



THE DEXTER



The newsletter of Saffron Walden Cricket Club

Issue: December 2020

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DATES

Club Dinner

20 March
Saffron Walden
Golf Club
(Covid-19
permitting)

Registration Day

17 April 2021

AGM

We have not been able to hold an AGM this year, for obvious reasons. We hope to hold a meeting early in 2021. However, a report from the Chairman is attached to the same email as this newsletter, and on our website [HERE](#)



A Season Like No Other

It has been a season like no other. In fact it has been only half a season. But cricket was played and some fun was had by both young and old. We provided coaching for all age groups and matches for most. We managed to secure some silverware too.



It was humbling to see the way in which so

many volunteers and players emerged from their gardens and their homes when the government and the ECB gave us the green light. We invited you to nominate your COVID hero or heroine and we were delighted with the response, although it never truly reflects the time and effort that so many of you put in to make this club such a great place to be for so many people. In fact there are over 80 of us in total and a big 'thank you' is due to you all. However, we are delighted to publish our COVID Heroes for 2020 - turn to page 2 to see their names.

It would be easy to focus on the negatives of such a challenging season so here is a sample of some of the positives that we have seen in recent months. More people have realised the clubhouse is for them and not just for players and officers - serving through the window has been a revelation with more people realising they can buy a drink, hard or soft; the thought that teas might be best provided by individuals; improved hygiene and cleaning in clubhouse; a desire to reduce the congestion on a Friday and open up another weekday evening with age group coaching and the bar open; 3 young Academy players making their debut in the East Anglian Premier League, filling the gap left by the absence of overseas players.

Perhaps most important of all it showed the strength in depth of the club which is the envy of many. It is genuinely true to say that we have come through this stronger and will be able to face whatever 2021 throws at us.

Winter programme—Academy Indoor Cricket

We will be offering a winter programme at Saffron Walden County High School, on Fridays from 5:30pm to 8:30pm throughout January, February and March. We are currently doing a risk assessment in view of the current Tier 2 COVID restrictions. There is flexibility for u18s to have sporting activity indoors provided we take certain precautions. Unfortunately, it means friends and family will not be allowed in to the gallery: children must be signed in at reception, while parents or guardians will need to wait in cars, return home, or put on nice warm coats and view proceedings from the walkway that leads up to the front door of the Sports Hall.

The exact nature of the programme depends on the numbers wanting to take part so at this stage – we have a maximum group size of 15. The cost will be £5 per session. Please confirm your wish to take part by completing the short form [HERE](#) and emailing it to saffronwaldencricketclub@gmail.com. We will then let you know how many sessions we can allocate your child, and how much you will need to pay (with bank details).



Where Are They Now?

Elliott Wilson

Elliott joined SWCC in 1996, when he was recommended by his Felsted coach, Gordon Barker. SWCC won the league and cup double that year. Gordon also recommended Elliott for Worcestershire in 1997 because he knew Worcestershire player Duncan Fearnley. Elliott played for Western Province, Cape Town, South Africa and Mt. Lawley (A Grade) Perth, Australia. He now lives in Bermuda with his wife Tiffany and daughter Isabelle. He has just swum 70k around the island.

As for Saffron Walden, Elliott says it is "an amazing club. World class. Classy ground, classy people". We'll take that!

Girls' Cricket

Following discussions with Essex Cricket, local clubs, and our own members we decided to launch an Emerging Player squad for our elite girls to mirror the squad we have for the boys. The main catalyst for this was our designation as an Essex Hub for girls' cricket. Discussions were had with some high profile coaches and the County High School, where girls' cricket is thriving.

At first we thought the lockdown would cause us to abandon these plans for 2020 but, thanks to the work of certain coaches and managers, we were able not only to launch the squad but to attract new members as well. It is aimed at talented girls who have a positive attitude to their own development and a desire to play cricket for Saffron Walden as well as at a representative level.

Their coaching was scheduled on a Thursday evening to coincide with the Ladies training and this proved really successful. We have laid very strong foundations which we can build on next year.

More girls are always welcome!
Contact us at saffronwaldencricketclub@gmail.com

Covid Champions!

We asked you to nominate those people who, in your opinion, went above and beyond the call of duty this year to ensure that the club functioned and cricket happened, despite all the constraints imposed by Covid-19. The Club is enormously grateful to all our volunteers, but especially to:

Tim Gladwin
Dave Hancock
Linda Hancock
Finn Karsten
Chris Larlham
James Legg
Ray Mordini
Tom Pluck
David Razzell
Jess Squires
Rob Thurston

Clubhouse Improvements

We are very grateful to Steve Farr and Dan Rowlandson, who have been working to improve fire safety in the clubhouse. Smoke detectors are being fitted throughout.



Steve in action recently!



u12, 16 and 19

What a year it was, despite the shortened season. Essex run three junior competitions at u12, u13 and u19, and to their credit they ran all three in 2020. All credit, too, to the clubs involved. And all credit to our young players and their volunteer managers and coaches, because it proved the most successful year in our history. Our u12s made the semi-final, our u19s made the final but came second and our u16s emerged as victors against last year's winner, Frenford.

The north west frontier is very firmly on the Essex cricketing map!

SWCC Committee

President:	Hugh Wiseman
Chairman:	David Barrs
Vice Chairman:	Tony Wiseman
Club Secretary:	Alison Mable
Club Treasurer:	Peter Hill
Club Captain:	Tom Rodda
Academy Coordinator:	David Hancock
Academy Secretary:	Julia Turner
Fixtures Secretary:	Chris Larlham
Clubhouse manager :	Linda Hancock