

Hemel Hempstead Town Cricket Club

July Newsletter



It's July and the summer heatwave is here. And just like the weather Hemel's promotion push on all fronts are starting to hit boiling point.

In this month's edition we have the Junior Section's season review, an update on the men's teams progress and the highlights from the past month.

In keeping with the British weather there have been plenty of extremes, from some incredible highs and some moments of madness throughout much of July. Yet, the good news is that the club's four league Saturday sides and the Sunday team all remain in the hunt for successful seasons.

In other good news, the Saturday 5th XI played their first game of the season with a youthful side, returning a win against a Rickmansworth 3rd XI team. More about that and the other on-field exploits of the club later.

The club hosted an Injury Prevention session earlier this month, led by sponsors *OSD Healthcare*, with attendees learning plenty about effective warm ups, stretching and the effects of a good sleep pattern and diet.

Later in July came the annual club curry night at The Raja which was well attended and saw another great night, and a continued sponsorship agreement from the restaurant.

July also saw the return of The Beer Pong World Cup and Karaoke Night both of which were well received and were a lot of fun.

And to top it off Hemel won the Heath Park Cup with a convincing win over Levy Green (see picture Right)! Well done to the team on a great achievement! Let's hope for an even better August!



Heath Park Cup Winners 2019

View from the Chair – Professor Richard Grayson

We held an important meeting of the General Committee on 23rd July to discuss use of the funds from the legacy which was left to us by Raymond Dean, and which remain to be used/saved after having paid off loans and set aside money to refurbish the pavilion balcony.

A key decision taken was that we would bring a proposal to our next AGM (25th September, 8pm - more information to follow in due course) to ensure that we always have a reserve of between £5,000 and £10,000. We have further agreed to begin a process of setting out a timescale for paying off debenture holders.

Two further proposals will be brought to the AGM. One is to agree the necessary spending to ensure that we have new nets (in place of the current junior ones) for next season. The other is to make significant improvements to our main bar area, including the installation of some fixed seating to make it a place where more members want to spend more time in. Finally, we agreed to spend more limited sums now on four items: a bench to commemorate Raymond Dean; a new sight screen for the nursery ground; the installation of a new pipe to make it much easier to water the main square; and the purchase of a defibrillator which can be used on both adults and children to be stored within the pavilion.

We are really excited by the projects we are able to undertake, trying to balance immediate needs with long-term planning and we look forward to engaging with members on some key decisions at the AGM.

Upcoming Events

Saturday 3rd August –
Emerald Kitty – Be My Baby – The 60's Show

Wednesday 7th August –
Vice-Presidents Day

Friday 30th August –
HHTCC Golf Day

Friday 23rd August –
HHTCC Quiz Night

Saturday 7th September –
HHTCC End of Season Party

Saturday 2nd November –
HHTCC Dinner & Dance

Junior News

The Junior season has been up and running since June and now, for most young sides concluded. A number of Hemel teams have had success this season and with the support of coaches, parents and teammates the Junior Section should only continue to thrive. Thanks to our Junior Coaches we can now bring you a season review for our young stars.

U9 – Coach: Richard Grayson

Team	P	W	D	T	L	NR	Bat	Bwl	Pen	Total
Hemel Hempstead Town	10	9	0	0	1	0	4	6	--	280
Berkhamsted	10	6	0	0	1	3	6	4	--	220
Tring Park 1	9	3	0	0	4	2	18	13	--	141
Potten End	10	2	0	0	5	3	23	12	--	125
Redbourn 1	10	1	0	0	8	1	55	24	--	119
Tring Park 2	9	2	0	0	4	3	13	8	--	111

This was a new team at the start of the season, with almost every player having never played league cricket before and many players new to the club. We had no real idea of how we would perform in a group which included Berkhamsted, Tring Park (2 teams), Redbourn and Potten End. At this age group, we often find it hard to beat Berkhamsted and Tring.

There was a sign of things to come in our first match at Tring Park 1 when we kept them down to 203-14 and then scored 293 without loss. In this age group, the format is that teams start off 200 batting in pairs for four overs and then lose 5 runs for each wicket lost, scoring in the usual way except that wides and no balls earn 2 runs and no extra ball. The standout performance in this game – and indeed the season – was Jonah Lewis bowling 2 overs, and taking 7 wickets for 0. This included a hat-trick. When we played this Tring side later, Jonah took 3 more wickets for 0, meaning that in those 4 overs, he conceded no runs and took 10 in total – a wicket every 2.4 balls.

However, we came down with a bump in our next match against a strong Berkhamsted side who scored 249-6 and then kept us to 222-6. But from then on, we had one concession and won our remaining 7 matches. That included a win against Berkhamsted. Admittedly, they fielded a weaker side, but you can only play the teams who are put on the pitch. Throughout, we bowled well and developed as batters.

Berkhamsted also kept on winning (though two of their ‘wins’ were concessions) but failed to play two of their matches which meant that with one game left as this is written (22nd July) they cannot now catch us as they are 70 points behind (with 30 for a win).

It is nice to win the group but the most important point about the season is that players have all developed as cricketers, learning what to do in a wide range of situations and improving their skills. It has been a pleasure to work with this team and I must give huge thanks to Sam Buckley and Khalid Sadiq who have helped with the coaching. Thanks also to Mukesh Bhatt, Vishal Bhatt, Surbjit Gill and James Lewis who have also helped at different points.

U10a – Coaches: Neil Morgan & Martin Botha

Quarter Final – Beat Chorleywood
Semi Final – Beat Hoddesdon
County Final – Lost to Letchworth
(315 runs played 276)

Team	P	W	D	T	L	NR	Bat	Bwl	Pen	Total
Hemel Hempstead Town 1	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	240
Boxmoor	8	6	0	0	2	0	14	10	--	204
Tring Park	8	2	0	0	6	0	23	22	--	105
Northchurch	7	2	0	0	5	0	17	17	--	94
Potten End	7	1	0	0	6	0	17	6	--	53

Club and Bar Opening Times

The bar at the club has new opening hours, so please feel free to join us for a drink or pop in to say hello!

Monday – (Poker Night) 7:30pm – 12am

Thursday – 7:30pm – 10:30pm

Saturday – 9am – Til late

Sunday – 12pm – 9:30pm (12pm – 6pm off-season)

The club runs a friendly Poker League on a Monday night which all members and friends are welcome to join! Novices are welcome!

The club is also open on Wednesday evenings after men’s training and for the majority of junior matches throughout the season!

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page 2) A great season for a team that has been together officially for two seasons but some have been with the club since attending 'mini cricket' from four years old.

Those who have watched this year will testify to each boy improving individually in all disciplines and as a team learning a lot from last years Quarter Final defeat in which we came up well short against Watford.

From a coaches perspective Martin and I have had a blast seeing these boys develop, and it was a great feeling to see them so joyous in snatching victory from the jaws of defeat with one ball to spare in the Semi Final over at Radlett on Finals Day.

Thanks to the boys, parents and supporters who have made this season such a memorable one.

U11 – Coaches: Duncan Howard & Andy Turbutt

Team	P	W	D	T	L	NR	Bat	Bwl	Pen	Total
Tring Park	10	9	0	0	0	1	0	0	--	300
Hemel Hempstead Town	10	5	0	0	3	2	19	17	--	226
Berkhamsted	9	2	0	0	4	3	25	24	--	129
King's Langley	9	2	0	0	4	3	17	12	--	119
Boxmoor	8	2	0	0	4	2	18	15	--	113
Chipperfield Clarendon	10	1	0	0	6	3	32	21	--	103

HHTCC U11s finished runners up in the our HJL division, narrowly missing out on getting to the Quarter Finals. 2 x no result games damaged our chances as we won 5 and lost 3.

Arnav Patel topped the runs scored column with 90, whilst Nico Vicente averaged 86 with a top score of 38 at Berkhamsted.

Nico also had the best bowling average with 10 wickets at 3.70, including 5 wickets for 12 runs against Chipperfield.

Adit Panicker had the best economy rate with the ball going for just 2.5 runs per over from his 8 overs, closely followed by Ashaz Ahmed, who went for just 3.06 runs per over from his 16.

U12 – Coaches: Graham Clark & Nick Hodgins

Team	P	W	D	T	L	NR	Bat	Bwl	Pen	Total
Harpenden	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	240
Berkhamsted	8	6	0	0	2	0	19	11	--	210
Hemel Hempstead Town	8	4	0	0	4	0	35	26	--	181
Redbourn	8	2	0	0	6	0	42	24	--	126
Old Albanian	8	0	0	0	8	0	48	32	--	80

The U12s had a very positive year, although just missing out on finals day, the improvement in the team as a whole was fantastic. The boys skills and understanding of the game has reached a level now where going into next season the prospects are looking very promising.

Maxwell Clark and Asvin Anpalagan made their debuts in Senior league cricket for the Saturday 3XI, and next season I'm sure there will be a few more ready to take this significant step for the club as it looks towards a bright future.

The team also regularly had 3-4 u11s and younger playing which again emphasises the young talent we have at the club. As coaches, Nick and myself would like to say a massive well done and thanks to the boys for their hard work and commitment this season. We are already looking forward to winter nets and working with the boys again as we develop them further along their journeys to one day representing Hemel Hempstead Town cricket club at senior level.

U15 – Coaches: Khalid Sadiq

Team	P	W	D	T	L	NR	Bat	Bwl	Pen	Total
Tring Park	8	7	0	0	1	0	8	1	--	219
Watford Town	7	5	0	1	1	0	10	5	--	185
Grand Union	8	3	0	0	5	0	38	11	--	139
Northchurch	8	2	0	0	6	0	46	24	--	130
Bushey	7	1	0	1	5	0	17	5	--	72

The U15s entered in the B league. The Grand Union team is the merger of HHTCC and Boxmoor teams. This enables both clubs to form a team and play league cricket. HHTCC provided 4 players.

Grand Union played 8 games and won 3 (1 conceded) and lost 5 games. Finishing third in the league. Daniel Hosier (27 Not Out against Bushey), Steven Mansfield (25 Not Out against Northchurch), & Tayyab Sadiq (25 Not Out against Tring Park) all made value contributions with the bat.

Kaveen Rajakaruna made his debut and was excellent in the field and also bowled well. Kaveen hit the winning runs against Bushey in the last game of the season.

Daniel contributed with the ball by taking 5 wickets and Tayyab (3 wickets) and Steven (1 wicket) provided good support. Both Steven & Tayyab have also been a regular selections in the 4th XI senior side, and both have good prospects for their futures.

Club Karaoke

The club's recent karaoke night was enjoyed by players and supporters of all ages!

The crowd were wowed by the King of Swing Sam Wheeler, dazzled by Pop Legend Suren Perera and even treated to a rendition of 'Down Under' by Eurovision specialist, and Aussie overseas, Jack Bailey.

Big thank you to DJ Mike Samuels for ensuring the night ran smoothly and the music flowed all night long!

Beer Pong

The return of the much anticipated HHTCC Beer Pong World Cup was our highest profile event at the end of June.

Almost 50 people took part in the tournament with eight tables spread across the bar.

In the end there could only be one winning pair who could get their hands on the prize money and the much coveted trophies and that was Lewis Hodgins and Brett Penny. (See photos below)

Congratulations to them and thank you to everyone who took part in and supported the event



Club Cricket News

It was another good month for Hemel as all the teams picked up important wins across July, including a win for the 5th XI that was their first of the season. Again, there were some standout individual performances that deserve mentioning strung in amongst some star-studded team performances.

The 1st XI took two wins from three in their July fixtures beating both Shenley and Reed and finding a stalemate against Flitwick. It put them well on track for a promotion spot to the big time. Stand out performances came from Lewis Hodgins, who scored a magnificent 147 against Flitwick, before adding another 88 the following week in the win over high-flyers Shenley.

Jack Doodson added the second hundred of the month with a classy 103 against Reed, and there was also time for Hemish Ilangaratne to help himself to a half-century against Flitwick.

On the bowling front it was the story of the 1st XI's equivalent of the Chuckle Brothers, with Shidu Kanade claiming 5-67 against Flitwick and Parth Metha returning 4-52 and 3-52 against Shenley and Reed respectively.

The Sunday 1st XI held a 100% record in what was a quiet month for July with only two games – one an inter-club fixture. In the game against Saracens, overseas Jack Bailey scored his maiden ton for the club, a significant contribution to the win.

In the inter-club game there were a number of positives to cheer. The Clark brothers, Max and Finn, and young Jacob Hodgins made their Sunday debuts whilst former bar staff member Rachael Phipps donned her whites for the first time.

In the 2nd XI it was an indifferent month. Just two games completed, both defeats. After riding a wave of success throughout much of May and June it was back to the drawing board. Ross Chapman did still return 4-44 against Lutonian. Still in the hunt for a top two finish, the 2nd XI will be hoping August sees a return to winning ways.



Finn Clark



Rachael Phipps

There were plenty of positives for the 3rd XI however, and plenty of explosive cricket too. Paul Smith, better known as 'Bruiser' crashed 117 in the win over Old Camdenians – an innings which included seven huge sixes and 11 fours.

And the following week, Bryan Davies ensured lightning struck twice as he scored his second century of the season, and second against Cockfosters 2nd XI, hitting an impressive 129 not out. Poor Cockfosters must be sick of the sight of him. In the same game, Sam Wheeler smashed 43 of his own as the pair steered EM to a commanding score.

The next week, steady Andy Turbutt scored 50 against Preston 2nd XI to ensure three wins from three for the 3rd XI in July. 2s regular Charlie Hoskins also mopped up with 3-21.

It was one win from three for the 4th XI but not for a lack of effort. Selection headaches have been a regular complaint but the team deserve great credit remaining in a comfortable position in Division 9A, still in the hunt for a promotion spot.

Dan Keene has regularly returned wickets this season and his 4-28 against Welwyn epitomised his effort. Mike Samuels led the way with 73 against Aldenham, with Darryl Barnett (46) and Irfan Khalifa (44) narrowly missing out on half centuries against Old Minchendenians and Welwyn respectively. However, returning Anjam Khan did notch an entertaining 58 on his return to league cricket against Aldenham.

The 5th XI played their first game of the season under skipper Ben Dumbleton, beating Rickmansworth 3rd XI. Tom Bisgrove took 3-34 whilst debutant youngster Finn Clark bowled eight overs for just 24 runs, taking a wicket in the process. In the batting department Rohit Patel notched 53 before retiring hurt helping EM home by four wickets.

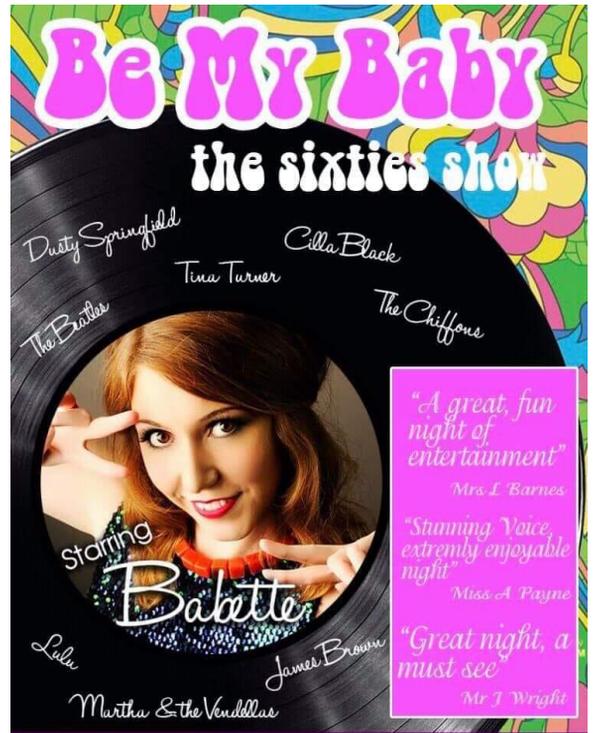
Saturday 3rd August – 60's Show

Emerald Kitty's 60's & 70's show is coming to the Cricket Club on **Saturday 3rd August**. It's going to be a great night with Babette performing, a raffle and a disco too.

Tickets are available now and already selling!!

Message Emma Benson or purchase Tickets at the bar to reserve your seats -

HHTCC Members it's only £5 each!!



Friday 23rd August – Quiz Night

Start getting your team together for a fun & fact filled evening of quizzing and socialising in the HHTCC Quiz night.

Hosted by our very own:

Jammers & Coxy

Not to be missed !!



Friday 30th August – (2 tee start from 9.30am)

HHTCC Corporate Golf Day Sponsored by



Includes : 18 Holes, Breakfast (8.30am), 3 course dinner and prize giving. On course drinks and snacks provided, team and individual prizes - **Team of 4 - £575.00 + VAT**

Contact Graham Clark – 07887 623605
For details of how to get involved.



New venue for 2019 - Berkhamsted Golf Course

* Beat the Pro on a par 3 and win prizes *

Dinner & Dance - Event News

HHTCC is please to announce this year's Dinner and Dance, and Presentation Evening

Saturday 2nd November 2019 at The Noke Hotel, Watford Rd, St Albans AL2 3DS

Tickets: £40.00 per person, Students/Under 21's £35.00

****Bucks Fizz Reception, 3 Course Meal with ½ bottle of wine per person****

Menu Options to be chosen in advance – See below



Tickets can be purchased from the bar or through Sarah Samuels/Team Captains. Payment can be made directly via the till or by direct bank transfer – Account Number 33768664 Sort Code – 23-05-80

Please ensure you state YOUR NAME on the reference preceded by D&D so we know what the money is for and can allocate accordingly.

Contact sarahbear@btinternet.com if you have any questions

BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT as numbers are limited! We look forward to seeing everyone there! Special discount available on overnight stay, rooms to be booked directly with the hotel. £70.00 Single, £80.00 Double - Call 01727 885 459 and quote "Cricket Presentation 2nd November" to gain access to the special rates.

Dinner and Dance Menu 2019

Bucks Fizz Reception from 6.00-6.30pm

Starters

Duck and chicken terrine (df)
Served with tomato and oregano bread,
apricot and ginger chutney, pea shoots

Sweet potato soup (v)
Served with croutons and herb oil

Scottish smoked trout fillet (v) (gf)
Served with red beetroot and mix leaves salad,
dill and crème fraiche dressing

Main Courses

Corn fed chicken stuffed with chorizo (gf)
Served with chateau potatoes, green beans,
chantey carrots and café au lait sauce

Wild mushroom ravioli with tomato
and basil sauce (v)(df)
Garnished with rocket and parmesan

Seared fillet of sea bream (gf)
Served with lemon and herb crushed new potato,
sautéed spinach, citrus beurre blanc sauce

Desserts

Chocolate and salted caramel torte
Served with Chantilly cream

Passion Fruit Cheesecake
Served with mango coulis

Cheese and Biscuits

Served with grapes and celery

Followed by tea, coffee and chocolate mints

** If you have any allergies, please inform Sarah Samuels in advance so we can ensure your needs are catered for

Have you joined our Fantasy League yet?

It's completely free and competition is hotting up as we move into August.

Just 540 points separate the Top 10 so its all to play for over the next few months!

Sign up now at: <https://hemel-Hempstead.fantasyclubcricket.co.uk/new-user>

Manager	Total
Mike Samuels	2788
Lewis Hodgins	2739
Darryl Barnett	2580
Claire	2536
Sarah Samuels	2516
Joshua Graves	2467
Neil Morgan	2450
Nicholas Benson	2402
Emma	2305
Susan Waterton	2239

Whilst you're here...

The club would like to thank all of our sponsors for their support for this season. Why not check out their websites below? You might find one of the brilliant exclusive offers to HHTCC members is just what you're looking for!



www.aitchisons.co.uk



www.hemeltrophy.co.uk

Club Notice

Eileen Wright has sadly passed away. She was admitted into hospital, seemingly contracted pneumonia and slipped away in her sleep on 23 July 2019.

Eileen was mother to Nick, Martin and Chris and wife of Peter (best known at the Club as 'Bear'). Nick and Martin both played 1st XI cricket at Hemel for many years, including spells as Captain. Both played for Herts and Nick was Chairman from 1994-99. Chris is best known for managing the Junior section for many years and being a solid opener in the 4s. 'Bear' held many Committee positions before becoming President from 1995-98.

Eileen will be remembered for her tremendous (and patient!) support for the Club, her sons and her husband Peter, as well as producing some of the most awesome cricket teas ever produced.

Her funeral will take place at West Herts Crematorium in Garston at 10.40 on Friday 2 August. The wake will be held at HHTCC from 12.30. Anyone wishing to pay their respects is welcome to both.

Useful Contacts

Chairman: Professor Richard Grayson – hhtcc.chair@gmail.com

Membership Secretary: Mike Samuels – hhtcc.membership@gmail.com

Bar and Functions Manager: Emma Benson – hhtcc.events@gmail.com

Got a story?

If you have any news or photos you'd like to share in next month's newsletter or have any feedback then please email: aaronwilson96@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

Look out for the next HHTCC newsletter at the end of August!

~ Aaron ~

Follow us on social media

[@HHTCC99](https://www.facebook.com/HHTCC99)



[@HHTCC2014](https://twitter.com/HHTCC2014)



[@hemelhempsteadtown](https://www.instagram.com/hemelhempsteadtown)



www.hhtcc.co.uk