

## **DITCHLING CRICKET CLUB**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO AGM 2006**

**Summary:** we continue to excel at what we do best – Cricket Week and celebrity cricket. We were frustrated at the very end in our league cricket. Our junior section took some big strides forward.

So, overall another good year for the Club.

My report follows the same format as last year (annotated copy attached):-

#### **A) Things we have achieved:**

- Juniors: ran winter and summer nets with professional coaches; played our first colts fixture (vs. Scaynes Hill under 10s; we lost – but we'll be back for more!)
- Benefit Game vs. Sussex CCC: raised over £1,250 for Mark Robinson
- Tsunami Relief: raised £1,000 (courtesy of Jim Nolan!)
- Contributed towards refurbishment of Plumpton Agricultural College pavilion
- Continued to improve the quality of the playing surface
- Planted Lawrence Pepler Memorial Tree (jointly funded by Ditchling Rugby Club)
- Put up two fully-functional practice nets
- For the ground, purchased a sprayer and extra fittings for the scarifier
- Organised another successful Cricket Week
- Raised £260 for the Club by promoting the ECB raffle

#### **B) Things we could have done better:**

- Manage 2<sup>nd</sup> XI player availability in absence of captain and vice captain at end of league season
- Remember who sponsored what day in Cricket Week!
- Promote the Annual Dinner
- Mobilising the other sports clubs against Parish Council's decision to lock the gate

#### **C) Things to achieve next season:**

- find out if members think it would be good to have a second ground of our own
- get at least half of our members to pay their annual subs by standing order
- get coaching qualifications for at least 3 of the parents of our colts
- forge links with Ditchling School
- 1<sup>st</sup> XI promotion
- run a mini-Cricket Week in July
- improve the quality of our membership records
- appoint a co-ordinator for our sponsors and our fund-raising efforts
- take steps to ensure that the Pavilion Club is providing the Cricket Club with the facilities and service that we require
- provide opportunities for our members to improve their standard of play
- continue to support Les Brown in our pitch-improvement programme
- run a successful stall at the Village Fair.

I believe that your Club is in reasonable shape. There is much to achieve in the coming season but 2005 worked out well in the end.

Losing our beloved President in the Spring was a big blow for everyone associated with Ditchling Cricket Club. But I think Lawrence would have approved of this year's Cricket Week and especially the splendid day (and dancing!!!) that we enjoyed on the Friday.

This wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of many people at the Club. However, I want to thank three stalwarts in particular:- Roger Linn for agreeing to accept the

role of President and stepping into Lawrence's shoes. Peter Earl for his continued and invaluable guidance to me as Chairman. And, especially, Patrick Nolan for the amazing hard work and also the style that he continues to bring to Ditchling Cricket Club.

Happy New Year to you and your families.

Regards

**Matthew Searle**  
**Chairman**  
**07986 383991**