
THE POWDERMILL CLUB

WHO'S WHO



CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY

TREASURER

MEMBERSHIP

SOCIAL

SPORTS

OUTINGS

BAR

HOUSE MANAGEMENT

PUBLICITY

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QUICKMATCH



OCTOBER 1987

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EDITOR'S REPORT

Hello again everyone, at long last! Welcome to this Autumn Edition of 'Quickmatch'. Since we missed an issue this summer- did any of you notice?!- I have gathered in more news from the Sections than has been the norm lately. Perhaps also the arrival of autumn has, for some sports, enabled our reporters to write end-of-season summaries. Whatever the reason, my thanks go to all the people who have contributed to this issue- well done, and keep it up!

In the last issue I was criticised for waffling on for far too long (it was a whole page!) and I must admit that on reflection it was a bit over the top! So, this time I'm going to make up for it by keeping it brief and letting you get on with the 'Quickmatch' Competition which follows!

Dave Catton

?????????????
COMPETITION
??????????????

First the results of the Spring Competitions:

"The Liquid Solution" had 9 entries and the winner was L.Harries (Ext 407)

"The Architect's Dream" had a massive 18 entries and the winner was Sharon Gumball (Ext 293)

The winners of each can collect their prizes of a bottle of wine from the bar.

"GOING PLACES"

Yes, it's another anagram quiz! Here are a few teasers for you to solve!

You are travelling to some Capital cities of the world- find the country and its Capital in the following jumbled up anagrams! Best of luck to you all- the usual prize to the winner!

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. PAID IN DRAMS | 8. ROYAL SWOON |
| 2. LAST GRUB IN POOL | 9. PACK ME ONE GRAND HEN |
| 3. OMIT RELAY | 10. JAN TOOK PAY |
| 4. RAISE VAIN AUNT | 11. BALD COUNT SHED GRIN |
| 5. TOY PIG RACE | 12. FIRE PAN SCAR |
| 6. SWAP A WORN LAD | 13. BRUISE BULLS GEMS |
| 7. HE ENTERS CAGE | 14. SAVE EVIL TRAIL |
| | 15. URBAN AREA CATS LAIR |

Entries to the Editor as soon as possible please.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It seems ages since I last had to give a report to you and, on reflection, it is ages, since we seem to have slipped an issue this year and my last offering must have been before the AGM!

Once again we barely managed to scrape a quorum and one can only assume that the majority are quite happy with the way the Club is going?

It's been a funny year so far with some previously very popular events cancelled through lack of support. We assume that members have other things on their minds- like- 'will I still have a job?' and if so 'where will it be?' In the last few weeks some definite statements of intention and tentative deadlines have been given by the management of both Establishments concerning the future of Waltham Abbey and the future looks very bleak. What does this mean for the Club? This is a question that I and the Committee will be taking up with management and PSA hands and we are urgently seeking a meeting to ascertain the final disposition of the Club site.

Almost certainly the Club cannot continue in it's present form but until we obtain more information we are talking in a vacuum. As soon as some definite decisions are made a Special General Meeting will be held and, hopefully, some form of proposition will be put to the membership. There are a variety of different scenarios that can occur but until we have definite information it is impossible to put forward any proposals.

Meanwhile, if you have any suggestions or schemes by which the Club can continue we will be very pleased to receive them. Just jot your ideas down and send them to either the Secretary or to myself.

Norman Paul

STOP PRESS

THE 1987 CHRISTMAS DRAW

Yes! It's not long now you know. Once again we're holding our Annual Christmas Draw. Tickets are still only 10p each and all money collected will go back in prizes. By the time you read this the tickets will already be in circulation!

IF YOU WISH TO BE A SELLER, PLEASE CONTACT IRIS MEZEN P1 (Ext 484) FOR TICKET SHEETS

The Draw itself will take place in the Main Hall on Saturday 12th December, commencing at 8pm.

HURRY! HURRY! HURRY!

 * S O C I A L *

It's been a quiet summer on the Social scene, and a mixed reaction to Social events. We had the ever popular Fashion Shows, and the Centenary Celebration Fireworks and Barbeque. All these were very well attended.

On the other side of the coin, we had to cancell two Disco's and a Dance because of lack of interest. As these events are from both sides of the music scene, the excuse can't be that we are not catering for different musical tastes!

Another reason for the lack of support for some functions may be that all the talk about the closure of the Establishments is making people think that the Social side of the Club will stop. This is definitely NOT TRUE! We will keep on holding functions until we are thrown out of the door!

A point to note is that from now on, all the Dances we hold will be to LIVE Bands! So, please come on and support us next time.

I would like to remind everyone that Bingo is still being run every alternate Sunday. The next Bingo will be held on Sunday 25th October and then each fortnight thereafter.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to thank the many people who sent cards etc. to me when I was in hospital last March. Also, Thanks go to the people who made sure that the functions went on as usual during my absence.

The remainder of this year's Social Programme is as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Saturday 31st October | HALLOWEEN DISCO AND
FIREWORKS BARBEQUE |
| Friday 6th November | STEVE STEWART in Club Bar |
| Friday 27th November | FASHION SHOW |
| Saturday 28th November | SQUARE DANCE |
| Saturday 12th December | CHRISTMAS DRAW |
| Sunday 13th December | CHRISTMAS BINGO |
| Saturday 19th December | CHRISTMAS DISCO |
| Sunday 20th December | CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY |
| and
Saturday 2nd Jan 1988 | NEW YEAR DANCE (MIDNIGHT SOUND) |

Please give your support to these functions.

Bill Coe

SQUASH

A new venture was started this summer which has nothing to do with the Bicentennial. A group of members who enjoy drinking and eating good food decided to get together once a week and indulge themselves in this pursuit. Unfortunately though, to obtain the support from the Committee they had to do this under the guise of a Squash team! This was a pity, since the record of this group of people playing as Waltham Abbey 2nd Team had shown that they were far better suited to the former than the latter! However, undeterred, an application was made to join the Essex Summer Squash League. As a result the team was invited to join Division 9W (the W standing for 'West', not as a continuation of 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, etc!).

Having gained entry to the League a venue had to be found to entertain the opponents. It was arranged that the Club premises could be used for both eating and drinking. The Squash, incidentally, had to be played at the Bullsmoor Lane Sports Centre!

The most important position of Catering Manager was filled by Wendy Day, who was selected from a vast number of applicants owing to her outstanding credentials and her willingness to undertake this demanding position for no reward whatsoever. This has, in fact, been the key signing of the season so far!

The Team started the summer season with high hopes and enthusiasm but were almost immediately struck down by a series of injuries that put most of the players out of action. At one stage it was so bad they felt like renaming themselves 'The Cripples'! The results reflected this slight setback setback and halfway through the season the Team was in sixth place out of seven! Undaunted, however, they struggled on and as the injured recovered the results improved and by the end of the season the Team were in a quite comfortable fourth position.

The Team has now entered the Winter league and have so far played two matches. The first one was lost but the second was a resounding 5-0 win. Any member who wishes to come along and support the Team would be welcome, and players who feel that they are of appropriate standard please put your names forward. A Fixture List will be posted up on the Club Noticeboard.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for their support for this new activity, and in particular to Norman Paul for his help in the setting up of the kitchen and Steve Hutchings for use of the Bar facilities and Committee Room. Thanks also to Wendy Day for providing an excellent spread at each Home match and to Sylvia and Carol for putting up with us from behind the Bar!

Peter Maher (Tennis elbow and Captain)

SEA ANGLING

Quickmatch readers may be rather surprised to see a contribution from the Sea Angling section but I can tell you it is not easy to write from a small boat being tossed about by wind and waves with people throwing-up in unpredictable trajectories! Please excuse the lugworm stains!! Seriously though, we are still an active section and attempt to set out to sea at least once a month, although two trips out of nine so far this year have had to be cancelled due to gales (yes, one in the month of June believe it or not -flaming awful!!).

The fishing this year has not been brilliant so far. One tends to think of the sea as very well stocked with fish but inshore trawling and gill netting has certainly made fishing very hard at times. For example, on our last trip out of Brighton I caught 34 dabs and whiting- yet only one was large enough to be worth keeping. However, all was not lost since we managed to bring back some mackerel- that was some consolation.

At the MOD Sports Day match held at Ramsgate in July we fished reasonably well but unfortunately not well enough to land any prizes. Our team of four weighed in (7.75+5+1.5+0.33)lbs. made up of smooth hounds, one codling and dabs.

Membership has fallen off somewhat along with the pool of people left at Waltham Abbey so if anyone would like to fish with us regularly or even wishes to come out to see what sea fishing is like and enjoy the friendly banter on board they are very welcome. Please contact Terry Stemman or myself for further details.

Dave Mullenger (Ext 399/245)

CHESS

The close of the 1986/87 season saw the death of one of the founder members of the Chess Club, Bob Jones. Always a very enthusiastic player, and also Club Secretary for many years, he gave tremendous support to the Club, continuing to do so until a few weeks before his death. Bob is greatly missed by all his colleagues at the Club.

In the Essex League Division Two, Powdermill were once again Runners up, being 'pipped at the post' by Rayleigh who are, as a result, promoted to Division One. In the National Plate competition, we lost to Kynoch of Birmingham in the semi-finals 3.5-2.5, after some very hard fought preliminary rounds. In the North Circular League Division A, we finished mid-table despite being unable to field the strongest team on all occasions. John Cook was awarded this years '1981' Cup for the best playing record throughout the season, with an overall success rate of 76%- Well done John!

October sees the start of our 1987/88 season with a thriving, enthusiastic Club of 20 members of all playing strengths. Should you wish to join either to play competitively, or just to play the odd friendly game, then please come along on Clubnight every Wednesday evening in the Chessroom, or contact either myself or John Cook (Ext 238).

Bob Torry (Hon. Sec.)

FOOTBALL

Our preparation this season has started off with four wins and one loss in pre-season friendlies. I have had the opportunity to look at a couple of new players to replace those that have left from last season, and I have no doubt that they will command a regular place in the side this coming season.

Unfortunately, I have lost three players for at least eight games. One suffered a broken arm in an accident at work, and as he happens to be a goalkeeper he will obviously be out for longer than if he had been playing in the outfield. The other two are full backs, one suffering a torn thigh muscle and the other torn ankle ligaments. Get fit soon lads- we need you!

Our first league game on the 12th September resulted in a 1-0 win for us. I missed seeing the game as I was in attendance on my Section's display at the Bicentenary Open Day. The reports from the players suggested that although we did not play as well as we can, we lacked nothing in commitment and fully deserved our win. Last season we narrowly missed promotion to the Premiere Division after going off at the start like a rocket! Hopefully, this season we will be able to maintain the form necessary to gain promotion.

Our training sessions on Tuesdays start with circuit training in the Hall, followed by a 2-3 mile run, and then concluding with about an hour of ball work on the tennis courts under the floodlights which were erected last year. These lights are proving to be a tremendous asset to the teams training programme and ultimate performance.

Two players who are worthy of a mention are Darren Goodey and Cliff Stapleton, both of whom have now played for PERME F.C. for 10 years. Cliff played for a number of years under the managership of Bill Telling. Darren, who is still only 19 years of age, has been with me from the age of nine and is the only original PERME Rockets F.C. player in the side today. Both players were presented with a memento at our End of Season Presentation Disco.

Sometime this season we will be playing a team from RARDE Fort Halstead at Waltham Abbey. We could make this a Charity Match with, say, the PERME Benevolent Fund as the beneficiary. If there is anyone with any ideas on the way we can organise this, then please get in touch with me.

Well, that's all for now. I'll keep you informed with our progress this coming season.

Player of the Year 1986/87

BARRY GAPES

Clubman of the Year 1986/87

CLIFF STAPLETON

Managers Award

KEVIN SIMS

Bill Warren

CRICKET

The final over has now been bowled on the Cricket season and we are left to reflect on the unsettled weather which produced the beguiling statistics for the matches played (or otherwise): Won 7, Drawn 7, Lost 7, Rained Off 7!!

It has also been an unsettled season in other respects as Captain Kevin Kiff decided to take his doubtful(?) talents to Cheshunt Cricket Club, just when he was doing badly enough to do a good job for us! Fortunately, a tall figure in white (with a few grass stains!) and sometimes called Mick Griggs, came to the rescue and did a splendid job as stand-in Captain and rabble rouser for the remainder of the season, which on reflection was reasonably successful and enjoyable.

Notable performances (on the field of play!) were as follows:

D. Watt	5 wickets	for	3 runs	v. Poets & Pheasants C.C.
R. Penfold	7	"	36	v. Thundridge
P. Elby	5	"	11	v. Tesco
D. Watt	8	"	23	v. East Ham
R. Boyask	6	"	24	v. Recorder
D. Brett	6	"	24	v. Waltham Abbey
D. Watt	5	"	20	v. Stapleford
K. Kiff		72 runs		v. Tesco
S. Rainford		70 runs		v. Craven
D. Watt		65 runs		v. Alma C.C.
T. Ridout		64 runs		v. Enfield Invicta
S. Rainford		58 runs		v. Redbridge

The team's worst score of the season (in a game the undersigned hastens to add he didn't play!) is still a classified secret, but I understand from a 'mole' that double figures were recorded after a second count! The exact total may be extracted from a certain 'player' following liquid bribes in the dark recesses of the Snooker room!

Richard Penfold (Treasurer)

SNOOKER

Well, the Snooker section continues to run smoothly. After a fairly quiet summer, when new shades were fitted over the tables, we have now started the EDWASCA 1987/88 League season. Good luck to our teams this year.

The Junior section continues to meet for practice every Monday evening from 7:30-8:30pm, and new faces will always be made welcome.

As in previous years, a trip has been arranged to the Benson & Hedges Masters tournament at Wembley in January. The match we're due to see is between Alex Higgins and Tony Knowles. Watch out for details later.

The annual Snooker Knockout Competition is soon to get underway again in late October. I would therefore like to make a plea to all competitors in this event to get your games sorted out and played as soon as possible please. Thankyou, and best of luck to you all.

Barry Barrett

DARTS

DARTS KNOCKOUT FINALS

The Finals Night on May 16th was a very entertaining and enjoyable evening with some extremely good dart throwing thrown in (if you see what I mean!).

In the Fours, BWD got over last years defeat in the Final to beat Terry Hubbard's team. Terry, alas, was on holiday in Wales ringing in with his 180 score every time it was his throw. Unfortunately, he did the same when his team only wanted Double 16 and busted!

Iris Mezen and Penny McManamon won the Ladies Doubles, with both teams suffering on the Doubles in their third game.

Sid Whiten and Alby Wright won the Men's Pairs with some terrific dart throwing by both these players.

Alby (again!) and Marge Wright won the Mixed Pairs.

Doreen Paul won the Ladies Singles with some excellent throwing, beating a very nervous Jackie Wood.

Mick Leonard won the Men's Singles beating Roy Green whose form deserted him after an impressive season captaining PERME 'A' Team to their first ever Division 1 Championship.

WELL DONE ROY !!

I would like to thank everyone that helped on the Night, especially my Wife and Mother-in-law for all the food they prepared while I watched the Cup Final!

A summary of the results are as follows:

EVENT	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP
Men's Singles	M. Leonard	R. Green
Ladies Singles	D. Paul	J. Wood
Men's Pairs	S. Whiten A. Wright	R. Roberts A. Colgate
Ladies Pairs	I. Mezen P. McManamon	J. Osmond G. Gibbins
Mixed Pairs	A. Wright M. Wright	N. Paul D. Paul
Fours	B.W.D.	T. Hubbard & Co.

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Competition and made it very enjoyable. Keep your eyes peeled for next years entry lists.

Mick Leonard

LADIES DARTS

Sadly, the Ladies Darts section has ended.

Barbara Coe

=====
SPECIAL REPORTS
=====

RARDE WALTHAM ABBEY BICENTENARY

Just in case you hadn't heard, the North Site is celebrating its Bicentenary. Two hundred years ago the existing Gunpowder Mills were nationalised and the Site has been in Government hands ever since.

As part of the celebrations a FAMILIES OPEN DAY was held on Saturday 12th September and I thought "So What. What's there to see on North Site?", but then I thought "A nostalgic stroll around the old place might be interesting". I obviously wasn't alone in this since, on the day apparently, over 1000 people attended including employees past and present from both RARDE and RO Waltham Abbey, their families, and their friends. As it turned out, it was well worth going to. In addition to the scientific exhibits in various labs there was an historical display in the library and some special exhibits by the Royal Navy and commercial Defence Contractors. There were also trips to the Burning Ground and Newton's Pool where underwater explosions were carried out. I didn't manage to get to go on the Burning Ground demo but I'm told that it was well worth seeing. The Newton's Pool demo was really great!

Special displays were organised for the afternoon starting with a Brass Band Concert by WARE BRASS near the Main Gate. It was a bit wet and blustery to sit and listen but it gave just the right atmosphere to the proceedings. After that was a display by the local Fire Brigade who simulated two crashed cars on fire and carried out a rescue exercise. They also staged a static exhibition in conjunction with the RO internal Fire Brigade. This was followed by a demonstration drill of an FH70 Mobile Gun by the Royal Artillery- most impressive! For me, one of the main highlights of the Day was the military pyrotechnics display on the Long Walk with demonstrations of Smokes, Flares and Bangs. This started off with a gunpowder explosion and culminated in the setting off of 200 Thunderflashes, one for each year of the Bicentenary. I enjoyed that very much although I couldn't hear all of the accompanying commentary because of the high winds. I just had time after that to dash along to the Main Hall for a quick pint and browse around the Souvenir Stall. Some of the souvenirs were well worth buying, and I'm told there are still some left. I bought a tie and a couple of mugs. I also bought a balloon for the Balloon Race, and with the high winds I expect that the eventual winner could even be from as far away as Russia! I said I had to dash into the Hall for a quick drink because I didn't want to miss the Dog Display by our very own Ministry of Defence Police. This display was really great and I enjoyed seeing the dogs putting their handlers through their paces! Seriously though, this was another event worth seeing. I stayed on to the bitter end, well at least until the Bar closed (the end of the Bitter?!), and watched the Tree Planting Ceremony at the close of the afternoon. The RARDE Director's wife planted a Copper Birch in commemoration of the Bicentenary- I hope it lasts!

(cont)

RARDE WALTHAM ABBEY BICENTENARY (cont)

Throughout the Day the weather was pretty diabolical, but in spite of that it was a very memorable day. I'm glad that I decided to go! My personal thanks go to all those involved in providing for such an interesting day.

In the Evening the Club ran a special Bicentenary Fireworks and Barbeque which unfortunately I was unable to attend. I have managed, however, to persuade a colleague who went to give a separate report on this!

Once again, Well Done the North Site!

R.R.

BICENTENARY BALLOON RACE

Well, this was a very disappointing event. The number of entries was very low- less than one hundred!

With the strong winds on the Day it was hoped that the winner would be from the Continent, as in previous years. The wind direction, however, was such that the balloons had to cross the North Sea to Scandinavia!!

Obviously none made it (not even as far as an oil rig!) since the four (genuine) replies all came from much nearer home. In order of distance travelled, these were:

- The winner- Saxmundham, Suffolk No.1092
Steve Mumford
(Steve receives the prize of a fiver)
- Second- Ipswich, Suffolk No.1011
Bob McGuchan
(Hard luck Bob, just pipped at the post!)
- Third- Dunmow, Essex No.1078
Dick Morrell
- Fourth- Harlow, Essex No.1051
Stacy Pegrum
(Big deal- virtually in our back yard!!)

And those were all the replies we had, except for one mystery reply from some 'One' called 'Elizabeth II' at Windsor!- completely in the opposite direction to all the other entries! On closer inspection the postmark is in fact an internal stamp bearing the initials 'MOD' suspiciously similar to the official stamp to be found at various MDP gatehouses! This entry has been declared null-and-void, and it is suspected that the balloon probably landed in the Long Walk area!

Many thanks to all those who cared to take part.

H. Ellum

BICENTENARY FIREWORKS & BBQ

Well, I was lucky to get tickets for the Centenary Fireworks display and I must say it was money well spent!

As well as the actual display and the Barbeque, entertainment was provided by a group calling themselves 'Spring Chickens'. I don't know where they got the name because spring chickens they certainly weren't! However, a very lively bunch they were- not exactly pop, not folk, more a sort of Music Hall act and very entertaining too. You can't beat a live performance, but I'll bet they were quite expensive.

The fireworks were late. Very late. In fact, they were nearly two hours late. We were told that this was due to the weather (what else!) and I can believe it! Apparently, all was set to go when, 20 minutes before the set time the heavens opened and most of them had to go back undercover! Then one of the main set pieces got water damaged and had to be rebuilt. Fortunately, the Organiser of the display was using a newly invented Fusing match system that he had developed. This was the first time ever that the system had been used in a display (another first for Waltham Abbey!) and without this new improved system the damaged piece would never have been rebuilt in time! Once it got started, the display really did go well- one of the best displays I have ever seen. I especially liked the Cannons firing in the set pieces. The highlight of the display must surely have been the final set piece of the Bicentenary Logo, and despite the lateness it was well worth waiting for. Indeed, the whole evening went with a bang! It was a fitting climax to the Day.

J.S.R.

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