



The Horse's Mouth

April 2021

Welcome!

Spring has sprung, restrictions are being lifted and the 2021 cricket season is approaching – and with that comes the latest edition of *The Horse's Mouth*!

Read on for the usual news from around the club, dates for the diary, upcoming events and a new feature, 'Team-Mates'.



Get Social:

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



@findoncc

Club Shop

Get kitted up ahead of the 2021 season - Playing and training kit for both Juniors & Seniors is available to buy online at our Club Shop -

<https://www.gncricketshop.co.uk/FindonCC/CSmain.aspx>



findoncricketclub.co.uk

Cricket returns!

After over a year of worry, uncertainty and disruption, it looks like things are *hopefully* getting back to normal and the ECB's latest update provided some real positivity looking forward to the new cricket season.










The use of outdoor nets is now permitted (with guidelines in place) and all being well, the league season will start on time on 1st May after friendlies in April.

CRICKET'S RETURN TO PLAY IN ENGLAND

THE COVID RESPONSE ROADMAP

Last Updated 26th March 2021

Dates and revisions are subject to change, depending on Government reviews
For more detailed guidance, please go to www.ecb.co.uk/covid-19
Safeguarding and supervision requirements must be adhered to at all times.

AREA OF ACTIVITY Permitted Activity & Restriction	STEP 1 (A) No earlier than 8th March	STEP 1 (B) No earlier than 29th March Decision 22nd March	STEP 2 No earlier than 12th April Decision 5th April
 SCHOOLS	Play for school age children as part of educational provision and wraparound care (i.e. after-school clubs) can resume	Play for school age children as part of educational provision and wraparound care can continue	
 COACHING	Not permitted		
 PLAY OUTDOORS	Organised outdoor cricket not permitted	Organised cricket activity can take place subject to the latest approved ECB guidance, a risk assessment and current social distancing guidelines	
 PLAY INDOORS	Not permitted, exemptions for organised disability cricket		Subject to UK government approval of indoor guidance
 DISABILITY CRICKET	People with disabilities can participate in organised indoor and outdoor sport without being subject to social contact limits.		
 TRAVEL	Follow government guidelines	You can travel to exercise and to take part in organised fixtures or training. Participants should follow guidance on safer travel	
 GROUND, FACILITIES & SPECTATORS	Should remain closed Grounds maintenance permitted subject to COVID risk assessment and plan	Open for organised outdoor cricket, including net practice Grounds maintenance permitted subject to COVID risk assessment and plan	
		Spectators are not allowed (limited exceptions apply)	Spectators must socially distance, provide contact details and observe legal gathering size limits (Rule of 6 or two households)
 HOSPITALITY, CLUBHOUSE & CHANGING ROOMS	Should remain closed	Open for restricted use (toilet and hand washing, first aid, safeguarding or COVID isolation) Changing rooms and showers must remain closed	
		Takeaway food and beverage in accordance with government guidance on hospitality settings	Outdoor food and beverage areas at grounds may reopen in accordance with government guidance on hospitality settings , rule of 6 or two households rule applies
 DBS - SAFEGUARDING	DBS Video Verifications only		Face to face DBS verification

Details of permitted activity from **Step 3** (17th May) and **Step 4** onwards (21st June) will be provided at a later date, in line with Government updates



Gooders – Life Member

A big congratulations to David Goodman, who was elected as a Life Member at January's club AGM.

David joined Findon Cricket Club as a junior member (Colt) as a 13 year old in 1972 (we think). His contemporaries at that stage were the likes of Scott Towers, Matthew Beard & Keith Biswell.

David was Junior/ Colts Captain in 1975 and progressed to the 1st XI a few years later, once he had learned to hit it the ball off the square & score boundaries other than through the slips!

He worked for NatWest Bank for a number of years with amongst others Steve Briggs, but when he moved to the Fry Group in Worthing, with encouragement from his then boss – Gordon Rogers, who we all remember fondly – David undertook the role of Junior coordinator at FCC for a number of years.

On the playing side, he was Club Captain for the years 1988 to 1991 and led the 1st XI to the Sussex Invitation League title in 1989, a year after what can only be described as a feisty encounter with Goring CC, who, in a pivotal game, decided that they would bat nearly all afternoon (in those days the rules allowed this) to avoid Findon winning the match and probably the league title. Revenge was therefore sweet the following year.

When the playing career was winding down, David, who had been on the committee for some years, took on the role of Chairman of the club in 2000, but the following year work with The Fry Group, took him out to run their office in Singapore where he enjoyed the ex-pat life for a few years with wife, Tina, and young (at that stage) daughters Alice and Emily.

Recently retired from the Fry Group, David has found a new lease of life in the last couple of years, sitting on a mower and assisting with groundsman's duties.



Clubman of the Year...

A big congratulations to **Simon Cairns**, who was awarded with the Jack Butterfield Trophy for Clubman of the Year for 2020. Club Chairman, Mandy Bridson, had the following to say:

"Clubman of the year always a difficult one as we are lucky to have so many members who are willing to work tirelessly for FCC.

This person was exceptional last year in a strange and difficult time for us all. With the Government guidelines (and the ECB's interpretation of these) moving and changing so quickly, we were presented with many

challenges in the spring.

Simon took a lead role in getting the nets open safely; organising the rota and



routine for sanitizing between each member as well as working tirelessly on the ground and umpiring both senior & junior games. Simon has been a great sounding board for myself and the whole of the committee through the years and in particular last year. A huge congratulations to Simon - a thoroughly deserved winner of this prestigious award for all of your hard work and efforts this summer."

Our Covid heroes...

Congratulations also, to **Harry Metters** and **David Glover** who were both deservedly recognised for their efforts last year in the Sussex Cricket Foundation Awards which took place in December.

Harry led the club's fundraiser in June last year which raised over £3k for local charities, whilst David's hard work resulted in a brilliantly successful All Stars Cricket programme which introduced many youngsters to cricket at FCC.



Junior Update...

Nets – Our Juniors and coaches are raring to go and training sessions are now underway. Nets take place on the following evenings this season:

Mondays – Under 17's

Tuesdays – Under 15's

Fridays – Under 9/10's, Under 11's & Under 12's

🏏 ★ All Stars ★ 🏏

Following the success of previous seasons, we will be hosting All Stars cricket sessions again, starting on 15th May 2021.

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 (djglover@btinternet.com). For more info and to register, visit

www.allstarscricket.co.uk



Stars of the future – We currently have 6 of our Juniors involved with Sussex Pathway cricket – good luck to George Garner, Fin Roberts, Sam Mason, Matt Hawke, Alex Stephens & Archie Cairns.

Our **Under 19** team have been drawn in a tough group with Horsham, West Chiltington & Middleton – fixtures will take place home & away.

Congratulations to **Josh Lambert**, who was elected as Junior Captain for the 2021 season at the club's AGM in January.

Josh led by example on and off the pitch last summer, scoring 231 runs throughout the season and covering 281 miles on his bike in the charity fundraiser. We look forward to him representing the juniors throughout the season – best of luck.

"It is a great honour for me to be nominated and selected by FCC as the Junior Club Captain. I will

hopefully be able to lead by example when we are able to train and play later this year. I intend to assist with the training and

development of the junior member of the club and look forward to representing FCC as a player and also supporting other junior teams at the club" - Josh





CRICKET CAMP

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ALL ABILITIES, FOR BOYS & GIRLS, U8s - U11s.



DELIVERED BY OUR COACH: BEN COULSON

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- OVER 20 YEARS TEACHING & COACHING EXPERIENCE
- FULL CRB CHECK



1 DAY:
£25 FCC MEMBERS
£30 NON-MEMBERS

BOTH DAYS:
£50 FCC MEMBERS
£60 NON-MEMBERS

HALF TERM
1 & 2
JUNE
09:00-15:00

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ANY QUESTIONS?
CONTACT: HARRY METTERS
07772 041 873 | h.mettters@live.co.uk

FINDON CRICKET CLUB, LONG
FURLONG, FINDON, SUSSEX, BN14 0RJ

FCC WILL ADHERE TO COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES AT ALL TIMES.

Apply online using the link below and return the completed form (on a laptop or desktop) to Harry Metters by email – h.mettters@live.co.uk

http://www.findoncricketclub.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FCC-CRICKET-CAMP_APPLICATION-FORM.pdf



findoncricketclub.co.uk

FCC getting in shape...

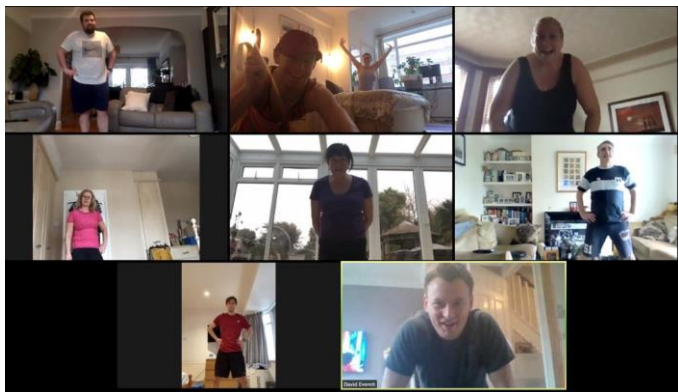
As always, at the turn of the year, many were keen to use their time to get themselves in shape for the summer.

For the first 12 weeks of 2021, Harry Metters led a Zoom fitness workout each Saturday morning with 4-8 members joining each week to blow off some steam.

On top of this, a few players followed a home workout plan involving sessions 2-4 times a week to help improve their strength and general fitness. On average, the 5 players that followed the programme improved their plank, wall-sit & press up times by an average of 49% over the first 3 months of the year!

Big shout out to the following:

Club captain, Bradley Bridson more than doubled his wall-sit time whilst combining the plan with many Peloton cycling sessions. He's lost a superb 2 stone in the process.

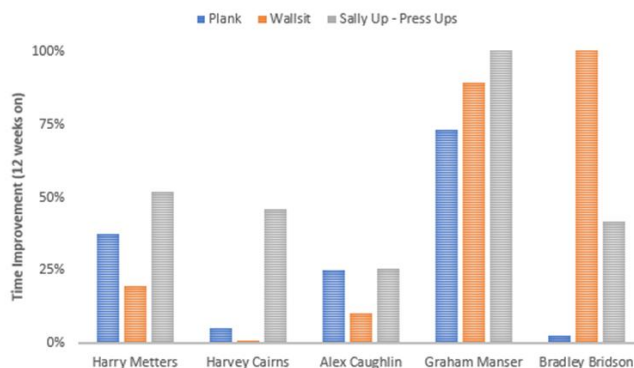


Graham Manser improved all 3 times by more than 70% and is sure to be looking forward to some longer bowling spells this summer!

Harry is currently studying an online course to become a Level 3 qualified personal trainer.



FCC - GETTING IN SHAPE



Senior Update...

Delighted to announce a new coaching team at FCC, with the focus this year on structured and varied sessions to enhance player development. Best of luck to coaches Ben Coulson & Harry Metters for the season!

Training sessions are already up and running (Thursday nights) with great numbers involved and a good buzz around the club. Now we just need the weather to warm up a bit..!

2021 Senior Coaches

Ben Coulson

- Driven Worthing College to become the Top FE for Sport in the UK
- Over 20 years experience coaching & playing Rugby at high level for Worthing Rugby Club & others



Harry Metters

- Over 200 1st XI appearances, 1 league promotion, ECB Level 2 Coach
- Led Mooroolbark CC to the finals as Player Coach down under in 2019/20



Country teams...

Alongside focused coaching and training sessions, playing members have been split into 8 'countries', with players competing to earn points for their country by attending training and social events, wearing club kit, scoring runs and taking wickets etc. This is designed to encourage some inter-club competitiveness and to improve social interaction across the teams and it would be great to see our players getting on-board and involved with this.

VKO...

After a bye in Round 1, we have been drawn away against our league rivals, West Chiltington & Thakeham in Round 2 of this year's Village Cup. Can we replicate the success of 2007's campaign and make it all the way to Lord's?



News from Committee...

Despite last year's difficulties, the club have maintained financial stability and have continued to make improvements to the ground where required.

The patio was refurbished over the winter and is looking very smart. Gates have also been installed at the entrance for some added security.



Membership...

Details on membership for the 2021 season have been circulated by email and are also available on the website, using the following link:

<http://www.findoncricketclub.co.uk/the-club/membership/>

As ever, the club are heavily reliant on these annual fees so the quick payment and return of the forms would be appreciated.

What's on...

Ever wonder what's on at the club? With our club calendar now live on the website, you can quickly see what games, training sessions or events are taking place at club HQ -

<http://www.findoncricketclub.co.uk/about/club-calendar/>

FCC						
Today May 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 13:00 2s Home Stey	26 18:00 U17 nets	27 18:00 U15 Nets	28 17:00 T20 vs Sussex	29 18:00 Senior Training	30 18:00 U9/10/11/12 f	1 May 13:00 2s Home W.Gr
2 12:30 1s Home Cuck	3 09:00 U12 Home Eas	4 18:00 U15 Nets	5 18:00 Slam H v Gori	6 18:00 Senior Training	7 18:00 U9/10/11/12 f	8 13:00 2s Home Clym
9 09:00 U15 Home An	10 18:00 U17 nets	11 18:00 U15 Nets	12 18:00 Slam reserve	13 18:00 Senior Training	14 18:00 U9/10/11/12 f	15 09:00 U10 Home EP 12:30 1s Home Slinf
16 18:00 U17 nets	17 18:00 U15 Nets	18 18:00 Slam H vs Wal	19 18:00 Senior Training	20 18:00 U9/10/11/12 f	21 13:00 2s Home Barn	22
23 18:00 U17 nets	24 18:00 U15 Nets	25 18:00 Slam reserve	26 18:00 Senior Training	27 18:00 U9/10/11/12 f	28 12:30 1s Home Broa	29
30 09:00 U15 Home Wo	31 09:00 U17s Home	1 Jun 18:00 U15 Nets	2 18:00 Senior Training	3 18:00 U9/10/11/12 f	4 13:00 2s Home Billin	5

Events shown in time zone: United Kingdom Time

Google Calendar



findoncricketclub.co.uk

Sussex Slam

Following the success of last year's Sussex Slam, we have entered 2 teams into this season's two-tiered competition with differing player eligibility.

The Sussex Slam provides an exciting 20/20 style cricket competition that is fun, fast and convenient - perfect for people who struggle to find the time to play the longer form of cricket, but don't want to leave the game all together.

Findon Horses will be looking to improve on last year's efforts in reaching the Round of

16 Knockout stage of 'The Cup'; the slightly higher standard and more competitive tier. A second side will take

part in 'The Plate' – a slightly lower level of competition, perfect for developing our youngsters whilst allowing a few old-timers to turn over their arm too..!



The Slam saw the return of a few familiar faces to FCC last year and we hope to see more of the same this season.

GROUP C



3 - 16 MAY	17 - 30 MAY	31 MAY - 13 JUN	14 - 27 JUN
HORSES vs. PATHFINDERS	HORSES vs. WARRIORS	GOATS vs. HORSES	PATHFINDERS vs. HORSES
GOATS vs. WARRIORS	PATHFINDERS vs. GOATS	WARRIORS vs. PATHFINDERS	WARRIORS vs. GOATS

GROUP Q



3 - 16 MAY	17 - 30 MAY	31 MAY - 13 JUN	14 - 27 JUN
REBELS vs. FALCONS	REBELS vs. HORSES	HORSES vs. FALCONS	FALCONS vs. REBELS
SWANS vs. HORSES	FALCONS vs. SWANS	SWANS vs. REBELS	HORSES vs. SWANS



MEN'S TIERS 2021 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY LEVELS

SUSSEX DIVISIONS	THE CUP	THE PLATE
Premier & 2 nd Divisions	Ineligible	Ineligible
Both 3 rd Divisions	Can't bat in top 5 Can't bowl before 13 th over	Ineligible
Both 4 th Divisions	Can't bat in top 3 Can't bowl before 9 th over	Ineligible
All 5 th & 6 th Divisions	No restrictions	Ineligible
All 7 th & 8 th Divisions	No restrictions	Can't bat in top 4 Can't bowl before 9 th over
All 9 th , 10 th , 11 th & 12 th Divisions	No restrictions	No restrictions
Group Points	2 for a win, 1 for a tie, 0 for a loss	6 for a win, 4 for a tie, up to 4 bonus points for a loss
Leg-side Wides	Any ball that passes naturally down the leg-side of the batter.	Only deliveries that are not sufficiently within the batter's reach.

* Players who have only played a few matches at a particular level can still apply for an exemption from any individual element of restriction.



Remembering those we have lost...



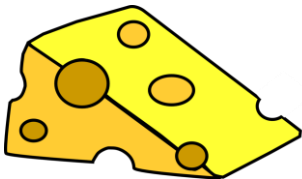
Sadly the flag at Long Furlong flew at half-mast in December in memory of former player Martin "Snapper" Rumsey who passed away. Snapper had a wicket-keeping style all of his own and was great company both on and off the field. Our thoughts were, and continue to be, with Martin's Sister Catherine and the family. RIP Snapper.

A Bird's eye view...

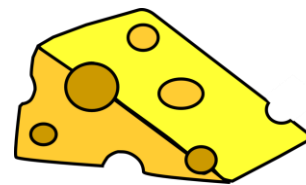
A drone recently flew above Club HQ, capturing the stunning images below of our wonderful ground in the spring sunshine.



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.



Team-Mates



He may be on the other side of the world doing some soul-searching down under in Oz, but Findon CC's very own "Big Cheese", **Curtis Howell**, spared some time recently for a brand new feature to discuss his team-mates at Long Furlong.

Biggest Drinker?

It's hard to look any further than **John Rogers**, there's a reason they call him Fish... loves a beer and a quadruple Bacardi. Shoutout must go to Fresher **Harvey Cairns** who's really stepped up to the plate the last few seasons, using his student finance and bank of Dad for its intended use and he's never shy of a Saturday night Jäger or a Sunday sipper.

Funniest bloke?

Benji Coulson is a very funny man, his wit and story-telling after games is something to behold. **Nobby** is a close second who used to entertain us regularly with his stories.

Best luzz & biggest chocolate arm?

Until he threw his shoulder out winning the throwing competition, **Sam Dunkley** used to have an absolute cannon from the boundary. **Felix Jordan** within 30 yards could fire them in; any further out and its guaranteed overthrows. Chocolate arm would unfortunately have to be awarded to 'Grandad Rose', better known as **Growler**. I've never actually seen him throw a ball, instead opting for the right arm over bowling action into the keepers gloves down from fine leg.

We need 6 to win off the last ball – who do you want on strike?

It pains me to say this, but **James Henman** hits a biiiiiiig bomb. I had the pleasure of seeing him clear the club rooms at the Manor Ground in the evening league a few years back. Clean striker of the ball, and it's guaranteed to be followed by his trademark 'dab' which is just as valuable as the shot.

The opposition's best player skies one miles in the air – who do you want underneath it? And likewise, who are you putting your mortgage on dropping it?

Glen Bridson is the obvious choice with the gloves on however **Harry Metters** has a very safe set of hands in the outfield, he's usually badgering around enough to earn himself a catch or 2. Likely to drop would have to be club captain **Bradley Bridson** – unsure if he has the correct prescription on his glasses as I've not seen him take a catch in 3-4 years and there's always a good excuse to follow as well.

Best footballer in the warm-up?

James Ballamy is comfortably the best footballer in warm ups, absolute 'Baller'. **Sam Mannings** probably would've made a career for himself if his leg growth hadn't have halted his progress at Worthing. **Graham Manser** is a solid choice for referee.

Best dressed?

Mikey Metters owns a fine collection of shirts, **Pies** is also a trend setter and has a great collection of hats and runners. **Coxy** was worst dressed for a few years with his cricket whites hosting a large "ventilation" hole in the crotch region.

Always late?

Harrison Grayston is guaranteed to be late - the horses don't bet on themselves. **Felix** is another one who has no concept of time with his Saturday mornings being taken up by planning and practicing his half-century celebration for later in the day #shotgun

Highest & lowest IQ?

Alex "Stormy" Norman was far beyond our intellectual capacities, he's a very intelligent fella. As much as I love watching his gentle away swingers, he's probably doing a lot more for society in a lab coat now rather than knocking over pegs. At the other end of the spectrum, **Harvey Keffert** has to be mentioned for some of the ridiculous statements he's made. When **Sam Dunkley** turns into Drunkleg mode, there's also not much hope for any logic.

Longest in the shower?

Jamie Lewis spends ¾ of an hour washing his...neck and doing his hair, whilst a few of the younger blokes coming through are still demonstrating the shower in a can method. Not much beats a shower beer with the boys after a big 30 points.

Best & Worst chat?

Benji Coulson again is a mention for best chat, **Smudger** offers some useful insight but it's hard to face him down wind when he talks. **Carrig "Cavlar" Connolly** has some terrible chat, I've heard of blokes kicking stumps over at the Barn rather than listen to him. Beautiful singing voice though.

Up & coming Junior to look out for?

Ollie Wadeson is going to be a very useful spinner if he can keep up his love for the game, but **Archie Cairns** is my hot tip to take FCC to the next level. **Alex Stephens** would've got a mention but I still haven't forgiven him for leaving me stranded on 99* in my last game at Long Furlong before jetting off down under.

