

Autumn 2005

Dear Cricket Club Official

Thanks again for all your help with the summer cricket exhibitions - we really appreciate it. I just wonder if I could brief you on a number of matters. I wonder whether you could also air the matters raised in this letter at your next club committee meeting, just so that as many people as possible at your club can be made aware of forthcoming developments? Thanks very much.

1. EXHIBITION BOARDS

Phase 1 of the Exhibition involved putting the display up in a public place. As this Phase has now drawn to a close, I wonder whether I could just explain how, with your assistance, we'd like **Phase 2** to ensue.

Essentially, we would like to donate the Exhibition boards to your club in the hope that you will be able to accommodate the display - *in part or in whole* - at your clubhouse/pavilion (obviously we appreciate the limitations of space!). Phase 1 of the Exhibition involved engaging with the **general public** - but with Phase 2 we'd very much like **cricketers** and **cricket people** to be able to peruse the display at their leisure, and obviously your clubhouse/pavilion would be the ideal place. Your Club has a wonderful history – and it would be excellent if visitors to your clubhouse/pavilion could learn more about your Club's history. (Some clubs have already screwed their exhibition boards to their clubhouse walls and the effect has been great – a really colourful and educational display!)

The organisation that gave us our £43,400 grant - the Heritage Lottery Fund - would really appreciate this extra exposure and publicity. Obviously, we would be extremely grateful if you could help us by putting the Exhibition up on your own premises - either temporarily or permanently. This would be a wonderful legacy of the Cricket Heritage Project- and given the time and money that has been put into the Exhibition we would be thrilled to see it find a long-term home at your club.

If you have any queries about Phase 2, or if you would like any assistance in transporting the Exhibition boards, or 're-ordering' the boards at a new location, please do get in touch any time, but feel free to liaise directly with the Phase 1 Exhibition venue. At the very least, we hope that you'll be able to take care of the exhibition boards and keep them safe for the sake of posterity.

2. RAFFLING/AUCTIONING OUR ORIGINAL ARTWORK

As you know, we have been selling cricketing prints and notelets to help raise money for our Project. With your help, we would also now like to raffle/auction

the **original** drawing/painting of your ground to help raise money for your club and for our Project.

If this is agreeable to you, we have a possible plan of action. We will get the specially-commissioned drawing/painting framed and signed by the artist. If you could possibly identify a forthcoming social event at your club, we could then come along with the framed piece of artwork and, with your assistance, either raffle or auction it - with **50% of the money going to your Club funds** and **50% going to help raise money for our Project** (our grant is quickly running out and we've got lots of plans for the future!).

Again, if this is agreeable, we could chat about what might raise the most money (raffle or auction) and you could maybe identify one of your Club members to 'chair' the raffle or auction (someone with lots of charisma who will be able to get Club members to part with their money!). Your club and our Project could both benefit significantly from such an event. I do hope this will be possible - do let me know your thoughts.

3. NOTES & PRINTS

Our specially-commissioned drawings and paintings of local cricket grounds have now been turned into A4 prints, notelets and postcards. We are now selling these with a view to raising funds for the Project. The prices are as follows:

- A4 print of your cricket ground - £5
- Pack of 10 notelets (with artwork on front) & 10 envelopes- £5 per pack
- Pack of 10 postcards (with artwork on front) - £5 per pack

We can also produce Christmas cards with your club's ground on the front - any number of cards and with whatever greeting you would like on the front or on the inside.

Simply phone Susan Brant on 01484 607081 if you would like to order any of the items above.

4. ARCHIVES

Now the exhibition season is over, we will be focusing on our archive work - creating an electronic archive on our website www.ckcricketheritage.org.uk and also setting up traditional archives of cricket-related documents and artefacts at Halifax and Huddersfield town libraries. If your club has supplied us with any archive material (minute books, scorebooks, photographs, balance sheets, letters etc), could you possibly let us know whether you would like them stored in the

new archives (here they would be cared for professionally, indexed, protected, made available to visitors to the archive, but they would also still be accessible to you and 'owned' by you). If not, we will make sure they are returned to you and your club as soon as possible. Please contact Rob Light on 01484 473032 if you would like to discuss this issue further.

5. KEEPING IN TOUCH

The Project website www.ckcricketheritage.org.uk is updated on a regular basis with archive images and exhibition documents, so do take a look if you haven't already. We would like to stay in touch with you and your club because if anything new material comes to light regarding the history of your club, we can easily update or amend your club's exhibition files on the website.

6. ORAL HISTORY

During Autumn 2005 Rob Light and myself will be getting in touch with clubs regarding the possibility of carrying out oral history interviews. We aim to capture the memories of club members/stalwarts on tape and then store these tapes in the two cricket archives mentioned above and also broadcast them as audio files on www.ckcricketheritage.org.uk. We look forward to being in contact about this.

7. NEW 'BAT & BALL' EVENING COURSE AT THE UNIVERSITY

The University of Huddersfield launches a new, pioneering evening course on Wednesday 11 January 2006, **BAT & BALL: Cricket & Society in Calderdale & Kirklees c.1800-2000**. The course runs for 12 weeks and topic areas will include:

- Early Forms of Cricket
- Origins of the First Local Cricket Clubs.
- Formation of Leagues and Cups
- Professionalism
- The Changing Face of Cricket Equipment
- Cricket and War
- The 'Ethnic' Contribution to Local League Cricket
- Contemporary Developments

The course tutors will be myself and Rob Light, Research Assistant on the Cricket Heritage Project and a current Phd student in West Riding cricket history at Leicester de Montfort University.

If you would like further details about the course, or if you would like to reserve a place on it, please do contact me on 01484 472405 or via p.j.davies@hud.ac.uk. No previous qualifications are required; the course is open to local cricket enthusiasts of all ages and abilities; and the course may be free of charge for those with no previous experience of higher education. All enquiries welcome!

8. 2006 PENNINE CRICKET CONFERENCE

We all enjoyed the 2005 Pennine Cricket Conference staged at the University in March 2005, so we now aim to make this an annual event. The 2006 conference will take place on Saturday 25 March 2006 at the University, 10am-4pm. This time we would like to invite local cricket club stalwarts to take part: Would you, or someone you know, like to talk about the history of your club? If you're familiar with your club's history, or a part of it, and you think you could prepare a 20-minute talk to an interested audience, we'd love to hear from you.

9. ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOLS

We are currently in the process of 'twinning' local cricket clubs with schools, and also designing customised activities for schoolchildren relating to the history of their local cricket club. We will stay in touch about this aspect of the Project

Thanks again for all your help - and I do hope we'll stay in touch.

Best regards

Peter Davies (01484 472405 – p.j.davies@hud.ac.uk)