Throughout June and in the absence of any cricket, we at FCC challenged ourselves to run, walk or cycle to reach a combined effort of 4000 miles whilst attempting to raise £1,867 (the year the club was founded) in the process for **Chestnut**



Tree House, St Barnabas House and Sussex Cricket Foundation.

At the end of June, we had almost doubled our initial target with a total of 7,852 miles - a distance that would take you from our club to Bali eastwards, or Buenos Aires to the South.

We had 84 club members, ranging in age from 15 to 70+, undertaking a total of 1,365 activities throughout the month whilst also inspiring 133 other participants from other clubs across Sussex (Goring Cricket Club, West Chiltington & Thakeham Cricket Club & West Wittering Cricket Club).

We saw some standout achievements on our very own 'Super Saturday' (20th June), with Ryan Meighan completing his first ever marathon in 3hrs 44mins; Harry Herbert

cycled 90 miles in one day from Box Hill to Dorking; Jon Godden walked round 5 cricket clubs totalling 17 miles ; and Denise Wadeson ran 33 miles from 8am Saturday morning to 7am Sunday morning as she completed a mile (or more) on the hour, every hour.

As well as bringing us all together to achieve a common goal, regular exercise benefited many participants both physically and mentally. On top of all this, most importantly we've raised £3,348 for the three local charities close to our hearts.

17 year old, Josh Lambert, who covered 281 miles throughout the month, said "I personally wanted to support Chestnut Tree House, because they give young children with special

needs opportunities and care they will remember for a lifetime. I have friends whose siblings are disabled, and so I



know how much fun and happiness it brings to them, in being able to have the incredible care that the hospice is able to give those children in need. The charity has undoubtedly been put under a lot of pressure during Covid-19, therefore I wanted to push myself to ride my bike as far as I could throughout the month of June."

Club Secretary, Mike Metters, who completed a total of 63 activities throughout the month added, "I have lived in Worthing all my life, and over the years St Barnabas has helped many family friends with end of life care. Both my parents worked as volunteers when they retired, and my sister-in-law is a nurse there. I know that Coronavirus has meant a huge shortfall in their income, as fundraising events can't take place and their charity shops have been closed. So I'm really pleased Findon Cricket Club have been able to raise some funds through walking, running and cycling throughout June."



Denise Wadeson, mum of junior leg spinner Oliver Wadeson echoed, "It's amazing to be able to give back to these local, well deserving charities, St Barnabas and Chestnut Tree who have helped so many local friends and families through illness and loss. My 2 teenage boys and my husband are 4th & 5th



generation local cricketers so to be able to also help raise funds for the Sussex Cricket Foundation means young people can continue to enjoy the sport that so many others do too. It was totally worth losing a night's sleep for!"

Samuel Dunkley, slow-medium bowler who covered 142 miles said, "Being able to help the charities recover from the impact of Covid 19 is very rewarding and a great opportunity whilst having fun and getting fit. Spending more time outside has also had benefits to my personal wellbeing." Mary Bye, Community Fundraiser at St Barnabas House added her thanks, "Thank you Findon Cricket Club members for your brilliant teamwork and fundraising for St Barnabas House, which enables hospice care for our patients and families, now and in the future."

Sussex CCC have thanked us for our efforts, by giving those involved free access to a County Championship or 50 over game in the 2021 season.

A massive thanks and well done to everyone who participated and/or donated and in particular to event organiser, Harry Metters. #FCC4000

Tea 4 Two Initiative

We were delighted to help launch Sussex Cricket & Sussex Cricket Foundation's "Tea 4 Two" initiative last weekend which encourages cricket clubs to use their facilities as a hub for donations of food.

In Sussex alone, the demand on food banks tripled over the past four months, with food poverty increasing significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic. The launch of the 'Tea 4 Two' initiative looks to combat this issue across the county of Sussex -

<https://sussexcricket.co.uk/events>



Nets fit for the pros...

Great to see Sussex batsman and star of the Big Bash, Phil Salt, using our net facilities recently. Perhaps we can take some credit for his recent century on debut for England against Ireland! He is pictured below at the club with Coach and former Sussex & Scotland batsman, Matt Machan.



Senior Nets take place on Tuesday's from 6pm.

The first of many...

A big congratulations to Under 16 all-rounder, Archie Cairns, who scored his first senior hundred for the club in a Sunday friendly against The Greys. Great knock, Arch!



Junior Update...

Our successful Junior Friday nights have sadly had to be put on the back burner this year due to Covid-19 but Junior nets are taking place on the following nights:

Mondays – U15's & 16's

Wednesdays – U13's & U14's

Thursdays – U19's

Fridays – U9s', 10's & 11's

It was a mixed bag for the **Under 18's** with a win, 2 draws and a loss in their recent round of fixtures.

Highlights included 85 from Archie Cairns and 57 for Matt Glover against Stirlands and Joel Eaton's knock of 82 against Horley.

The **Under 14's** festival takes place 3rd – 6th August whilst the **Under 13's** are in action 10th – 14th August.

Fingers crossed for some good weather!



A new arrival

A big congratulations to Mickey Demetriou and his wife, Aimee, on the birth of Alfie Joshua Demetriou on 22nd July 2020. Mickey was a member of the VKO team who played at Lords in 2007 and will occasionally be seen up at the club when he's not playing professional football in League 2 for Newport County. Congrats, 'Bubble'!



Remembering those we have lost...



Unfortunately the FCC flag flew at half-mast again in June following the sad passing of long-time supporter Valerie Simmons following a brave battle with cancer. Val was a regular spectator from cobweb corner where she would watch the games with her partner, and FCC Life Member Tony Attfield. They would also often venture to away games, particularly the National Village Knockout matches. Val will always remain part of the Findon family.

🏏 ☆ All Stars ☆ 🏏

Following last year's success, we will be hosting All Stars cricket sessions again, starting next Saturday.

These entertaining and friendly sessions provide an ideal introduction to cricket for younger children, aged 5 to 8 years.

If your son or daughter would like to give cricket a try in a safe, fun and welcoming environment please contact Junior Manager, David Glover (dvglover@btinternet.com). For more info and to register, visit

www.allstarscricket.co.uk



News from Committee

The club have committed to several restorations and improvements to our fantastic ground, including installing entrance gates, further rabbit fencing, a full refurbishment of the patio and the replacement of changing room windows. If you have any questions or suggestions about how the club is run or how our money should be spent, please contact Mandy or Toby. It's your club and we would love your input!

Sussex Slam

It's 2 wins from 2 games so far in the Sussex Slam – a fun and fast mid-week competition with coloured kits and a pink ball. Great to see the return of some familiar faces including ex first-team skipper Baz Meaney, hard-hitting batsman Paul Cox and seamer Grant Christie, who was a part of the 2007 VKO team to reach the final at Lords. The Horses take on Ferring Falcons, Lancing Lightning & LA (Littlehampton) Goats in the group stage.



FCC 150 Club

The 150 Club has been running for just over 2 years and is a great fundraiser for the club. **For just £3 a month paid by standing order you'll be entered into a monthly draw for cash prizes of up to £75!**

If you would like to join, please contact Bradley Bridson at FCC150club@gmail.com.

The results of the latest draws are below – congratulations to the winners:

May:

1st Place – Emma Cairns - £75
2nd place – Iain Swallwell - £25
3rd Place – Harvey Keffert - £10

June:

1st Place – Toby Kingsbury - £75
2nd place – Elsie Metters - £25
3rd Place – Dave Young - £10

July:

1st Place – Mark Higgins - £75
2nd Place – Gary Howell - £25
3rd Place – Fran Higgins - £10

Club Welfare Officer...

We are still on the lookout for a new Club Welfare Officer to take over an important administrative position in safeguarding our youngsters next season. Please contact Mandy Bridson if you are interested in this role.

Sponsorship – we're always on the lookout for new sponsors. If you have a business or know someone who might be interested in sponsoring the club, please contact Paul Judges on 07966 265945.

