

Volume 2, December 2012

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Wheatsheaf World

Bumper Christmas edition of the Cheshire Cricket Board e-newsletter

TIME CALLED ON CAREER OF LEGENDARY LEAGUE UMPIRE

BRITAIN'S longest serving league umpire has been forced to hang up his white coat after more than six decades at the crease after insurer's refused to stump up the cash to cover him.

Charlie Fenton, aged 92, has been told he can no longer officiate matches in the Derbyshire and Cheshire League because the league's insurance policy only covers umpires up to the age of 85.

Charlie, from Hyde, has been overseeing matches for 61 years, and he bowled out earlier this summer under a guard of honour at his favourite ground, Mottram CC.

"I'm so happy I've had a great career but, of course, I'm disappointed it's now come to an end," Charlie told Wheatsheaf World.

"I'm so lucky. I'm so fit, I don't wear glasses, I don't wear a hearing aid and I can



GUARD OF HONOUR: Charlie Fenton (centre, left) gets an emotional send off in his final match as a league umpire, aged 92

still stand for seven hours.

"I won't get bored in the summer, though, as I've promised to help the boys coming through next season and pass on some of my knowledge."

Bookmakers Paddy Power attempted to prolong Char-

lie's days in the middle by offering their own insurance package for the 2013 season, but the Tameside pensioner has decided to call time on a record-breaking career.

Exclusive interview and pictures, turn to Page 2

Merry Christmas from Cheshire Cricket!

PUT your feet up and relax this Christmas with a bumper edition of Cheshire Cricket Board's e-newsletter "Wheatsheaf World".

With all the latest news from the county cricket scene, this is the perfect stocking filler for players, parents and club officials.

And what's more, you can have this and future editions delivered straight to your inbox by signing up to our mailing list.

For further details just contact newsletter editor Gareth Moorhouse via email at garethcheshirecricket@gmail.com.



Six decades and out for much-loved Charlie

WHEN Bookmakers Paddy Power made a surprise offer to extend his record-breaking stint as a league umpire, pensioner Charlie Fenton must have thought it a sound bet.

After 61 unbroken years officiating matches in the Derbyshire and Cheshire League, the 92-year-old had been told he was now “too old” to be covered by the league’s insurance policy.

As the longest serving umpire in world cricket, the news had come as a bitter blow for a man who described umpiring as his “life-long passion”.

So when Paddy Power heard the sad story and made an offer to insure Charlie for the 2013 season, there seemed a chink a light at the end of the tunnel for a true legend of the local game.

“I considered it for a moment, and it was nice of Paddy Power to think of me in this way, but in the end I decided that it was my time to go,” Charlie said.

“It was very disappointing to be told that I couldn’t continue, especially as I still feel very fit and up to the job.

“I never missed a match in 61 years. This was something I had wanted to do all my life, but I never dreamed I would still be umpiring at 92. I consider myself very lucky really.”

Charlie was born in Newton, Tameside, on June 6, 1920 and has lived in the area all his life.

He loved to watch cricket from an

early age, and would often travel to Old Trafford to see Lancashire play.

“I remember watching Cyril Washbrook make 122 on his debut and thinking, this is a great game,” Charlie recalled. “I loved to watch the game but I never played it. Still, I wanted to be involved in some way and that’s when I thought of being an umpire.”

The Second World War scuppered Charlie’s immediate plans to don the white coat, but when he left the Argyles after five years of loyal service, he returned to Newton and married his sweetheart Jessie.

He said: “I worked as a partner in an estate agent on Deansgate in Manchester, but cricket was still my passion.

“On his way back to his mark, Fred Trueman turned to me and he said, ‘I’m going to send his stumps scattering all over the place’ ... and the very next ball, he did just that!”

Charlie Fenton

“I told Jessie that I wanted to be an umpire and she was really excited and asked when I was going to start.

“Hold on a minute, I told her—I need to learn all the Laws first!

“I bought a copy of the Laws from a bookstore on Deansgate for about two shillings, and the same book has stayed in my right trouser pocket ever since!”

After a couple of years of study, Charlie appeared before an eight man committee at the Derbyshire and Cheshire League where he was quizzed on his basic knowledge of umpiring.

“I remember being very nervous, but the first question put me right at ease. All they



END OF AN ERA: Last match

wanted to know was could I count to six - so when I said yes I could, everything else just fell into place.”

Charlie quickly earned a reputation as one of the best umpires in the league, and was thrilled in only his second season to be asked to stand in a charity match between the League and a Lancashire/Yorkshire X1 at New Mills.

“The match was played in memory of a New Mills cricketer who died tragically in a car crash, leaving a wife and young child,” Charlie recalled.

“I will never forget it because Fred Trueman was bowling from my end. He was chuntering away in language I cannot possibly repeat, but at one point he decided he had seen quite enough of one particular batsman.

“On his way back to his mark, Fred turned to me and he said, ‘I’m going to send his stumps all over the place’ ... and the very next ball, he did just that!”

Fast forward 60 years and Charlie was still returning to grounds like New Mills and his favourite, Mottram, as a League umpire - with official records showing his career to be the longest running in world cricket.

And though that chapter of his life may now have come to an end, Charlie has plenty of happy memories to take with him beyond the boundary.

“In some ways it’s a shame that 2012 was my last season, because it was one of the worst for weather I can ever remember,” he said.

“But cricket has given me so much enjoyment over the years, and umpiring in particular. I would thoroughly recommend it to anyone.”



FAREWELL: Charlie says an emotional goodbye

“The Fast and the Furious” comes to Cheshire



A NEW “fast and furious” version of indoor cricket is gripping the imagination of players across the North West and could soon be coming to a sports hall or leisure centre near you.

Backed by Cheshire Cricket Board Limited, Indoor Cricket Leagues provide an exciting six-a-side format for players of all abilities, where every participant is guaranteed to bat and bowl.

Successful leagues are already up and running in Poynton and Reddish, and talks are progressing to host fixtures in Chester, Macclesfield, Crewe and the Wirral in 2013.

Indoor Cricket Leagues founder Matt Nixon believes this latest adaptation of the game will galvanise recreational cricket at a time when clubs are struggling to retain senior members.

He said: “This is a fast and furious version of the indoor game, and it’s comparable with your 5-a-side football leagues which have proved enormously popular down the years.

“I think it really suits the casual cricketer, because not everyone has the time now to stand around on a cricket field for seven hours on a Saturday or Sunday. These people are being lost to the game, and hopefully this will encourage them to come back.”

Indoor Cricket Leagues take place at a variety of venues including leisure centres, school sports halls and multi-use-games-areas (MUGAs) designed specifically to host small-sided fixtures.

Playing costs are around £5 per head with a qualified league umpire included in the price. Individual as well as team prizes are on offer in each division.

Leagues currently take place during Autumn and Winter, with plans to invite the top performing sides to a finals day early in 2013.

And with the fixtures running right until the eve of the outdoor season, Matt believes Indoor Leagues could prove a more popular alternative for players than the traditional winter nets.

He explained: “For me this is a win-win because the small-sided format ensures lots of touches of the ball for everyone involved.

“Club nets are great for bringing people back together but they can be costly affairs and from the ones I have attended are very rarely competitive.

“With the Indoor Leagues, you get to sharpen those game-based skills year-round so you feel ready for action by the time the outdoor season begins.

“We are working closely with county boards such as Cheshire to provide a format and facility that meets the needs of the wider cricket community, and we hope to open several new leagues in Cheshire after Christmas.”

Cheshire Cricket Board Adult Participation Manager Gavin Colebourn is enthusiastic about the role Indoor Cricket Leagues could play in the future of the game in the county.

He said: “It’s vitally important that we provide a recreational cricket offer for anybody who wants to play the



game, no matter what their background or the demands on their time.

“We recognise that the time demands of the current format, coupled with work and family pressures, means some people are restricted in the amount of cricket they can play.

Gavin added: “We don’t want any barriers to participation in our sport and I hope that clubs will support this project and gain maximum fulfilment and enjoyment from doing so.”

* To find out more about Indoor Cricket Leagues, read the full article on the Cheshire Cricket board website or visit www.indoorcricketleagues.com.

* You can also find ICL on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Indoor-Cricket-Leagues/122894791121870> and Twitter <https://twitter.com/indoorcricketUK>

Fancy the ‘Royal’ treatment?

FOR clubs located in and around the Vale Royal area of Cheshire, there is a well-established and exciting indoor competition actively seeking new teams.

The Vale Royal Indoor League runs from November to March, with fixtures taking place on Mondays and Wednesdays at St Nicholas High School in Northwich.

Alvanley, whose men’s first eleven recently secured a return to the Cheshire County Cricket League, were crowned VRICL champions in 2011/12, narrowly pipping rivals Kingsley Vampires to the coveted crown.



Other clubs competing in the current 10-over-a-side format include County League outfits Davenham and Tattenhall.

If your club are interested in joining the competition, contact Peter Robinson on 07889 081639 / 01829 760445 or email peteropcc@talktalk.net.

FIND OUT WHO'S CREAM OF THE CROP

The Emerging Player Programme represents the top tier of the Cheshire Youth Cricket Player Pathway.

The EPP is designed to provide greater opportunities for young players from non-first class counties to achieve their full potential in the game.

In recent years, Cheshire have developed excellent links with several first class counties, including neighbours Lancashire and Derbyshire, with three of our youngsters gaining Academy contracts in the last 18 months alone.

Selections for the EPP are based on performances at county level the previous season, in consultation with each

county age group coach and manager.

CCB Performance Manager Gavin Colebourn explained: "Our goal is to create a challenging, rewarding and enjoyable environment in which our most talented players can develop not just as players, but also as individuals.

"The EPP is the pinnacle of the Player Pathway, with individual and group sessions designed to bring the best out of those involved.

"We look to identify our elite players early and the creation of our Junior Academy (for 10-14 year olds) provides an excellent stepping stone into the EPP, for players aged 15 and over.

"Not every player will make the transfer from Junior Academy to EPP, but it will give them a taste of the environment they'll potentially meet in the future and the hard work required."

The 2012/13 EPP has already begun, with the players currently being put through their paces by Cheshire's Strength and Conditioning Consultant Angela Jackson.

Gavin added: "The boys have been working really hard and special thanks must go to Angie for her dedication, enthusiasm and professionalism."

* For full story and pictures visit: www.cheshirecricketboard.co.uk

MEET THE 2012/13 EMERGING PLAYERS AND JUNIOR ACADEMY SELECTIONS:

Name Luke Wolstenholme
County Team Cheshire U16s
Years in EPP 1st Year
Club Alderley Edge
School Manchester Grammar
Career best (Cheshire) 123no vs Lincs
Career best (Club) 4 for 1 vs Mobberley
Favourite Shot Sweep
Favourite Team Hampshire
Favourite Player AB de Villiers
Hobbies Rugby, Football



Name Andrew Jackson
County Team Cheshire U17s
Years in EPP 3rd Year
Club Alderley Edge
School Cheadle Hulme School
Career best (Cheshire) 98no
Career best (Club) 52no
Favourite Shot Slog sweep
Favourite Team South Africa
Favourite Player Shane Watson
Hobbies Hockey/Golf



Name Steve Rimmer
County Team Cheshire U15s
Years in EPP 1st Year
Club Nantwich
School King's Chester
Career best (Cheshire) 100 v Norfolk
Career best (Club) 103no v NE Wales
Favourite Shot Leg glance
Favourite Team Lancashire
Favourite Player Ian Bell
Hobbies Golf, Football



Name Guy Dunbavand
County Team Cheshire U17s
Years in EPP 2nd Year
Club Chester Boughton Hall
School King's Chester
Career best (Cheshire) 109no
Career best (Club) 65no
Favourite Shot Cover Drive
Favourite Team Chester BH
Favourite Player Alastair Cook
Hobbies Golf, Football



Name Harry Killoran
County Team Cheshire U17s
Years in EPP 2nd Year
Club Chester Boughton Hall
School Bishops High
Career best (Cheshire) 67 & 3 wickets v Oxford
Career best (Club) 4-for in Cheshire Cup Final
Favourite Shot Nudge and nurdle
Favourite Team Derbyshire
Favourite Player Graeme Swann
Hobbies Football



Name Chris Drummond
County Team Cheshire U15s
Years in EPP 1st Year
Club Toft
School Wilmslow High School
Career best (Cheshire) 75
Career best (Club) 51 (Toft 3rd team)
Favourite Shot Pull shot
Favourite Team South Africa
Favourite Player Ricky Ponting
Hobbies All sports



Name James Drummond
County Team Cheshire U16s
Years in EPP 2nd Year
Club Toft
School Wilmslow High School
Career best (Cheshire) 85no v Yorkshire
Career best (Club) 101no
Favourite Shot Cover Drive
Favourite Team Toft
Favourite Player Dale Steyn
Hobbies All Sports



You can now follow the performances of all our Emerging Players and their Cheshire County age group colleagues using our dedicated results service via the website: <http://cheshirecb.play-cricket.com/scoreboard/results.asp>. During the season, there will also be regular match reports and photos from all our county and district games available to download via the excellent Cheshire Cricket Board website.

ACADEMY STARLETS EARN THEIR STRIPES

THE Cheshire Cricket Board Junior Academy brings together our most talented youngsters between the ages of 11 and 14.

Players are nominated by their county age group coaches based on performances the previous season.

The Academy acts as a feeder system for the Emerging Player Programme, although not all players are guaranteed to graduate to the next tier.

Specialist Academy training sessions will take place at Wilmslow High School on Saturday mornings from January to April.

Like their EP counterparts, all Academy players will be encouraged to keep a diary charting their goals and performances, with the CCB staff on hand to offer coaching support and advice for those involved in the programme.

NAME	SQUAD	CLUB
Ellie Mason	Girls	Bramhall
Sophie Ecclestone	Girls	Alvanley
Phoebe Cottam	Girls	Middlewich
Harry Newton	U12	Nantwich
George Balderson	U12	Cheadle Hulme
Alex Hooton	U12	Romiley
Alec Makin	U12	Bowdon
Lewis Clarke	U13	Woodford
Ed Fluck	U13	Alderley Edge
Henry Dobson	U13	Tattenhall
Jack Needham	U13	Hawk Green
Ben Johnson	U14	Nantwich
George Newton	U14	Nantwich
Elliot Young	U14	Hawk Green
Sam Hatcher	U14	Toft

Fit for a first class make-over

“IF THE body is willing, then success will naturally follow.”

That is the message from Cheshire’s Strength and Conditioning Consultant Angela Jackson as this year’s crop of Emerging Players and Junior Academy picks embark on another challenging winter coaching programme.

For many, the dream is to one day pull on the pads at a first class county, and Angela (pictured right) says to realise this ambition the players must first get physically “fit for cricket”.

She explained: “One of the key messages to players is that they can very talented and technically able, but you need to be physically fit to withstand the pressures of the modern game.

“We gave a talk to the parents about the aims of this year’s EPP, specifically to explain why we are asking the players to exercise in this way.

“You only have to look at the likes of Monty Panesar or Samit Patel to realise how hard you need to work to

build on that talent base once you reach the professional arena.”

Angela, who runs the Alderley Edge-based physiotherapy and sports injury clinic Physiofit, has been working with Cheshire’s elite players since 2010 and she is excited about the future direction of the county’s EPP.

She said: “There’s a belief that what we’re doing is really helping and we’re now starting to see more players graduating to first class academies.

“I first got involved with Cheshire at Under 10 level, and that group of players are now 17. Three of them have made it onto first class academies, so we must be doing something right!

“One of the key things with the EPs is goal setting - we needed to make each and every training session purposeful with a specific task which takes the players outside of their normal comfort zone.

“We have to challenge them to challenge themselves and be the best they



can be. And if the body is willing, success will naturally follow.”

Angela added: “For me it’s about controlling the controllables, so what the players eat, what they drink, how much sleep they get, how they sit and how they stand.

“It’s about managing that hectic teenage lifestyle in a way that best allows the player to perform.”

*** FOR MORE NEWS FROM ANGELA TURN TO PAGE 12**

Coach's Corner: A guide to good coaching practice

Every New Year brings an air of excitement as clubs begin their preparations for the forthcoming season. In a new regular feature for *Wheatsheaf World*, Cheshire's Coach Education Manager Graeme Rickman shares his top tips for getting the best out of your sessions.

With the festive season almost upon us, it would be easy to relax and put off those plans for the new season until early in 2013. In this first edition of *Coach's Corner*, I examine how a little preparation pre-Christmas can go a long way to ensuring a prosperous New Year.

As a starting point, I believe all clubs should consider drawing up a **winter syllabus** to include not only hard-ball nets, but also other games and drills to aid all-round player development.

There's no doubt nets have an important role to play, but there can be a tendency to run them too often, which can result in "net fatigue". This is where the player and coach just go through the motions and as a consequence little development takes place.

I am keen that coaches look at different ways to structure nets to include more real life consequences for batters and bowlers. By creating match-play scenarios, players can be given clear objectives, allowing them to set goals for the session ahead.

This could be as simple as a batter working on his front foot play to a set field, while the bowler thinks tactically about how he might dismiss him.

On the Cheshire Cricket Board player pathway, we never run a net without a theme any more as it's crucial to create that competitive edge among players while also challenging them to think for themselves.

ECB coaches may have read recent research suggesting that playing games is crucial to developing an understanding of the game in young cricketers.

Progressive games can help shape a player's technique and tactical understanding, without the need for continual intervention.

There's no doubt this has made me

"We never run a net session without a theme as it's crucial to create that competitive edge among our players,"

**Graeme Rickman,
Coach Education Manager**

consider my own approach to practical delivery, and I am constantly looking at ways for the "game to be the teacher". After all, kids love to play games right?!

Observe / Analyse / Feedback

Those coaches who attended a recent UKCC2 course will recall the 'How to Coach' bugs as a process to help structure a coaching session.

For me the bugs really brought to life how best to use my technical knowledge in the most effective way.

What generally sets coaches apart is their ability to observe accurately, form analysis and then generate feed-

back to or from a player or a group.

Often, the challenge for some club coaches is allowing themselves enough time

to observe accurately. I believe we owe it to our players to spend at least a few minutes observing (from different angles) before we form an overall opinion of the player.

It's sometimes likely that once a player has had a few minutes, or several balls, they would have made any corrections themselves without the need to intervene. Whilst interventions serve a purpose in helping a player understand their technique, too many can upset the flow of play and overload the player mentally.

Another concept I've been keen to develop lately is to focus on the "outcome" without getting too caught up in the what I'm seeing technically. As long as the action is repeatable and safe, and the outcome positive, then why force a player to change it? You only need picture Shiv Chanderpaul's stance at the crease to appreciate where I'm coming from here.

The key to effective coaching is to develop a rapport with the players, so be sure to discuss their strengths before highlighting any areas that might require improvement.

The final challenge is to deliver some feedback in an effective way, which actively engages the player. There is always the option to simply "tell" them how to improve, but for feedback to be really meaningful a questioning approach will usually promote better understanding from the performer.

I hope you have found these tips a handy resource or a useful reminder and all there remains to say is have a great Christmas and good luck with your coaching in 2013.



On the job: Graeme tutors new coaches in Hamburg

Howzat proves a real Christmas cracker



CRICKETERS on the hunt for a handy stocking filler this Christmas should look no further than the ECB's remarkable multi-media coaching resource, 'Howzat'.

That's the view of Cheshire Cricket Board Coach Education Manager Graeme Rickman, who believes the revolutionary CD Rom is fast becoming the most essential piece of equipment in any coach's kit bag.

"The feedback from everyone in Cheshire who has accessed the programme so far has been overwhelmingly positive," he revealed.

"Our professional coaching staff use Howzat on a regular basis to design sessions for our

county juniors, and the CD Rom has become a feature on our coach education courses.

"Those club coaches who have taken the skills and drills on board say it has added a whole new dimension to their coaching."

Howzat is the ECB's newest interactive, multi-media resource designed to cover all aspects of player and coach development. Coaches can access video clips, text and animations based on working on the various stages of player development.

Yet, despite all the benefits of the programme, some ECB CA members who took delivery of Howzat last year have yet to even take the CD Rom out of the box.

Graeme explained: "Sadly, we know that some coaches here in Cheshire have still not uploaded their copy of Howzat onto their

computers or laptops.

"There could be any number of reasons why people have not accessed the programme yet, but it's important that all the copies we have in Cheshire are put to good use.

"We know from the registration numbers who has uploaded Howzat and who hasn't, so can I ask anyone who has yet to access the programme to do so now.

He added: "If you don't have any intention of using Howzat, or are not actively involved in coaching anymore, please send your copies back to our office so that we can get them into the hands of people who will use them."

To return an unwanted (and unopened) copy of Howzat to the Cheshire Cricket Board, please send it to: 2 Moss Farm Cottages, Moss Farm Leisure Complex, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 4BG.

TO BOOK A COACHING COURSE, VISIT THE CCB WEBSITE

www.cheshirecricketboard.co.uk/coachedcoursebooking.html

COURSE	VENUE	DATES	TIMES	PRICE
UKCC1	Birkenhead School	Wednesdays, January 16 - February 28	6pm-9pm	£190 Member of a CCB affiliated club) £275 Non-member
UKCC2	South Cheshire College	Sundays, December 2/9/16 and Jan 6/13	9am-3.30pm	£240 Member £400 Non-member
UKCC2	Wilmslow High School	Saturdays, January 5 - February 2	9am-3.30pm	£240 Member £400 Non-member
UKCC2	Queen's Park High School, Chester	Sundays, January 20 - February 17	9am-3.30pm	£240 Member £400 Non-member
UKCC2	Wilmslow High School	Saturdays, January 26—February 23	9am-3.30pm	£240 Member £400 Non-member
Working in Schools	Wilmslow High School	Saturday, March 2	9am-3pm	£35
Coach Development Workshops	Queen's Park High School, Chester	Sundays, March 3-17	9am-3pm	£200 Member £325 Non-member

Win, lose or 'draw' for school kids



Chance to Shine
EDUCATING THROUGH CRICKET

Supported by **Brit Insurance**

CREATIVE youngsters from Blue Coats Primary School, Chester, brought a splash of colour to the bleak mid-winter with some inspirational cricket-themed artwork.

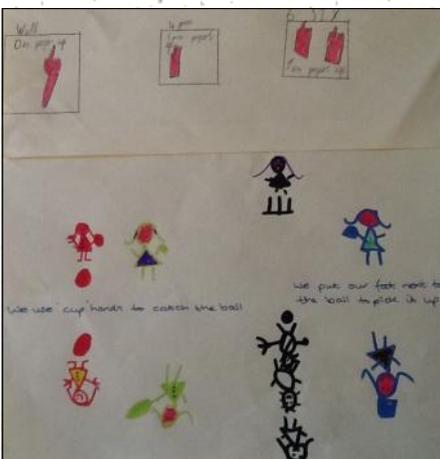
The talented year four pupils swapped their bats and balls for pencils and paintbrushes to produce a series of pictures about the Chance to Shine 'coaching in schools' scheme.

Owen Williamson, Development and Coaching Officer for Chester, has been working closely with Blue Coats thanks to support from one of Cheshire Cricket Board's key funding partners, the Cricket Foundation.

Owen (pictured right) explained: "The weather changed one Monday afternoon and with no use of a sports hall I decided to run a class assembly focussing on the Laws of the game.

"This included things like umpiring signals, the basics of scoring and how the pitch and field placings might look in a proper game of cricket.

"The children were really engaged and were asking questions throughout. I concluded with a 'pop quiz' and challenged the children to remember what they had learned, with some Chance to Shine stickers to hand out as prizes."



TOP DRAWER: Pupils bring to life umpiring signals and fielding skills

Such was the level of enthusiasm from the class, Owen decided to set the children one further challenge before he returned for his coaching session the following week.

He said: "I thought I would set them a homework task in which each child had to design a poster incorporating some of the topics we spoke about in the class assembly.

"They were also allowed to include coaching points and activities from the practical coaching sessions that we had done on the playground in the previous weeks.

"I have to admit, the response was excellent and there were some very good drawings and pictures. What

"Owen always delivers a quality service for our children, making cricket both exciting and accessible to all."

**Vince O'Brien, Head Teacher
Blue Coats Primary, Chester**

impressed me the most was how much the children had taken on board in the short time we had been working together."

Owen is rapidly building an excellent reputation among primary and secondary schools in the Chester area following a recent staff reshuffle at the Cheshire Cricket Board.

And with schools like Blue Coats involved in the Chance to Shine scheme, Owen is confident that the profile of cricket will continue to build in the district.

He said: "Blue Coats have been a big supporter of Chance to Shine and both the staff and pupils are really enthusiastic about being involved.

"By the end of 2013 I will have worked with all four year groups, giving every child in the school the opportunity to experience cricket.

"With the support of the head teacher, Mr O'Brien, we will also be

running an after-school club for those children who really want to pursue their passion."

Mr

O'Brien added: "Owen always delivers a quality service for our children, making cricket both exciting and accessible to all.

"He is an excellent role model and handles groups with skill, as well as adapting to all situations. This is a great way to get children involved and motivated to watch and play cricket."



WORK OF ART: Another youngster inspired by Chance to Shine coaches

SECOND TO NONE

CHESHIRE are set to embark on an exciting new phase of school delivery, which exclusively targets the secondary school arena.

Major funding partners **Chance to Shine** have secured a significant grant from Sport England to expand their current activities, with county boards such as Cheshire attached to deliver the programme.

More news on this exciting development will follow in future editions of **Wheatsheaf World**.

In Safe Hands: County Welfare Officer's report



You may have heard that there are going to be changes to the systems for vetting checks.

On December 1, 2012 the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) merged to form the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

The current CRB application form (purple one) will now be replaced with a new DBS application form. The new form will reflect the change of name from CRB to DBS and include new logo, together with some wording and format changes.

All key processes and the information required to complete the application form remain unchanged, however.

It should be noted that you can continue to use your current stock of CRB

application forms until January 31, 2013. From February 1, only DBS application forms should be used. Any 'old style' CRB application forms received by TMG CRB (who process the ECB's applications) after this date will be deemed invalid.

What can you do now?

- * Familiarise yourself with the new application form and communicate to the relevant people in your club the changes they need to note.
- * Make yourself aware of the new terminology in the application form.
- * Encourage colleagues to use the new forms as soon as they have them and dispose of any 'stocks' of 'CRB' forms.

More info needed?

If you would like further information, you can click on the following link to a power-point presentation from CRB on how the merger will affect CRB and what is changing:

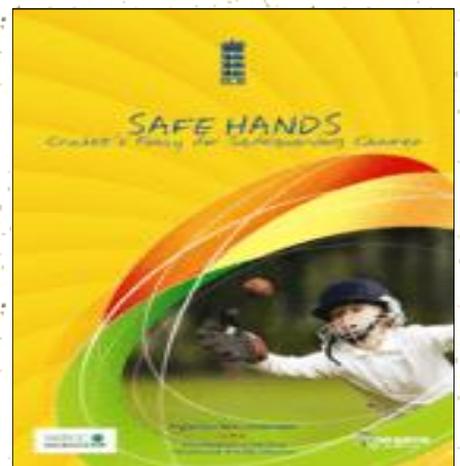
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/agencies-public-bodies/CRB/crbchanging-docs/crbchange-presentation?view=Binary>.

On the subject of vetting checks, I will be doing another audit of Cheshire clubs in April 2013. I will be checking that people who are actively involved in roles which require vetting have gone through the necessary procedures.

It is a legal responsibility that people who work with children in a regulated activity (such as coaches, managers, open age captains etc) are vetted.

A letter will shortly be sent to all club chairmen reminding them of their responsibilities towards safeguarding.

Andy Margeson



PULLING THE 'WOOL' OVER YOUR EYES ...

Cheshire's Club Development Manager Mike Woollard brings you the latest news

AS an exciting 2012 finally draws to a close, I am pleased to announce that many of our clubs have already begun the planning process for 2013, and not just 'on the pitch.'

NatWest CricketForce will take place on the weekend of April 5/6/7, and you can register your club today by clicking [here](#). In Cheshire, we have long recognised the benefits of self-help to maintain and develop our facilities, with 97 clubs registering for CricketForce in 2012. At the time of writing, 52 clubs have already signed up for 2013 and I am confident this number will rise significantly by the New Year.

For any clubs aspiring towards a "significant" development in 2013, be sure to get in touch with either myself or your local Coaching and Development Officer to maximise your chance of securing any funding that might be available. The CCCC funding booklet will be circulated by the start of the season electronically, and will also be available on our website, with two seminars to be organised in the New Year.

Can I take this opportunity to congratulate the 28 clubs who successfully re-accredited with ClubMark this year, and welcome two new ones - Port Sunlight and Chester County Officers - to the ClubMark family. It takes a significant commitment to meet the criteria set out by the ECB and gain that stamp of approval as a "safe, effective and child-friendly" organisation.. There are 31 Cheshire clubs due to re-accredit in 2013, and those involved need to ensure their coaches have updated CRBs, First Aid, Safeguarding and ECBCA memberships in time for the new season.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2013 ... ***Mike***



CCB Advanced Course Players of the Month

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>CLUB</u>	<u>HEAD COACH'S COMMENTS</u>
Bridgewater A	Joe Walker	Northwich	Joe has batted extremely well, and has been conscious of trying to hit the ball in the V with lots of power - <i>Colin Grindley</i>
Bridgewater B	Arran McCabe	Grappenhall	Arran has been the stand out bowler on the course - <i>Mark Greaves</i>
Bridgewater C	James Jenkinson	Grappenhall	James has displayed a fantastic attitude in all sessions, but the real reason for his nomination has been the remarkable transformation in his batting. He is striking the ball superbly 'in the V' and proving a difficult player to dismiss - <i>Gareth Moorhouse</i>
Bridgewater D	Nathan Jones	Widnes	Nathan has kept wicket very tidily in the nets in a very difficult environment, and continues to work hard to improve - <i>Colin Grindley</i>
Birkenhead A	Paul Keenan	Oxton	Paul has continued to improve his overall game, through his determination to practise his technical skills. A worthy winner this month - <i>Owen Williamson</i>
Birkenhead B	Jack Hunter	Caldy	Jack has consistently swung the ball back into the right hand batsman putting pressure on all the batsman. He has worked hard with his new action which has helped him gain much more momentum - <i>Graeme Rickman</i>
Birkenhead C	Harry Meehan	Birkenhead Park	Harry has bowled with good pace throughout the course and has generally shown a good attitude. He continues to impress. Well done - <i>Graeme Rickman</i>
Brine Leas A	Cameron-Bannister Wright	Oulton Park	Cameron has grown in confidence throughout the course and is looking strong with both bat and ball. He has improved the consistency of his bowling and continues to cause problems for all the batsmen - <i>Owen Williamson</i>
Brine Leas B	Harry Podmore	Congleton	Harry displayed excellent concentration and technique in the batting drills and despite being placed in a net with older players, does not look out of his depth at all - <i>Stewart Macleod</i>
Queen's Park A	Connor Gambles	Neston	Connor's leg spin has developed throughout the course to date and he has displayed maturity and a sound technique with the bat too - <i>Stewart Macleod</i>
Queen's Park B	Ben Slater	Middlewich	Ben has shown high levels of concentration and focus during the course. His batting has progressed with good shape but maintaining a positive approach. Works hard during any of the micro sessions, improving his technique at all times! - <i>Bob Milne</i>
South Cheshire A	Kieran Turner	Congleton	Kieran's swing bowling has caught the eye of the coaches, and he has mixed sound defence with good attacking intent when batting - <i>Owen Williamson</i>
South Cheshire B	Jack Taylor	Haslington	Jack has really shown up during the batting and fielding drills, displaying his full range of strokes and excellent catching skills - <i>Stewart Macleod</i>
Tytherington A	Otis Palmes	Prestbury	Gives 100% every time he comes to the course - <i>Colin Grindley</i>
Tytherington B	Luke Cartwright	Macclesfield	Luke has shown good consistency with his spin bowling and he has a fantastic attitude too, always listening and willing to help - <i>Gavin Colebourn</i>
Werneth A	Josh Dickin	Flowery Field	Josh has demonstrated a high level of consistency in the nets with both bat and ball. He very rarely gives his wicket away and has bowled a challenging line and length with good swing movement - <i>Gavin Colebourn</i>
Werneth B	Ben Ringrow	Compstall	Ben has shown an excellent attitude in all the warm ups, and skill sessions. In the nets his goal has been to strike the ball hard and play in the V. He is enjoying a lot of success in this area and has improved his game - <i>Gavin Colebourn</i>
Wilmslow B	Oliver Latter	Hale Barns	Oliver has introduced himself as a hard-hitting batsman with a willingness to learn and a terrific attitude towards his fellow course mates. A fully deserving recipient of this award - <i>Gareth Moorhouse</i>
Wilmslow C	Sam Johnson	Cheadle	Sam's wicket-keeping has been outstanding - <i>Mark Greaves</i>
Wilmslow D	Joey Chong	Bollington	Joey has displayed a fantastic attitude towards all aspects of the course, and his wicket-keeping and batting have improved enormously - <i>Owen Williamson</i>
Wilmslow E	Cameron Kirkland	Prestbury	Cameron continues to improve his off spin bowling following a successful switch from seam up this winter - <i>Mark Greaves</i>
Wilmslow E	Patrick Draper	Alderley Edge	Patrick's batting and bowling has been excellent - <i>Mark Greaves</i>
Wilmslow Girls	Sarah Worsdale	Oakmere	Sarah's bowling has come a long way in a short period of time, and she is now showing great potential as a seam bowler - <i>Owen Williamson</i>

Rick and Toby join the Cheshire Cricket family

THE CHESHIRE Cricket Board coaching family continues to grow following the recent introduction of two new staff members.

ECB Level 3 Coach Rick Halkon (pictured right with Shane Warne) and Stretton all-rounder Toby Mullins, will officially join the CCB staff in January following successful applications earlier this winter.

Rick joins the Board from Sale Sports Club, where he worked as a Development Officer for three years, coaching in schools and organising holiday camps. He has been appointed DCO for Stockport.

Rick will lead the County U13s Girls side next summer and will also take the reins for the U13s North squad in the Cheshire District Festival.

He said: "I am very much looking forward to working with the young cricketers in Cheshire and to hopefully inspire a new generation to play and enjoy the game."

"Alongside my roles at Sale, I have also worked at Lancashire CCC and Manchester University, coaching players from beginner through to elite level.

"I am passionate about girls cricket and growing the game, so I'm looking forward to the challenge of working with the Girls U13 side next year."

A former Cheshire Youth player, Toby Mullins joins the Board as a coaching officer who will lead the U13 District South side and play a major role in the Chance to Shine scheme.

He explained: "I first got into the Cheshire setup aged 10 and then worked my way up to play county cricket for two years."



"I first went into schools at 16 as part of my work placement, and progressed to take a two-year course in Cricket Studies at Myerscough College."

He added: "During that time I got the chance to run and organize cricket events in schools and clubs which gave me all the confidence I needed to join the Cheshire coaching set up."

Support the Cheshire Cricket Trust



The Cheshire Cricket Trust was established in 2012 and is Registered (No. 1147271) with the Charity Commission.

The Trust is proud of its association with Cheshire Cricket Board but is run separately by its four Trustees - David Sharp, Sarah McCann, Mike Guest and Karl Bamford.

The Trust seeks to attract support and donations to facilitate the playing and development of cricket for everyone in Cheshire on a recreational basis to improve their conditions of life.

Earlier this year, the Trust helped secure the full-time employment of CCB coach Chris Edwards, a member of the England Learning Difficulties team who now acts as a Development and Coach-

ing Officer for clubs on the Wirral.

Trustee David Sharp explained why lovers of Cheshire Cricket should consider supporting the Trust. He said: "This is a fantastic initiative, which allows people to make a significant and lasting contribution to the game in this county."

"We are all extremely passionate about cricket and want to preserve our game for many generations to come. We have already received several extremely generous donations and any contribution is gratefully received by all."

Donations by cheque payable 'Cheshire Cricket Trust' may be sent to: Cheshire Cricket Trust, c/o Cheshire Cricket Board, 2 Moss Farm Cottages Moss Farm Leisure Complex, Winnington, Northwich CW8 4BG

If you are a UK Tax payer, to help us maximise the value of your donation please complete a Gift Aid declaration with your payment.

* For information or to learn more about making a donation please email us at cheshirecricket-trust@cheshirecricketboard.co.uk

A festive fitness lesson from the professionals

ROAST turkey with all the trimmings, Brussel sprouts, mince pies, and a mountain of chocolate cake - it just wouldn't be Christmas without the traditional family feast.

No doubt many of our cricketers (young and not so young!) will be loosening the belt-buckles and slumped on the sofa by the time the Queen makes her speech to the nation.

And with schools and many sports centres shut until the New Year, it would be easy to hide the bat and ball in a cupboard and completely forget about cricket for the festive fortnight.

But for Strength and Conditioning Consultant Angela Jackson, our aspiring young cricketers should try to strike a healthy balance of "work, rest and play" if they want to be in prime physical condition for the 2013 season.

Angela explained: "Christmas may seem like the perfect time for people to unwind, and understandably so, with all the temptations that come with it.

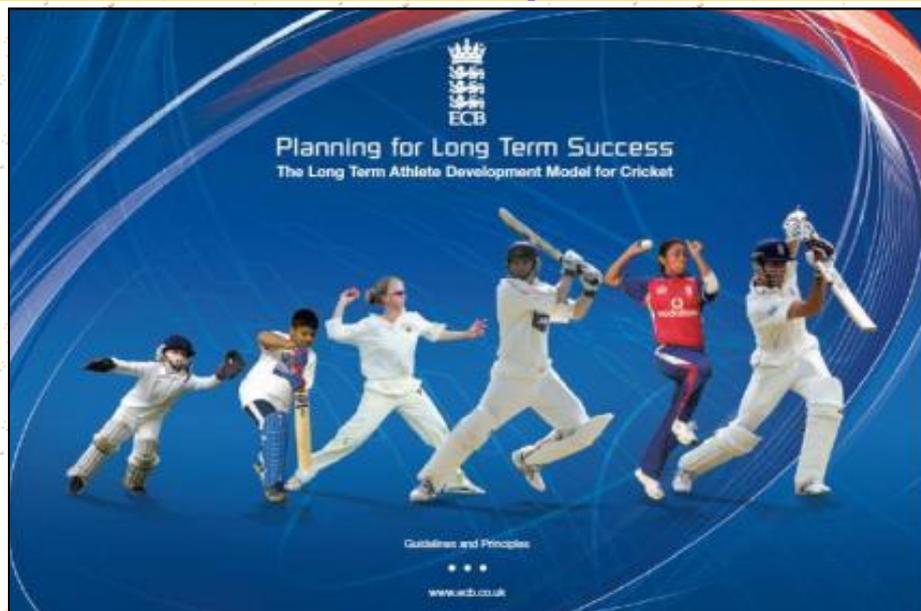
"But this is also the perfect time for some meaningful fitness training and an opportunity not to be missed.

"It may not be practical to be inside a sports hall or in the nets, but it's important not to give the kids a fortnight off either if they want to stay in shape.

"It's important to retain that base level of fitness that will allow them to attack all the technical drills in the New Year with the confidence that their bodies will withstand the pace."

Angela is a former England Cricket Team fitness adviser who has been working closely with Cheshire's crop of Emerging Players since 2010.

Together with Physiofit colleague Glen Davies, she has designed a fitness programme to help our leading youngsters prepare their bodies and their minds for the challenges that lie ahead



THE ROAD TO SUCCESS: The ECB'S LTAD model for young cricketers

on the path to a career in the game.

With 19 years experience in the field, Angela brings a wealth of knowledge to the Cheshire set-up which includes a short stint as a consultant to the full England set up.

"If you don't give children the LTAD opportunities at an early age, it becomes very difficult to play catch up later ... this is not just about preventing injury, but also about improving performance."

Angela Jackson

"Five years ago, I approached the ECB regarding our junior screening programme in Cheshire. Originally I just went along to Loughborough to ask if what I was doing at a local level was appropriate. I went down looking for advice but it transpired that I had been doing it (screening) for 10 years longer than the medical staff there had.

"They were happy to have an extra pair of hands on board and I joined the consultation process.

"I've been down a couple of times since, working with the likes of James Anderson, Andrew Flintoff and Kevin Pietersen. It's great to have had some kind of input at that level because it gives a certain credit to what you do."

The CCB coaching staff receive regular training from Angela and have adapted their dynamic warm-up routines to incorporate her strength and conditioning exercises.

She offers discounted screening tests for all Cheshire players, and gives an annual presentation on the benefits of Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD), ensuring the correct advice is given about growth spurts, nutrition, and training levels for young cricketers.

"A lot of children are very talented sportsmen, but the further up the ladder you go it's important to have the whole package, which means they need a certain level of fitness," said Angela.

"It's now a requirement for all England players - before they receive their contract - to undergo and pass a strength and conditioning test. We need to accept this is part and parcel of elite sport.

"If you don't give the children the LTAD opportunities at an early age, it becomes very difficult to play catch up later on." She added: "This is not just about preventing injury, but also about improving performance."

Cheshire Cricket Board Director of Cricket Richard Newton said: "We are delighted to have Angela on board, and hope that her passion and expertise will prove of great benefit to the well-being of our young players, both this season and beyond."

Happy New Year everyone

JANUARY promises to be a busy period for staff at the Cheshire Cricket Board, with players, clubs and officials stepping up their preparations for the 2013 season.

The CCB Player Pathway will shortly reach its Excellence and District stage, with the most talented youngsters in each age group invited to attend a 10-week coaching course from Jan-April.

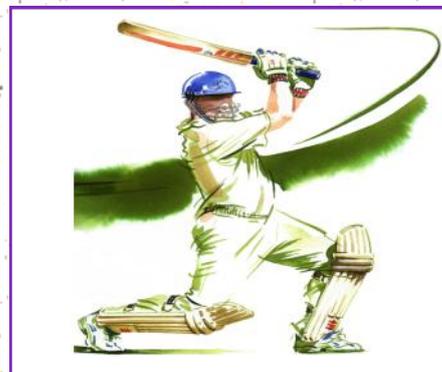
Prospective new coaches will also be put through their paces on the upcoming UKCC2 and Club Coach courses,

with places still available for both.

Current coaches may need to renew First Aid and Safeguarding qualifications and can do so by clicking here.

Meanwhile, an eight-week umpiring course on Tuesday evenings (7.30-9.30pm) commences on January 8, and can be booked at a cost of just £40.

Cheshire Cricket Board will also be organising another **“Safe Hands”** course for new and returning Club Welfare Officers early in the New Year - check the website for full details.



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