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Monday, 9 January, 2012

To submit match reports and news items for the sports page email

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For more information, ring David Jackman on 07710 447868.

SCHOOL RUGBY: Victory for West Hatch girls

5.40pm - 13th December 2011

YEAR 7 girls at West Hatch High School, Chigwell, have returned victorious from a tag rugby tournament. Seventy girls from the High Road school were involved in the competition which was open to Year 7 and 8 students. Head of Girls PE Coralie Field said: "The tag rugby festival followed a six-week block of introducing tag rugby to the girls in Year 7 and 8 - including many girls who do not usually represent the school in sports teams however have really got a buzz from tag rugby." The school fielded seven teams with one of the Year 7 teams triumphant overall securing the district trophy for a second successive year. Coralie said: "The best thing about the tournament was not necessarily the fact that we won but seeing so many girls take part in physical activity and enjoy it so much."

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

9.05am - 13th December 2011

IN a high-scoring match, Fives and Heronians A sealed victory over Hainault and Clayhall A in the latest round of matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board indoor league...

Atif Zafar was the top scorer for Fives and Heronians with an unbeaten 39.

For the adult results, [click here](#)

For the youth results, [click here](#)

SCHOOL NETBALL: Success for Bancroft's School

3.35pm - 9th December 2011

UNDER-19 netball players at Bancroft's School have reached the quarter-finals of the Independent Schools Netball Competition. Following victories in the knockout tournament against Ipswich High School and St Catherine's, Bramley, they faced a tall team from Wycombe Abbey at home winning 55-30.

Sophie Luck was praised for her accurate shooting - missing just three chances at goal in the whole of the game while defence pairing of Kike Solanke and Kris Sim were also praised.

Bethany Lamb received a special mention for making her first team debut. The last eight draw will be made early next term.

The girls have also been successful in the National Netball Tournament. U14, U16 and U19 teams from Bancroft's emerged as Redbridge champions following the first round and so progressed to the County (Essex Met) round at Redbridge Sports Centre.

The U14 and U16 groups were particularly close but Bancroft's teams finished as runners-up in all three age groups and now go onto the regional round on January 29.

The girls hope to follow last year's success in the tournament when the U19 team took the bronze medals.

SCHOOL RUGBY: Year 7 team visit Twickenham

11.36am - 9th December 2011

THE Year 7 rugby team at West Hatch High School visited Twickenham (December 8) to watch the 130th Nomura Varsity Rugby Union match between Oxford and Cambridge. Having won the West Essex and Harlow District Cup in their first year at the school, the boys were treated to a day out at England's national rugby stadium accompanied by boys PE teachers Aaron D'Silva and Ray Flowers and Dai Cook.

Oxford were victorious in both the under-21s and 1st XV matches and although the boys were placed in the Cambridge stand, many of them ended the day supporting the dark blues of Oxford.

Liam Ball and Edward Yamah, both of Year 10, also attended the match having been of great help throughout the rugby season.

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

1.07pm - 29th November 2011

WANSTEAD have maintained their lead at the top of Division One of the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board indoor six-a-side league in a high scoring victory over Asian AK Stars.

Etinder Bopara took a hat-trick as Chingford were bowled out for 146 in their match with Hainault and Clayhall A.

For the full results, [click here](#)

CROSS COUNTRY: School celebrates trophy success

9.26am - 24th November 2011

RUNNERS at Roding Valley High School returned from the Woodford Schools' League Cross Country competition with three team and one individual trophy.

The Loughton school was successful in the categories Junior Boys, Senior Boys and Senior Girls categories with Cody Smart winning the individual title in the Senior Boys competition.

The competition was run over a four race series and the school dominated in the three categories.

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Ongar Cricket Club



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The Senior Boys team and the Junior Boys team won every race in the series. Indeed the school's representation was so strong that the Junior Boys 'B' Team finished runners-up in the league. Head teacher Paul Banks was delighted with the success. He said: "The performance of all our teams is something that every student taking part should be very proud of. "As well as individual success for Cody, each runner has to finish in as high a place as possible to ensure the highest points for the team. "Team success depends on the contributions of all eight runners in each category so to win in three out of the four leagues shows the determination and skill of all our runners."

RUGBY: First trophy for West Hatch's Year 7 team

4.50pm - 20th November 2011

WEST Hatch High School's Year 7 rugby team have won their first secondary school sports cup - the West Essex and Harlow District Cup - with a 12-10 victory over St Mark's School, Harlow. Captain Harry Wagstaff scored two tries before Ben Stephens kicked a conversion from a tight angle to seal the team's victory. Man of the Match was Charlie Freeman who, after having his hand trodden on, came back onto the field to help his team to glory. The final was played at Harlow Rugby Club.

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

4.50pm - 20th November 2011

November 18-19 results

Adult - Division 1 at Peter May Centre

Wanstead A's win keeps them top of Division 1 with Fives & Heronians A the only other unbeaten side.

Wanstead 141-5 (12) - Arfan Akram 28, Westfield 21, Adnan Akram 53no, Platt 2-30.

Buckhurst Hill 12-3 (4) - Russell 32no, Peters 27no, Platt 26.

After Wanstead made a good, competitive score, tight early bowling restricted Buckhurst Hill's reply.

Some late resistance was not enough as Wanstead won by 14 runs.

For other adult results [click here](#)

For youth results, [click here](#)

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

3.19pm - 14th November 2011

November 12 results

Adult - Division 1 at Peter May Centre

Chingford beat Buckhurst Hill to top the table.

Buckhurst Hill were 57-5 then last man Daniel Platt made a solid 57no to reach 117-5.

Chingford in return batted sensibly to reach 118-1 with Paul Shawyer top scoring with 28no closely followed by Nick Shawyer 26 ret, Ben MacGregor 27 ret and Lawrence 25 ret.

In the second game, Network AKStars recorded their first win in a high scoring and close game with Hainault & Clayhall.

Hainault and Clayhall scored 144-6.

In reply Network AK Stars scored 147-4 winning off the last ball.

In complete contrast the final game saw Asian bowl and field well to restrict Loughton to 79-5, Asian then reached their target in 8 overs to win by 4 wickets.

Buckhurst Hill 117-5 (2pts)

Chingford A 118-1 (12pt)

Hainault & Clayhall A 144ao (5) - Ryan Hurst 33, Sachin 28

Asian AK Stars 147-4 (12) - Abid 52no.

Loughton 79-ao (2) - Amit 3-1-10-2 Asian 82-2 (12) - Khan 27ret.

Division 2 - Bancroft's School

Walthamstow A and Wanstead B top the table with four wins out of five but Woodford

Wells can go top if they win their game in hand.

Brothers Ramesh and Shankar Gunalan led a great fight back to overhaul Stow's imposing total of 147 and give Elite their first win.

In the other three games no side passed 50 as the ball dominated.

East London Elite 149-4 (12) - Ramesh Gunalan 63, Shankar Gunalan 33. Walthamstow B 147-2 (5) - O Bennett 45, D Ironside 25, J Thompson 25, Naz Human 2-38

Walthamstow A 46-2 (12)

East London Eagles 45ao (1) - M Hawkins 2-22, D Parkinson 3-8

West Essex A 45ao (3) - A. Patel 3-6, A Singh 2-8

Buckhurst Hill B 87ao (12) A Singh 34, A Patel 32 Afzal 2-15

Wanstead B 36-0 (12)

Waltham Panthers 33ao (0) - J Akbar 2-11.

Division 4 - Frenford Clubs PLA

Bardoli comfortably defeated Woodford Wells to top the division.

Wells bowled an amazing 27 wides.

Aztecs also have a 100 per cent record defeating the West Essex youngsters despite a spirited all-round fight led by Omar.

Forest Gate had their first win in a tight match and Loughton C also won a tight game with Roding Valley B.

Essex BACD 90-4 (2) - Charlie Stack 28, S Jackson 25

Forest Gate 93-3 (12) - S Ahmed 25 Matt Cowdrey 2-14

Roding Valley B 70ao (3) - Mudassar Raja 28

Loughton C 71-4 (12) - Amran Riaz 23

Bardoli 86ao (12) - Sunil Jahingiri 31, Sav Gananoran 3-20

Woodford Wells 46-ao (3) Altaf 3-15, Idris 2-8

Aztecs 78ao (12) - Omar 3-20
West Essex B 49ao (3) - Omar 24, Umash Farooq 2-4.

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

8.09am - 8th November 2011

November 4 and 5 results

Adult - Division 1 at Peter May Centre

Hainault & Clayhall A 110ao (2) - Atif Zafar 47
Asian 112-1 (12)

Wanstead A 140-5 (12) - Arfan Akram 52
Harold Wood 68ao (2) - Zain 2-5

Loughton 144-5 (12) - Shaun Gymer 54, Faisal Shah 61
Ilford 55ao - Akash 28, Daniel Gymer 2-18, Adam Vinson 3-20 (hat-trick)

Division 2 - Bancroft's School

Woodford Wells A 96ao (8) - Will Rogers 49, Peter Kilpatrick 2-26
Fives & Heronians c (8) - Peter Kilpatrick 66, Tom Clark 2-13, Rehan Iqbal 2-22

Wanstead B 88ao (12) - Jay Williams 35, Adam Lord 35, Suhaib 2-18, Ayaz 2-31
East London Eagles 75ao (4) - Hammad Babar 25, Suhaib Umer 24

Chingford B 100-5 (12) - M Fletcher 36, Dan Lawrence 25, Waqas 3-22
Roding Valley A 93ao (3) - Waqas Ahmed 80, A MacGregor 2-33, W Rhone 2-17

Waltham Panthers 117-5 (12) - R Anwar 32, F Anwar 27, Asim Aslam 21, Deepan 2-27
Walthamstow A 80-ao (3) - Daniel Parkinson 34, Deepan 22, Asim Aslam 2-13, F Ali 3-29

Division 3 Frenford Clubs PLA

Hainault & Clayhall C 83ao (2) - Joshi 29, Rizwan 24, M Sarkar 2-10
Tennyson B 86-3 (12)

Buckhurst Hill 100-5 (4) - Shaid 21, Ashley White 33, Faisal 25
Fives & Heronians D 101-4 (12) - Kishen Patel 37, Rahul Patel 33

South Woodford B 127-5 (12) - Nick Browne 66, L Cant 29, Adam Crane 2-17
Tennyson A 88ao (3) - Daniel Golding 47, K Vadhia 2-22, L Cant 2-11

Walthamstow C 99-4 (12) - Steve Peters 21, Tim Taylor 22, Lewis Scott 2-15
Loughton 70ao (3) - Tony Barritt 41, Bradley Dew 3-24

Youth - Under-16 -24 PLA

Woodford Wells 116-5 (12) - Ross Ritchie 25, Mohammed Fahad 33, Rais Shaik 2-24
Walthamstow 58ao (3) - Chirag Pithia 2-7

Frenford 102-5 (12) - Ravi Raval 36
Old Parkonians 57ao (3) - S Naqvi 31, Ravi Raval 3-27

Frenford 95-3 (12) - Ravi Raval 28
Bancroft's 92ao (3) - Vikram Handa 35, Ravi Raval 3-19, Ranjan Gulati 2-19

Under-15 - Division 1

Buckhurst Hill A 30ao - Karam 2-5 (0)
Fives & Heronians 34-0 (12) - Karam 26

Wanstead A 71-5 (3) - Waseem Qureshi 27, Ahmed 21
Ilford A 72-3 (12) - Haaris Ayub 25, Vit Sapaetharan 31, Saurav Prabhakar 2-15

Wanstead 99-3 (12) - Saurav Prabhakar 29, Waseem Qureshi 25
Loughton 60ao (2) - Dan Gymer 38, Ahmed 2-10

Walthamstow A 87ao (12) - Dominic Whitehall-Smith 33, Zabi 20, Irfan 3-17, Freddie 2-20
Woodford Wells 85-4 (5) - Hugo Blogg 58, Ali 2-13

Under 13 - Division 3

Walthamstow B (12) - Billy Amas 20, Jonty Burah 38, Rufus Shutter 40, Z Ahmed 2-28
West Essex B 43ao (3)

Frenford B 104-3 (12) - Sami Warriach 25
Woodford Green 64ao (2)

E4 B 134-2 (12) - Kavi Thobhau 26, Aron Olivelle 29, Kieran Scarliali 25
Loughton 55ao (2) - Kush Thobhau 2-5, Shroy Shohan 2-11, Kavi Thobhau 2-12

Wanstead C 83ao (12) - Saad Gaffair 33
Buckhurst Hill B 50ao (4) - Alex Bickford 20 Saad Gaffair 2-16, Akash Yadaf 2-14

Under 11 - Division 3

Wanstead C 99-1 (12) - Rafey Maklav 27, Fergus McGrath 22
Loughton 53-5 (1) - Rafey Maklav 4-7

Buckhurst Hill B 52ao (1) - Husnain 2-13, Rajpal 2-3
Frenford B 55-1 (12)

Walthamstow B 100-3 (4) - Oscar Archer 21, Aaran Headley 26
Fives & Heronians A 101-3 (12) - Adam Khawaja 27

South Woodford B 109ao (12) - Thomas 30, Huzaifo 46, Nabil 3-11
West Essex B 36-4 (3).

RUGBY: West Hatch retains Year 9 District Cup

2.38pm - 3rd November 2011

YEAR 9 rugby players at West Hatch High School, Chigwell, have retained the District Cup with a 17-14 victory over Stewards School, Harlow.

Coach Ray Flowers, who is also PE teacher and the school's rugby co-ordinator said: "It was a tight and frankly very intensely fought competition between the two strongest sides in the district for the past two years."

West Hatch took an early lead when new midfield partnership of captain Morgan Brown and Jed West (Year 8) made a break to Ross Stewart for his 12th try of the season. After a scrappy period of play Jed West, playing a year above himself, scored his fifth try of the season for the Year 9 side.

Freddie Bright kicked the conversion to give West Hatch, who had four debutants in their line-up, a 12-0 half time lead.

Stewards scored one try before Ross Stewart scored a "wonder try" in the corner. Stewards then landed another try in the penultimate phase of play to spark a nervous few minutes before the celebrations could begin.

Max Lyons was awarded the man of the match award.

The West Hatch Year 9 team is now hoping for further success having reached the quarter-finals of the Essex Cup.

PETANQUE: Epping Horizons seal victory over Ongar

2.38pm - 3rd November 2011

By Peter Lumb

EPPING Horizons Petanque Club played host to a side of eight players from Ongar- and were victorious winning 12 of the 16 matches.

Ongar had previously played socially with Epping in July and felt their play had subsequently improved sufficiently that they would challenge Epping to a match. The event was played as a doubles competition, the four4 teams from each side playing each other over four rounds.

The demand to take part by the Epping members was so great that each Epping team consisted of three players who therefore played with two boules each (instead of three). The Ongar players are all relatively new to the sport and found they still had much to learn from the Epping side whose players are mostly very experienced.

However Ongar's 'B' team of John Innocent and Ken Glendenning won three of their four matches - a fine performance which is an indication of Ongar's future potential. Epping's top team, winning all four of their matches, was composed of Joyce Weston (club secretary), Margaret Turner and George Durno who have over 40 years playing experience between them and were just too strong for their opponents.

After the match, which was played in the most friendly of spirits, the players made for the Garnon Bushes pub, Coopersale, where the visitors kindly insisted on treating the home side.

The occasion had been so enjoyable that it was agreed we should continue our association with each other and that we might play for a trophy in the future. Anyone interested in playing petanque, which is played out of doors throughout the year (weather permitting), can contact Peter Lumb 01992 571744 (Epping) or Carolyn Innocent 01992 522377 (Ongar).

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

3.00pm - 1st November 2011

October 28-29 results

Youth

Haydn Davies Trophy - under-11s Div 2

Ilford B 25ao (0)
West Essex A 157-1 - Navi Dwivdey 29; Edward Smith 47; Umaan Babar 20; Raffay Khan 25 (12)

Woodford Wells 78-2 (12) Nikhil Sharma 28; Freddie Britt 27
Frenford A 76ao Bilal Anwar 49; Nikhil Sharma 2-12 (3)

Old Parkonians B 15ao (0) Dacod Dhami 3-5; Mustafa Ali 2-10
Walthamstow A 19-1 (12)

Loughton A 191-0 (12) Oliver Luck 28; Joe Williams 28; Zac Foster 26; Khan Gorgolu 33;
Edward Quinn-Smith 21
Wanstead B 25-4 (0) Alex Williams 2-6

Jack Petchey Trophy - under-13s Division 2

South Woodford 94-1 (12)
Frenford A 93-3 (2)

Chingford 75-0 (12)
Wanstead B 71ao (2)

Brentwood 28-2 (12)
Old Parkonians 26ao (1)

Woodford Green B 49ao (1)
Ilford B 50-1 (12)

Under-15s Division 2

West Essex 21ao (0) Josh 3-6; Raja Khan 2-0
Beehive 22-0 (12)

Woodford Wells B 106-4 (12) Massie 29; Morgan 29; Bex 33; Conor Sorrell 2-21
Loughton 86ao (4)

Fives & Heronians B 112-3 (3) Ali Cayir 44; Daniel Chinaloy 25; Umar Rafique 20
South Loughton 113-1 (12) Dylan Julian 18; Lewis Pyne 26; Edward Davies 30

Chingford 157-5 (12) Dan Lawrence 73, Eric Boisson 20, Albie Drew 30; Nathan Frost 25
Buckhurst Hill B 82ao (2) Billy Wright 46

Adult - Division 1

Buckhurst Hill A 157-3 (12)
Fives & Heronians B 131-2 (4)

Fives & Heronians A 155-3 (12)
Hainault & Clayhall B (4)

South Woodford A 60-5 (1)
Chingford A 61-3 (12)

Division 2

Buckhurst Hill B 106-5 (12) A Singh 42; Aniket Patel 22; Jake Poulter 2-20; Keith Oram 2-24
Fives & Heronians 105-4 (4) Jake Poulter 27; Keith Oram 33

Wanstead B 95ao (12) Arfan Akram 30; Ismail Dar 29
East London Elite 84-5 (4) Shaz Khan 40; A Lord Sen 2-17; James Fitzgerald 2-22

West Essex A 64ao (1) Ayaz Grueshi 25
Walthamstow A 65-2 (12) Matt Guest 20

Walthamstow B 94-3 (3) O Bennett 22; James Thompson 25; Roy Thompson 20
East London Eagles 95-4 (12) Hammad Babar 33; Sajjad Mirza 34; D Portman 2-17

Division 3

Buckhurst Hill C 65ao (0)
Loughton B 66-0 Shahid 30; Andrew Bridges 2-11 (12) Peter Nicholls 25; Andrew Bridges 29

Fives & Heronians D 67ao Jake Poulter 37; Rishi Patel 3-8 (0)
Brentwood Buccaneers 68-0 (12) Kristan Ali 26; Hugo Blogg 28

Old Parkonians 117-4 (12) Hermes Solomonides 20; Haaris Khan 47
South Loughton 90ao (3) Jack Sahota 49

Walthamstow C 94-5 (12) Reinhart 2-25
Goodmayes & Blythswood 72ao (3) Akila 34 Dom Whitehall-Smith 3-15.

INDOOR CRICKET: Six-a-side league underway

9.49am - 25th October 2011

THE Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board Indoor Six-a-Side League is now in full swing with most teams having played their first matches.

A full programme of matches are held at three local venues - The Peter May Centre Walthamstow; Bancroft's School Woodford Green; and the new Frenford Clubs Centre, Jack Carter Pavilion at The Drive Ilford - on Friday nights and Saturday mornings.

Sky Sports visited earlier this month and were amazed to find teams playing indoors when it was so warm outside.

There are 80 junior teams and 46 adult teams competing in ten junior divisions and four adult divisions with between 750 and 1,000 people taking part. Most are aged between 11 and 25.

The league is grateful to the Jack Petchey Foundation and Capital Social Care whose sponsorship means that the costs for young people who wish to play are reduced.

The results and achievements with league tables are all published weekly on the Met website www.essexcricketboards.org.uk and will be featured on Everything Epping Forest.

PETANQUE: Club hosts autumn doubles competition

7.21am - 11th October 2011

SIXTEEN players took part in Epping Horizons Petanque Club's autumn doubles competition.

Three members assisted in the running of the competition which featured seven timed rounds over two-and-a-half hours.

After four rounds it appeared that Ivor Bell (treasurer) and Chas Doncaster would run away with the trophy having three wins and one draw to their credit. However their challenge faded as Joyce Weston (secretary) and Roy Smith succeeded in winning their last three rounds and won the cup by the narrowest of margins.

Special mention must also be made of Ida Burrows, who will be 100 next January, who played all seven rounds on the hottest of days and who, with her partner Babs Doncaster, came a very creditable fourth recording three wins and one draw.

The club, which plays on Stonards Hill recreation ground, Epping, twice a week, has increased its membership by eight over the past year.

There is room for a few more members, and anyone interested should ring Peter Lumb on 01992 571744 to arrange for up to three 'taster sessions' (free of charge and with boules provided).

Free parking is available in the Stonards Hill car park.

TENNIS: Award presented to club coach

2.02pm - 1st September 2011

THE AEGON Coach of the Month award has been presented to Matt Smith from Epping Tennis Club.

Head coach Matt, a qualified LTA Senior Club Coach - Level 4, was successful in getting the prestigious LTA AEGON Coach of the Month award for July.

The award goes to the person thought to have had the most impact on British tennis

A club official said: "Matt is a great coach and has increased getting more young people and adults playing and competing at the club.

"He has given many young people the opportunity to play and runs a great junior programme on Saturday mornings and throughout the week.

"He is an excellent coach who really drives young people and adults in improving their game from beginners level to elite."

Matt has also helped the club establish links with five local primary schools, a secondary school and motivated young people from The Box Education Programme in Epping, encouraging young people to start playing tennis and continue at the informal setting of the tennis club.

Matt will be giving coaching with Epping Forest District Council's sports development section and will be delivering tennis coaching in the community at Epping Sports Centre. Earlier this year Matt organised a coach trip to Wimbledon via funding supported by Essex County Council's Youth Opportunities, and more than 70 young people and their families were given a tour around Wimbledon's tennis centre.

He also has started a Cardio Tennis programme which is a great way of improving fitness in a fun healthy way.

For more about Epping Tennis Club, coaching or Cardio Tennis, visit www.eppingtennisclub.co.uk or ring Matt on 07743 378055.

GOLF: Victory for Chigwell Ladies Bronze Team

9.38am - 9th August 2011

CHIGWELL Golf Club's Ladies' Bronze Team are the new County Bronze Team Champions after a thrilling match against Channels at Orsett Golf Club.

Andrea Partridge won the first match 6/4, Denise McKenzie won 8/6 and Julia Chew then won her match 5/4. With the team then needed one more point for victory, Julia Lawes fought back from two down to become all square on the 17th. Julia then won the 18th for Chigwell's victory. The remaining matches on the course were called in and declared halved.

GOLF: Bentley Juniors secure title

12.32pm - 2nd August 2011

THE three-strong team from Bentley Golf Club secured the 2011 Essex Faldo Wedge after seeing off competition from 43 other clubs.

The Bentley Juniors team of Harry Noakes, 12, Ryan Murphy, 15, and Oliver Davies, 16, ensured a first ever Essex Wedge victory for the club, near Kelvedon Hatch.

The team took the trophy with a combined Stableford score of 122, with Colchester Golf Club second and Thorpe Hall third.

Ryan won the singles competition with a score of 44 points.

Among the other clubs taking part were Woolston Manor, Loughton, Theydon Bois, Chigwell, Royal Epping Forest, Wanstead and West Essex.

CLUB CRICKET: Loughton remain bottom despite win

6th June 2011

THE Premier Division of the Essex League saw Loughton enjoy their first win of the season, by 86 runs at Chelmsford, but they still remain at the foot of the table.

Woodford Wells lost by six wickets at Hainault and Clayhall while in the local derby at Wanstead the hosts defeated South Woodford by 92 runs with Adnan Akram making a splendid 83 for Wanstead.

In Division One, Buckhurst Hill became joint leaders of the division with a 63 run victory over Fives and Heronians.

Division Three saw Epping win another local derby, at Ongar, by 3 wickets - this was their first win of the season but Ongar have yet to open their account despite a remarkable innings from Rakesh Bagga whose 127 was 78 more than the other ten batsmen's combined contributions to the score of 206!

Woodford Green lost by four wickets at home to Billericay. In the first Division of the Herts and Essex League, Epping Foresters beat South Loughton by 113 runs, Nazeing Common lost to Newport by 3 wickets and Theydon Bois beat Farnham by 136 runs.

Next Saturday (June 11) sees the following local fixtures:

Essex League, Premier Division

Colchester & East Essex v Loughton

Woodford Wells v Ardleigh Green

South Woodford v Ilford

Chelmsford v Wanstead

Essex League, Division One

Buckhurst Hill v Gidea Park and Romford

Essex League, Division Three

Billericay v Epping

Basildon and Pitsea v Ongar

Woodford Green v Belhus

Herts & Essex League

Epping Foresters v Theydon Bois

South Loughton v Ilford Catholic

Langley v Nazeing Common

'FROM THE BOUNDARY' with BBC Essex commentator Dick Davies

6th June 2011

ESSEX have had mixed fortunes recently.

Owais Shah, making his Essex first-class debut against his former team Middlesex at Chelmsford, immediately impressed with an authoritative 96 in Essex's first innings but failed to score in the second as his new team were eventually grateful to settle for a draw when still 110 runs short of victory with only three wickets in hand.

Two days later they made the trip down the M4 to Bristol to play Gloucestershire in the County Championship and again returned with a draw. David Masters, Essex's most successful bowler by far, took 5-48 as the hosts made 255.

In reply Essex gained a lead of 66 with all the batsmen except Ravi Bopara making significant contributions, none more so than Adam Wheater's highly promising 69. When the home side batted again, they seemed to be in trouble at 209-8, a lead of only 143 with about 35 overs of the match remaining but an unbroken partnership of 101 then put the game out of reach and both sides settled for the draw.

The following day, this season's 20/20 campaign began for Essex against Sussex at Hove under floodlights.

The match witnessed the debut for Essex of their two New Zealanders, Scott Styris and Tim Southee, but the early onslaught by the Sussex top order quickly helped to put the contest out of reach as they amassed 173-4. In reply, Styris made a belligerent 47 for Essex but this proved to be more than twice that scored by any of his colleagues as they were bowled out for a very disappointing 141 to lose comfortably. In sharp contrast Essex immediately bounced back at Chelmsford when they annihilated Gloucestershire in the same competition by 122 runs.

The final five overs of the hosts' innings added 71 runs with Styris (again) and Ryan ten Doeschate especially impressive as they pushed the final total to 204-4.

None of visitors' first three batsmen scored a run and they were bowled out quickly for a very modest 82 in the 14th over to give Essex a very easy and comprehensive victory.

CRICKET: Club hosting Bangladeshi tournament

25th May 2011

LOUGHTON Cricket Club is one of five venues for the 16-team Bangladeshi Students Union UK (BSU) Twenty20 tournament.

The games are being played in four groups of four so each team gets at least three games with the top eight teams qualify for the quarter finals in June.

The last group matches are being played on Thursday at 10am and 1pm.

BSU is a non-profitable organisation formed in 2008.

During that time it was under a different name but in 2009 it was named BSU. It was established with the motive of providing support to all Bangladeshi students in the UK as well as the people of the country back home.

BSU presently has a pool of 2,000 registered members most of who are studying in London and aims to increase its span of members to 20,000 within the next six months.

The BSU Sports Club is an initiative of young trained sport administrators and coaches

which identified a number of underlying problems facing the international students living in the UK concerning sport needs.
BSU came up with the idea of arranging a cricket tournament that bring teams to compete and showcase their talents and brings people together as a social gathering.

CRICKET: Club holding summer camp for girls

25th May 2011

GIRLS from across Essex and London are invited to play cricket at a special MCC Spirit of Cricket summer camp at Loughton Cricket Club on Monday and Tuesday, August 15 and 16.

Coached by international cricketers Charlotte Edwards, Beth Morgan and Lydia Greenway and costing just £15, the two-day camp is an opportunity for local girls.

Open to girls of all abilities aged eight to 14, the camp will provide a fun environment to either try the game for the first time, or further develop their skills in the core elements of batting, bowling and fielding.

The summer skills camps are all part of a special link between the Cricket Foundation's 'Chance to Shine supported by Brit Insurance' campaign and Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), to deliver the MCC Spirit of Cricket message to youngsters.

Chance to Shine is the Cricket Foundation's charitable campaign to regenerate competitive cricket in state schools.

Since its launch in 2005 the campaign has equipped over one million of children across England and Wales with essential cricketing skills.

This summer alone up to 500 girls are expected to enjoy MCC Spirit of Cricket summer holiday cricket camps across the country.

Cliff Greenhill, club manager at Loughton Cricket Club, said: "It's a great boost for girls from the local area to have England women's players to inspire them.

"Through Chance to Shine many youngsters, and girls in particular, are given the opportunity to play cricket in schools and clubs.

"The MCC Spirit of Cricket summer camps provide an extra chance for girls to play the game and are a great way to enthuse girls about cricket."

Wasim Khan, chief executive of The Cricket Foundation, said: "The MCC Spirit of Cricket summer camps are a great opportunity for local girls to play cricket, regardless of whether they've played before or not.

"The camps offer girls the chance to meet international female cricketers and be inspired by their passion and skill for the game whilst having lots of fun.

"We're delighted Loughton Cricket Club has made the delivery of this camp possible."

The Cricket Foundation and MCC believe team sports - and cricket in particular - can help young people to develop positive life skills like being part of a team and learning to lead, discovering how to win, to lose and to cope with setbacks.

To book a place, ring 01937 830812.

For more about Chance to Shine visit www.chancetoshine.org

GOLF: Daisy retains ladies' county title

24th May 2011

CHIGWELL Golf Club member Daisy Dyer successfully defended her ladies' county championship title at Upminster on Sunday (May 22).

She was the top qualifier after 36 holes on Friday and then won her matches on Saturday 5/4 and 7/6. Daisy beat Charlotte Thompson, from Channels, in the semi-final 5/4 and then went on to win the final on the 17th green 3/1 against Gabriella Cowley, from West Essex. Daisy has been selected as the playing captain for County Week at King's Lynn on June 28.

Over the next few weeks Daisy has a very busy schedule playing at St Andrew's, then the Critchley Salver at Sunningdale followed by the British Ladies' Open Amateur Championship at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland.

CLUB CRICKET - Baker's century seals South Loughton's win

23rd May 2011

By Dick Davies

VICTORIES for Wanstead and Woodford Wells in the Premier Division of the Essex League at Arleigh Green and Chelmsford respectively were the highlights of last weekend's fixtures.

Elsewhere Loughton lost at home to Ilford and South Woodford lost hosting Hainault and Clayhall.

Division One saw Buckhurst Hill lose by just 15 runs to visitors Hornchurch.

In Division Three, Epping, Woodford Green and Ongar each lost in turn to West Essex, Old Brentwoods and Belhus.

In the first division of the Hertfordshire and Essex League there were defeats for Nazeing Common and Theydon Bois but Epping Foresters recorded a fine victory by 155 runs at Langley while South Loughton thrashed Newport by 9 wickets away from home with Lee Baker making a superb undefeated 163 including 19 fours and three sixes.

Next Saturday (May 28), the local fixtures are:

Essex League, Premier Division:

Brentwood v Wanstead
Loughton v Hainault and Clayhall
South Woodford v Colchester and East Essex
Woodford Wells v Ilford

Essex League, Division One:

Shenfield v Buckhurst Hill

Essex League, Division Three:

Basildon and Pitsea v Woodford Green
Epping v Old Parkonians
Old Brentwoods v Ongar

Herts & Essex League:

Farnham v Epping Foresters
South Loughton v Harlow Town
Theydon Bois v Nazeing Common

'FROM THE BOUNDARY' with BBC Essex commentator Dick Davies

23rd May 2011

ESSEX had to content themselves with a high-scoring draw away to Surrey at the delightful Whitgift School ground in the County Championship.

Having lost the toss, Essex were asked to bat first on a tricky wicket but a priceless 63 from Alastair Cook laid the foundations for the middle order to make hay in the sunshine as

the conditions eased after lunch. Matthew Walker and Adam Wheeler added 131 for the fourth wicket with scores of 76 and 64 respectively and by the close the visitors were handily placed at 318-6. The second day saw history made as Graham Napier blitzed an astonishing 196 off 130 balls including a record-equalling 16 sixes as, helped by the resilient Chris Wright, Essex finally totalled 548. With the Surrey captain then making 159 and three other batsmen scoring fifties, when Essex batted again they had only established a lead of 42 runs on first innings. At mid-afternoon on the final day Essex were perilously placed at 222-8, an overall lead of 264 with about 55 overs still to be played. However Tim Phillips came to the rescue with a valuable 58 as the last two wickets added a further 102 runs and, equally important, used up important overs. Wright and Maurice Chambers also made significant contributions to put the match out of Surrey's reach. Needing a nominal 367 to win off just 27 overs, the captains called a truce with the hosts 65-1. On Sunday Essex continued their unbeaten season in the CB40 competition with a comprehensive eight-wicket victory over the Unicorns at Chelmsford.

'FROM THE BOUNDARY' with BBC Essex commentator Dick Davies

15th May 2011

ESSEX had a frustrating trip to Cardiff where Glamorgan were restricted to 222-7 in a 40-over match but then the heavens opened mercilessly and Essex did not have an opportunity to post any reply. Two days later, at Bury St Edmunds, they comfortably defeated the Unicorns in the same competition. Tim Phillips returned the splendid figures of 5-28 as the Unicorns were bowled out for 137. Despite a very lively pitch, which saw batsmen hit on the helmet on six occasions all at the same end of the wicket, Alastair Cook, Ravinder Bopara and, especially, Mark Pettini all batted doggedly and courageously as Essex won by eight wickets with six overs in hand. If the elements could have been seen to have deprived Essex of likely victory in Cardiff, they most certainly came to the rescue at Derby in the four-day Championship fixture last week. The visitors were "invited" to bat first on a very green wicket and after an hour and a quarter had slumped to 43-5. A partnership of 109 between James Foster (62) and Matthew Walker (56) saw Essex reach 179 but this was well below par. David Masters then bowled superbly to take 5-71 but Derbyshire's first innings of 288 meant Essex batted again 109 in arrears. Jaik Mickleburgh's 64 and Bopara's well-crafted 119 were the main contributors to their team's final score of 331 which left the home side with 223 to score if they were to win the match. Masters again struck early as the hosts teetered on 26-3 but an excellent recovery by the middle order batsmen saw Derbyshire apparently coasting to victory until, with only 21 further runs required and four wickets in hand, a thunderstorm saturated the ground to leave the home side frustrated and Essex relieved.

CLUB CRICKET: Wins for Wanstead and South Woodford

15th May 2011

By Dick Davies

IN local club cricket on Saturday (May 14) there were victories for Wanstead and South Woodford in the Premier Division of the Essex League. At Wanstead, the hosts dismissed Loughton for 225 with [Joe Ellis-Grewal](#) taking 5-32. The visitors' score was boosted by 75 from [Rizwan Sadig](#) most of which came in boundaries while Merv Westfield's undefeated 104 was the foundation of Wanstead's successful run chase as they won by three wickets. Skipper Nick Browne made an excellent 135 not out at Woodford Wells as South Woodford posted 294-4. In reply, in a limited overs match, the home side scored 229-9 to lose by 65 runs, despite 60 not out from Will Rogers and 69 from Rob Leiper. In Division One, Orsett were dismissed for 223 and Buckhurst Hill reached the winning post with six wickets in hand. Division Three saw Epping lose by five wickets at Benfleet but there was success for Woodford Green despite being bowled out for a modest 149 at home to Ongar. When the visitors batted, they only made 45 and failed to come to terms with the bowling of Ail Raza, who took 5-20 in ten overs to see his side to victory by 104 runs. In the first division of the Hertfordshire and Essex League, there were defeats for Nazeing Common, South Loughton and Epping Foresters (by one run) but Theydon Bois comfortably beat Bishop's Stortford III by seven wickets with [Paul Sartoretto](#) making 75 not out. Next Saturday (May 21), the local fixtures are:

Essex League, Premier Division:

Ardleigh Green v Wanstead
Chelmsford v Woodford Wells
Loughton v Ilford South Woodford v Hainault and Clayhall

Essex League, Division One:

Buckhurst Hill v Hornchurch

Essex League, Division Three:

Epping v. West Essex
Old Brentwoods v Woodford Green
Ongar v Belhus

Herts & Essex League:

Bishop's Stortford III v Nazeing Common
Harlow Town v Theydon Bois
Langley v Epping Foresters
Newport v South Loughton.

GOLF: Eastenders star at charity event

13th May 2011

EIGHTEEN teams took part in the Chigwell Golf Club Pro-Am tournament which raised money for the Wooden Spoon charity. Every year as part of the PGA East Region calendar, the Chigwell club hosts an Invitational Pro-Am event with members and local clubs invited to enter teams. An individual professional event runs alongside the team event which is supported by PGA Professionals from the south east. For the past two years the event has supported the Chigwell Golf Club captain's charity which this year is the Wooden Spoon Charity dedicated to helping underprivileged children

and young people all over the UK and Ireland to live happier, richer lives. The golf was followed by an evening carvery dinner and charity auction which raised a substantial sum for the charity. Items up for grabs included a limited edition Ryder Cup iron set, signed Rio Ferdinand football shirt and a couple of golf trips. Chigwell member and past Essex County captain David Miller invited his long-time friend Larry Lamb to be the auctioneer. Larry has recently starred as 'Archie' in Eastenders and Gavin's dad Mick in Gavin and Stacey. The 18-hole team event was won by a team of Chigwell members. Past captain Richard Harrison, chairman Michael Wood and Richard Vass scored an impressive team score of 12 under par in windy conditions to take first place. Current club captain Peter Hearn found he had to award himself a prize, as his team was placed third. The event has already attracted interest for next year. Anyone wanting to enter a team, reserve a space, or be part of the day in some way, can contact event organiser and PGA Teaching Professional Barry Middleton on 020 8500 2384.

'FROM THE BOUNDARY' with BBC Essex commentator Dick Davies

5th May 2011

This regular column features news from the Essex first-class game as well as the local club scene. If you are involved with a local club submit your fixtures, match reports and scorecards to be featured on this page.

Email everythingeppingforest@googlemail.com

IN local club cricket last weekend South Woodford lost to Colchester in the Essex Cup but Woodford Wells comfortably beat Wickford by six wickets with Will Rogers making 75. Thanks mainly to Mike Peacock's 69 and Rob Petchey's 5-31, the local derby saw Wanstead, winners of the cup for the two previous seasons, lose by 51 runs to Buckhurst Hill who will be away to Upminster in the next round: Woodford Wells will travel to Shenfield for their match.

In the first matches of the season in the Herts and Essex League, Epping Foresters defeated Newport by 14 runs, Nazeing Common beat South Loughton by nine wickets and Theydon Bois trounced Ilford Catholics by 156 runs.

The relevant matches this weekend are: Harlow Town v Nazeing Common, Ilford Catholics v Epping Foresters, Langley v Theydon Bois and South Loughton v Farnham.

The Essex league season starts this Saturday (May 7) in the Premier Division. South Woodford and Wanstead are at home to Chelmsford and Hainault & Clayhall respectively while Loughton and Woodford Wells are, in turn, away to Ardeleigh Green and Brentwood. In Division One, Buckhurst Hill travel to Harold Wood and Division Three sees Woodford Green at West Essex while Ongar and Epping host Benfleet and Basildon & Pitsea respectively.

The Bank Holiday weekend was most certainly a time of festivity for Essex at the County Ground in Chelmsford.

While hundreds of thousands were celebrating "the wedding" on Friday, a smaller but equally enthusiastic crowd were witnessing Essex's first win of the season as, having been on the receiving end for three days, they ultimately beat Glamorgan at Chelmsford by six wickets.

This was thanks mainly to Alastair Cook's 79, followed by heroics from Matthew Walker and Ravi Bopara who, in a partnership of 217 for the fourth wicket, made 97 and an undefeated 136 respectively.

Nottinghamshire posted a competitive 287-7 in the CB40 match on Sunday but Essex paced their reply superbly with Cook making a further 96.

All the batsmen made significant contribution and Essex won by seven wickets with an over to spare.

An opening partnership of 87 in 14 overs by Monday's visitors, Lancashire, flattered to deceive.

As a result of Lonwabo Tsotsobe's splendid 4-43 and Bopara's 3-49, the men from Old Trafford could only muster 190 and Essex had little trouble in scoring the necessary runs with Bopara and skipper James Foster both making seventies in a stand of 135 as the side again won by the very comfortable margin of seven wickets.

The 40-over campaign continues this weekend as Essex travel to Wales for a floodlit match against Glamorgan at Cardiff on Friday evening followed by the much shorter trip to Bury St Edmunds where they take on the Unicorns on Sunday.

Championship cricket returns on Tuesday for the start of the four-day match at Derby.

'FROM THE BOUNDARY' with BBC Essex commentator Dick Davies

26th April 2011

This regular column features news from the Essex first-class game as well as the local club scene. If you are involved with a local club submit your fixtures, match reports and scorecards to be featured on this page.

Email everythingeppingforest@googlemail.com

IT really is better to draw a thick veil over Essex's performance at Lord's where they were ignominiously beaten by Middlesex in a match which only lasted until 11.42am on the third day.

They suffered a heavy eight-wicket defeat after having been bowled out twice on the second day, the first time they had suffered such an indignity since August 1998! However, one of Essex's charms over many years has been their ability to bounce back from adversity and, although they must have found the Lord's experience somewhat chastening, they would nevertheless have been heartened by Reece Topley's second five-wicket haul in only the same number of championship matches and by Tom Westley top scoring in each innings.

The wicket at Wantage Road, Northampton, is known to be a batsman's paradise and so the next fixture was expected to be a good opportunity to regain some batting confidence. Westley had returned to Durham University to pursue his academic endeavours so his place was taken by former captain Mark Pettini while seam bowler Maurice Chambers was rested to accommodate the new overseas signing, South African Lonwabe Tsotsobe, and Tim Phillips replaced Chris Wright.

Essex won the toss in glorious weather and centuries from Alastair Cook and Jaik Mickleburgh, ably assisted by James Foster's 64, saw the side reach 433 just before lunch on the second day.

Essex "old boy" Stephen Peters made 105, Chaminda Vaas and Niall O'Brien each fell four short of further centuries and the hosts established a lead of 105 on first innings before declaring late on the third day to leave Essex an awkward seven overs which they successfully negotiated.

Essex were still 23 in arrears when they lost their fourth wicket twenty minutes before lunch on the final day and the likelihood of a third consecutive championship defeat was looming.

However Pettini and Matthew Walker had other ideas and they scarcely offered a chance as they stayed together throughout the afternoon session and were still in an unbroken partnership of 147 in 52 overs when the captains agreed to accept a draw.

Although Essex are languishing at the bottom of the table, most of the batsmen have made significant contributions with only Ravinder Bopara not registering even a half-century so far as he lies in ninth place in the team's batting averages!

In local cricket, teams were playing in the Shepherd Neame Essex League Cup. Loughton, Epping and Ongar lost to Romford & Gidea Park, Old Brentwoods and Belhus respectively but Woodford Wells beat Walthamstow by 17 runs thanks in part to 60 from Robert Marshall.

The most exciting match was at Roding Lane where Buckhurst Hill defeated Chingford by just one run!

In cup action this coming Saturday, Woodford Wells are at home to Wickford and South Woodford host Colchester while Buckhurst Hill make the short journey to Wanstead. In the Hertfordshire and Essex League the opening encounters see Epping Foresters at home to Newport and Nazeing Common hosting South Loughton.

CANOEING: Olympic venue to host world championships

17th April 2011

THE 2015 Canoe Slalom World Championships will be held at the Lee Valley White Water Centre on the outskirts of Waltham Abbey.

A rival bid was made by the French Canoe Federation but the announcement means the championships will be returning to British waters for the first time in 20 years.

British Canoe Union chief executive Paul Owen said: "The British Canoe Union is extremely proud and excited to have been awarded the 2015 Canoe Slalom World Championships at Lee Valley White Water Centre.

"We are fully committed to delivering a world class event on behalf of the International Canoe Federation.

"I would like to thank our partners for the fantastic support the British Canoe Union has received in preparation of the bid, especially that of our Government, Lee Valley Regional Park, and UK Sport who all played a substantial part in the bids success.

"I am convinced the 2015 Canoe Slalom World Championship will be a fantastic event, providing an excellent opportunity to showcase our sport worldwide."

A contributing factor in the decision to award the championship to Great Britain was to ensure the legacy of the state-of-the-art white water stadium post the Olympic Games. Lee Valley and Canoe Slalom are the first 2012 legacy venue to have won a World Championships.

Shaun Dawson, chief executive of Lee Valley Regional Park Authority, said: "We are delighted to host the world championships at Lee Valley White Water Centre.

"The competition allows us to see legacy in action and raise the profile of this exciting sport to a wider audience.

"We are looking forward to hosting the event and bringing an international audience to the centre in 2015."

CRICKET: Ongar welcomes Kiwi bowler

16th April 2011

ONGAR Cricket Club are looking forward to the 2011 season with the first team boosted by the arrival of seam bowler Michael Hayward from Wellington, New Zealand.

Michael plays the highest level of club cricket back home where his team mates include New Zealand international Mark Gillespie.

The club has been further boosted by the arrival of Bazeegh Zaka, a player coach with the best coaching qualifications available in the amateur game.

Baz will be working with players from all the club's sides at weekday training and before weekend games.

While there are some new faces in the team, the fixtures carry a sense of déjà vu as they start, as they did in 2010, with an away cup fixture against Belhus.

The first home game follows on Saturday, May 7, with Benfleet the visitors.

A full fixture list can be obtained at www.ongarcricicketclub.co.uk but particular highlights include the games against local rivals Old Brentwoods (July 16) and Epping (June 4).

The second team start their league season with a trip to Southend on May 7 when their Highlights for the season are likely to be the game with Old Brentwoods which last season saw the sides score almost 600 runs between them at Love Lane, with Old Brentwoods victorious in the last over.

The club will also be involved in a nationwide 20-20 competition for the first time this year. The Dukes 2020 competition comprises a round group matches against local rivals Fives & Heronians, Epping, Loughton and Harlow before knockout stages and finally regional and national finals days.

Ongar start their campaign away at Fives on Sunday, June 5, quickly followed by an evening game at Epping on June 7.

Ongar's home games are to be held as a double header on Sunday, June 19, when the town will play host to Loughton at 1pm and Harlow at 4pm.

Spectators are welcome at all matches. Off the field the club will be busy too with May 1 being the club's annual Natwest Cricket Force maintenance day, May 13 being the latest instalment of the fundraising race nights at Love Lane and July 29 being the annual Presidents Day fundraiser.

The race night and Presidents Day fundraising days are important sources of funds for the club and non-members are always welcome.

The club is always looking for new members of any standard and would love to hear from anyone interested in playing cricket.

To find out more, visit the 'Contact us' page at www.ongarcricicketclub.co.uk or email Tom at tom.stock@ntlworld.com.

'FROM THE BOUNDARY' with BBC Essex commentator Dick Davies

14th April 2011

Welcome to the new 'From the Boundary' column written by BBC Essex cricket commentator Dick Davies.

The regular column will focus on the first-class game in the county as well as the Essex club cricket scene.

If you are involved with a local club, you can submit your fixtures, match reports and scorecards by emailing everythingeppingforest@googlemail.com

IN common with all the other counties, Essex went into the new season with their spirits re-invigorated and heightened expectations of success in the coming summer months.

In its typically capricious way, the fixtures computer had determined that Essex's opening encounter would be at Chelmsford's County Ground against Kent, the team who accompanied them on the downward path to the second tier of championship cricket at the end of last season.

It is 17 years since the county town last witnessed the host side beating their neighbours from across the Thames in a first-class match so the omens were not too encouraging and there was further cause for concern when the visitors won the toss and chose to bat first. However, with just the fourth ball of the new season, former Kent player David Masters dismissed captain Robert Key by bowling him for a duck with the batsman apparently playing the ball well enough only to see it trickle back onto his wicket.

Just two Essex players have made their championship debuts at an earlier age than Reece Topley but, in his first over, the tall 17-year-old left-arm pace bowler uprooted Joe Denly's off stump: he later dismissed Alex Blake in identical fashion. Sam Northeast registered a workmanlike century as Kent were all out for 247, with the last three wickets adding more than 100 runs. By the close of the first day, Essex had staggered to 49-6 in reply and the writing was on the wall! Skipper James Foster batted superbly the following morning and guided his side to 210 which was considerably more than seemed likely overnight. Topley eclipsed his earlier performance in the Kent second innings taking 5-46 as the visitors made 238 to leave Essex needing 285 in nine hours to record the victory. Billy Godleman made a well-crafted 58 but when the final day dawned Essex still needed 87 with only four wickets in hand. In what proved to be an anti-climax, only ten overs were required as 29 more were added for Essex to lose by 57 runs. It was disappointing that neither Alastair Cook nor Ravinder Bopara contributed significantly to the match but those who were there may well have witnessed a new star in the making - Reece Topley!

In local club cricket, South Loughton are preparing for their opening league encounter at Nazeing on April 30 while, a week later, Ongar and Epping begin their seasons by hosting Benfleet and Basildon & Pitsea respectively.

BBC Essex provides ball-by-ball commentary on every Essex game this season with championship matches broadcast online at www.bbc.co.uk/essex. There are also hourly updates into news and sports bulletins. The 40-over one-day matches are also being broadcast on medium wave 729/1530MW with the Twenty20 matches on 729/765/1530MW, online and on DAB.

HOCKEY: School enjoys Dublin tour success

1st March 2011

SIXTEEN under-13s boys' hockey players at Chigwell School have returned after a four-day tour to Dublin. The annual tour helps the year group in its transition from seven-a-side to 11-a-side hockey. The boys played three matches - winning two and losing one - against the strongest schools and club sides Dublin has to offer. There was also time to go on a tour of the impressive Aviva Stadium. After disappointingly losing 6-0 to Monkstown Hockey Club the team responded with a 5-3 win over Pembroke Hockey Club. Going into the last 15 minutes with the score at 3-3 a great cross by Sonal Ohrie was deflected into the net by Daniel Whitehead and Alex Drew quickly added a fifth to secure the victory. The hockey highlight of the tour was the final match against St Andrews College, one of the top sporting schools in Dublin. The game was played with incredible passion by both teams and the final result was again a 5-3 win. James Stedman, Chigwell's head of boys' hockey, said it was one of the most enjoyable games he ever witnessed since working at Chigwell. Daniel Whitehead was man of the match for two electrifying 50m runs, one of which created a goal for Joe Klein and the second created a penalty stroke, converted by Jamie Colton. The goal of the tournament was scored by Tom Martin who was at the back post to finish a brilliant team goal. Tom responded with what became his trademark 'Jose Mourinho' celebration, sliding on his knees in front of the dugout, with Mr Stedman frantically running to capture the moment on his camera! At the end of the tour many awards were presented including players of the tour to Jamie Colton and Sonal Ohrie. Most improved players were Kayden Chahal and Henry 'Paddy' Gard and Team Player of the tour went to Tom Clapham as he typified the boys' excellent competitive attitude throughout. Harry Butler finished top goal-scorer with three goals while Payaam Kapur was declared 'Goalkeeper of the tour' despite originally coming on tour to play on pitch.

HOCKEY: Chigwell boys crowned Essex champions

1st March 2011

CHIGWELL School's under-13s boys' hockey team have reached the east rounds having been crowned Essex champions in the National Schools Hockey Cup. The tournament, at Redbridge Sports Centre, saw Chigwell play six matches against a variety of different schools in Essex in a 'round robin' format with the top two schools qualifying for the east rounds. Chigwell won five of their six matches, scoring 26 goals and conceding only three. The crucial game was the last one, where only a victory against Felsted would do and, after being 1-0 down, the boys responded brilliantly by winning 3-1. The team will now be defending the trophy won by the current under-14s last year. A school spokesman said: "This is a fantastic achievement and one the boys can be very proud of."

FOOTBALL: Chigwell pupil gets England call-up

2nd December 2010

CHIGWELL School upper fifth former Darren McQueen has been selected as a member of the England Under-16 squad which will be travelling to play Northern Ireland in the Victory Shield next week.

CRICKET: Beth makes England cricket debut

20th November 2010

CHIGWELL School pupil Beth MacGregor has made her England cricket debut, playing in the first Twenty20 international on the tour to Sri Lanka. Beth, 17, who is studying for her A-levels at Chigwell, took 0-13 in three overs and did not bat as England beat Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the match in Colombo. After restricting Sri Lanka to 95-8 in their 20 overs, England reached their target with 26 balls to spare.

BOWLS: Gala day victory for Upshire

10th November 2010

A TEAM from Upshire Bowls Club took the honours in Epping Forest District Council's New Horizons 50+ annual bowls day. More than 60 short mat bowlers and their supporters took part in the 21st gala day. The event, held at Epping Sports Centre, attracted 16 teams from short mat bowls clubs as far as Sheering to Woodford with teams playing a full day of bowls, watched by district council chairman Anne Grigg. Upshire Bowls Club beat the Queens Hall (North Weald) team in the final. Mrs Grigg thanked the council's sports development team for organising the event and for the assistance of the many helpers involved in providing teas, raffles, scoring and umpiring.

ATHLETICS: Marathon runners sets new personal best

10th November 2010

HASLERS accountants' business services group partner is back at his desk having completed his 13th marathon in his best ever time. On a sunny day in Amsterdam, Lawrence Shafier set out to finish inside three hours - and completed the 26.2-mile course, which started at the Olympic Stadium and followed the Amstel River, in 2hrs 59mins 34secs. Some 8,000 runners took part in the race. Lawrence said: "I have done it and realised my ambition."

CRICKET: Beth, 17, set for England debut

8th November 2010

CHIGWELL School A-level student Beth MacGregor is poised to play cricket for England after being called up for the women's side for the November tour of Sri Lanka. At the age of 17, Beth has spoken of her shock at the phone call from head coach Mark Lane. Beth told the Essex cricket website www.essexcricket.org.uk: "I was out shopping at the time. It took a while for it to sink in, I was like I'm actually going to Sri Lanka with England, and it's a bit weird."

"I knew I may be in contention, but I didn't necessarily think I'd get picked because there are a lot of good players around at the moment."

The opportunity arose through a number of players missing out on the tour because of injury or other commitments, such as Katherine Brunt, Holly Colvin and Sarah Taylor. MacGregor was called up to the tour of New Zealand in the summer but was not handed her international debut.

She is now hoping this will be her time and a chance to show her potential on the big stage - hopefully be in one of the two one-day internationals or three Twenty20 games in Sri Lanka.

She said: "You have to be ready, otherwise there's not much point in going out there. I'm in the squad so I'm in contention and if I'm not ready there's not much point in me going, so I'd say I'm ready."

Although selected primarily as a bowler, MacGregor's position at number five in the Essex batting order suggests she is more than capable with the bat.

"One of the knocks I'm more proud of is the 108 not out I got this year for Essex against Worcestershire."

"I went in and we were 20-3 and quickly we were 30-5 and I managed to get us up to 226."

Beth has to split her cricket commitments with her education which can be difficult but she said she is receiving the necessary support.

"They're very supportive and I've got lots of teachers helping me out. I'm missing November exams and things like that but the teachers have been very good and sorted me out so I can do a lot of the work before I go."

"At the moment I'm still only 17 and there are a lot of ifs and buts. First and foremost I want to get my education and I would be interested in going to university."

"At the moment I've got to make sure I get the right education and that I've got something to fall back on just in case."

This aside, Beth is fully focused on her personal cricketing goals and targets, starting with the tour of Sri Lanka that should hopefully see her make an international bow for her country.

"Getting my first cap would be very good" she said.

"And within that I'd like to have made an impact and not just be another player, to have actually shown I'm good enough to be part of the team."

FOOTBALL: Success for Chigwell School

1st October 2010

CHIGWELL School's 1st XI beat Norwich in the first round of the ISFA Cup. Chigwell opened the scoring through Joe Chappell but then went on to concede from the spot and in open play to see them fall 2-1 behind at half-time. A spirited response saw Chigwell equalise again through Flynn Prevost and then substitute Neal Morse scored the winner from an extremely tight angle.

FOOTBALL: Under-15s net cup success

1st October 2010

CHIGWELL School's under-15s are through to the second round of the ISFA Cup after beating Kimbolton 2-1.

It proved to be an even game in which Kimbolton went ahead probably against the run of play through Nat Knell but Chigwell replied with an excellent finish from Rory Taylor after some good interplay had released him.

Both teams created good chances to win the game in the second half but it was Rory Taylor who netted the winner from a corner.

Both teams must be congratulated on their spirit throughout the game and it was certainly a very evenly match, competitive game of football.

In the under-16s cup, Chigwell will take on Kimbolton on Tuesday, October 19.

FOOTBALL: School hosts festival

1st October 2010

NINETY boys from Forest, John Lyon and Chigwell schools took part in the first annual under-12s nine v nine football festival at Chigwell School.

The event was split into two nine v nine and one seven v seven matches for the A, B and C teams.

Each side played each other school twice during the afternoon, which saw some fantastic football played.

There were many positive comments from parents, coaches and pupils, who thoroughly enjoyed the relaxed afternoon and it was also noted that the standard of football was very high.

Many pupils commented that they had more space to play and therefore were much more confident with the ball.

The format could be replicated with two, three or even more teams and it also gave the opportunity for those boys that may not necessarily play much football to do so in an ideal environment.

BOWLS: Club hosts finals weekend

20th September 2010

THE finals of all internal club competitions at Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club are played over one weekend.

Some members were in more than one final and the club would like to thank Valerie and George Finbow for preparing the weekend's timetable.

Thanks also go to all those who marked some of the games and to those who acted as umpire.

Other club members and friends and family watched the finals making the whole weekend a most enjoyable time.

The results were:

Ladies Singles: Winner, Jackie Brown (runner-up, Joan Barnes).

Men's Singles: Winner, Ralph Cooper (runner-up, Eric Monk).

Fixed Jack Competition: Ladies' winner, Hazel Issitt (runner-up, Joan Barnes); Men's winner, Ralph Cooper (runner-up, Mike Nash).

Novices: Ladies' winner, Sue Czuba (runner-up, Irene Morris); Men's winner, Ken Haynes (runner-up, Roy Stockton).

Mixed Triples: Winners, Rita Stacey, Cliff Morris and Geoff Hyatt (runners-up, Valerie Finbow, Rita Barnard and Francis Czuba).

Men's Triples: Winners, George Finbow, Ken Haynes and Danny Bentley (runners-up, Mike Nash, Alan Dodd and James Wells).

Ladies' Triples: Winners, Valerie Finbow, Estelle Bell and Sheila Hawes (runners-up, Joan Barnes, Sheila Nash and Winn Hyatt).

Ladies' 2 woods: Winner, Doreen Oddy (runner-up, Estelle Bell). Men's 2 woods: Winner, Ralph Cooper (runner-up, Francis Czuba).

Mixed Pairs: Winners, George Finbow and Hazel Issitt (runners-up, Irene Morris and Geoff Hyatt).

Ladies' Pairs: Winners, Hazel Issitt and Doreen Oddy (runners-up, Jackie Brown and Joan Barnes).

Men's Pairs: Winners, George Finbow and Francis Czuba (runners-up, Geoff Hyatt and Alec Kinnison).

Ladies' 3 woods: Winner, Doreen Oddy (runner-up, Hazel Issitt). Men's 3 woods: Winner, Ralph Cooper (runner-up, Geoff Hyatt).

Men's Handicap: Winner, Ralph Cooper (runner-up, Francis Czuba).

Ladies' Handicap: To be played between Joan Cooper and Sue Czuba at a later date. Bantham & Ongar have been very successful in their leagues and competitions this year.

The ladies and gents won the Harlow and District Senior Citizen's League.

In the Top Club Competition, the ladies won the first two rounds while in the Albert Crabb Competition the ladies progressed to the third round.

The ladies came second in both the Ernstein Plate Ladies League and the Harlow and District Ladies Triples League.

The club held a well-attended fun day on Saturday, September 11.

There was a different challenge on every rink - including bowling with a blindfold and with the wrong hand.

The day was won by Sheila Hawes with Mike Nash runner-up.

FOOTBALL: School reaches last eight

9th September 2010

CHIGWELL School's 1st XI soccer team has reached the last eight of the ISFA National Six-a-Side Tournament.

In the competition held at Repton School, Chigwell drew their first match with Kimbolton and went on to secure excellent victories against St Bede's, Manchester and Lancing College, but lost to the hosts.

The team secured a draw in their final group game against RGS Newcastle which meant it finished second in the group of six and ensured passage through to the main cup competition.

A strong St Bede's, Hailsham side proved too strong in the quarter-finals however but Chigwell went away pleased with their performances throughout the day.

A school spokesman said: "This was a perfect conclusion to the pre-season training which saw more than 35 boys in attendance whose hard work and attitude particularly pleased the school's football coaches."

BOWLS: League title for Bantham and Ongar

5th September 2010

BANTHAM and Ongar have won the Harlow Senior Citizens League with a game in hand. The North Weald club were visitors to Griffin and won three out of the four rinks, but lost out on shot difference.

Rita Stacey, Valerie Finbow and Geoff Hyatt had an impressive win 24 shots to 15, Maureen Cantle, Dave Stacey and Doreen Oddy won 17-12, Win Hyatt, Hazel Issitt and Ralph Cooper won 16-13 while George Finbow, Jackie Brown and Pat Kitson went down 7-28.

Total shots scores were 68 to the home side and 64 to Bantham and Ongar. However they came away with six points to four therefore winning the league with one game in hand.

The ladies played their last game of the Ernstein Plate when they entertained Clementswood at winning on both rinks. Estelle Bell, Mary Pegrum, Pat Kitson and Doreen Oddy won 29-10 and Rita Stacey, Win Hyatt, Valerie Finbow and Joan Barnes won 26-16 thereby gaining the full six points available.

This has been the first year of entering the Ernstein Plate league and Bantham and Ongar will now have to wait for all the final games to be played before they know where they have come in the league.

Two weeks ago they were heading the league over Rainham with a point in hand.

BOWLS: Competition run ends

22nd August 2010

THE progress of Bantham and Ongar Ladies in the Albert Crabb competition came to an end in the third round when they were beaten by Connaught ladies.

This was despite Bantham and Ongar winning away at Connaught 20-16 where they were in the lead from the start.

This team comprised Jackie Brown, Joan Cooper, Brenda Perrett and Doreen Oddy. However the home team of Rita Stacey, Valerie Finbow, Irene Carter and Joan Barnes went down 26-11 to the experienced Connaught ladies losing the competition overall.

In the Ernstein Plate League, Bantham and Ongar just won by two shots, 42-40, when

they entertained Elm Park gaining four out of the six points available, winning one and losing one rink.
Rita Stacey, Win Hyatt, Irene Carter and June Ashley won by eight shots, 29-21, while Beth Stables, Shirley Kinnison, Brenda Perrett and Doreen Oddy, meeting county pairs finalists, went down 13-19.

BOWLS: Double success for ladies

16th August 2010

BANTHAM and Ongar ladies are top of the table after victory against Buckhurst Hill in the Erzstein Plate competition.
In the home match, Jackie Brown, Estelle Bell, Hazel Issitt and Pat Kitson won 30-12 while Sheila Hawes, Valerie Finbow, Sheila Nash and Joan Barnes went down 18-21.
Bantham and Ongar currently head the league with 29 points, a point ahead of Rainham.
In the Harlow and District Triples League, the ladies were victorious 55-23 at home to Harlow.
Beth Stables, Brenda Perrett and June Ashley won by 34 shots to 11 while Sue Czuba, Irene Carter and Doreen Oddy won by 21 shots to 12 as the ladies secured maximum points.

BOWLS: Emphatic win for ladies

3rd August 2010

THE ladies of Bantham and Ongar had a runaway win at home to Redbridge ladies in the Erzstein Plate league when they gained the six maximum points available by winning on both rinks.
Brenda Perrett, Shirley Kinnison, Irene Carter and Doreen Oddy won comfortably by 33 shots to 13 while the quartet of Hazel Issitt, Beth Stables, Joan Cooper and June Ashley won by 27 shots to 14.
The ladies of the North Weald-based club are currently top of the league.
In the Albert Crabb competition, Bantham and Ongar ladies reached the next round with victory over Hainault by 14 shots overall. Rita Stacey, Valerie Finbow, Irene Carter and Joan Barnes were dominant winning 25 shots to nine while Jackie Brown, Hazel Issitt, Brenda Perrett and Doreen Oddy just went down by two shots 20-22.
They now meet Connaught in the third round..

SHOWJUMPING: Success for Thomas

1st August 2010

A CHIGWELL showjumper has earned a place at the Horse of the Year Show.
Thomas Plaster, 15, won a competition held at the Hand Equestrian Centre in mid-July.
Thomas was victorious with his father Ian's Sunshine VIII who had already qualified at Arena UK.

BOWLS: Mixed fortunes ladies

26th July 2010

BANTHAM and Ongar ladies won their second round tie of the Top Club competition when they hosted Griffin, winning three of the four disciplines and by 114 shots to 51.
Brenda Perrett contested the singles and lost by one shot with her opponent's last wood 20 to 21.
In the Pairs, Hazel Issitt and Pat Kitson won by 33 shots to 10 while in the Triples it was a more tightly contested match with Rita Stacey, Valerie Finbow and Doreen Oddy coming through 19 shots to 12.
The Fours of Jackie Brown, Joan Cooper, Irene Carter and Joan Barnes won by the huge margin of 42 shots to 8.
However the ladies were unlucky in their attempt to progress to the fourth round and then semi-final when they were defeated away at Buckhurst Hill by 16 shots overall. Two games apiece gave equal points but the home side won overall by the shot difference.
Brenda Perrett lost the singles 8 -21, the pairs of Hazel Issitt and Pat Kitson went down 12-24 but the triples of Rita Stacey, Valerie Finbow and Doreen Oddy won 17-10 and the fours of Jackie Brown, Estelle Bell, Irene Carter and Joan Barnes won by two shots 17-15.
In the Erzstein Plate League, the ladies travelled to Seven Kings and gained the maximum six points available winning on both rinks. Brenda Perrett, Hazel Issitt, Irene Carter and Doreen Oddy had a runaway win by 24 shots to 4 while Rita Stacey, Sheila Hawes, Joan Cooper and June Ashley won 18-13.
In the Albert Crabb Cup, in the tightest game possible, Bantham and Ongar ladies come through the first round of the D area winning by two shots overall 38 to 36.
The home team of Rita Stacey, Valerie Finbow, Joan Barnes and Pat Kitson won 21-17 while the away team of Jackie Brown, Hazel Issitt, Brenda Perrett and Doreen Oddy just lost by two shots, 17-19, drawing the extra end 19-19 in case of a draw.
They now face Hainault or Writtle in the next round.to 62.

BOWLS: Success for Bantham and Ongar ladies

12th July 2010

THE ladies at Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club returned victorious when they played at Clements Wood, Ilford, in the Erzsten Plate Ladies League.
Rita Stacey, Estelle Bell, Brenda Perrett and Pat Kitson won 32-12 while Jackie Brown, Win Hyatt, Val Finbow and Joan Barnes won 26-14.
The ladies were again victorious when they played at Buckhurst Hill, winning by just one shot overall - 36 points to 35.
Hazel Issitt, Irene Morris, Irene Carter and Doreen Oddy had the winning rink by 22 shots to 11 while Estelle Bell, Sheila Hawes, Brenda Perrett and June Ashley lost 14-24.
Bantham & Ongar ladies won the match overall gaining four points out of the six available.
The club's ladies sealed three league wins in a week when they competed at home against Epping in the Harlow Ladies Triples League.
Winning on both rinks they therefore gained full points, amassing a total of 60 shots to 21.
Jackie Brown, Irene Carter and Pat Kitson had a runaway win of 36 shots to 11 while Sue Czuba, Hazel Issitt and Doreen Oddy won 24-10.
In the Brentwood & District League at home against Upminster Ken Haynes, Jim Heppel and Don Hedges won 19-17, Gary Mitchell, Len Harris and Dave Stacey drew 19-19, Francis Czuba, Ralph Cooper and Eric Monk lost 11-12 and Roy Stockton, Bill Cook and Keith Lodge lost 13-21.
Overall the North Weald club picked up three points to their opponents' six losing by 69 shots to 62.

CRICKET: Club's colts produces county star

2nd July 2010

EPPING Cricket Club's successful colts system has produced a young county star. The Lower Bury Lane side has produced a number of top quality players for the Shepherd Neame Essex League over the years and now its latest star talent is 15-year-old Laura Ellis. Laura, from North Weald, was selected for the Essex girls under-15 squad this summer after completing a winter training programme at the Ford County Ground, Chelmsford. Following her county trial, Laura was chosen to represent the county in its summer championship campaign. She has already represented the county in games against Cambridge, Surrey and Kent and has taken part in training at Wickford Cricket Club under the guidance of coach Helen Letch. Laura has also played for Essex girls under-17s and has featured in matches for Epping's Saturday 3rd XI and Sunday side. Laura, who has so far starred in the field for Essex with several catches and two run outs, said: "I am having an amazing time and really enjoying playing for Essex." The youngster, who has played at Epping since she was ten, was presented with a Jack Petchey achievement award by the club in recognition of her progress earlier this year. Epping Cricket Club chairman John Brades said: "Laura has done fantastically well and we are very proud of her achievements which are also testament to the hard work put in by our colts manager and coaches." Laura is a product of Epping's colts set-up which involves practice on Friday evenings at Lower Bury Lane from 5.30pm and matches on Sunday mornings and midweek. For more information about joining Epping colts email Kevin Preston at kevinbrendan@hotmail.com or visit www.eppingcc.hitscricket.co.uk

BOWLS: Mixed fortunes for Bantham and Ongar

21st June 2010

THERE were mixed fortunes for Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club in their latest matches. Playing away at King Georges in the Brentwood and District League, the club lost 9-0, losing by 88 shots to 53. Bill Thorpe, Mike Nash and Don Hedges lost 14-20, Don Wood, Francis Czuba and Dave Stacey lost 16-20, James Wells, Ralph Cooper and Jim Heppel lost 10-27 and Roy Stockton, Bill Cook and Gerald Murfitt lost 13-21. This was James Wells' first league game. In the Chelmsford and District League, in a match played at PML, Mike Nash, Ken Haynes, Ralph Cooper and Jim Heppel lost 14-20, Bill Cook, Bill Thorpe, Don Hedges and Keith Lodge lost 16-17 and Gary Mitchell, Danny Bentley, Dave Stacey and Geoff Hyatt lost 10-26. The North Weald club lost the match ten points to nil, losing by 63 shots to 40. However, in a thrilling end to the Harlow and District Ladies Triples League at Harlow, Bantham and Ongar won the match by just two shots overall 35-33. Sue Czuba, Irene Carter and Pat Kitson lost 13-21 but Jackie Brown, Hazel Issitt and Doreen Oddy won 22-12 to help the Weald Bridge Road club to victory by three points to two. In the County Top Club Competition, Bantham and Ongar ladies won the first round at home against Lionmede. Singles - Doreen Oddy 21-8; Pairs - Hazel Issitt and Pat Kitson 26-18, Triples - Rita Stacey, Valerie Finbow and Joan Cooper 14-14 and Fours - Jackie Brown, Sheila Nash, Irene Carter and Joan Barnes 21-15. Bantham and Ongar meet Griffin at home in the next round on July 11. Hazel Issitt and Doreen Oddy competed in the second round of the County Pairs away to the Writtle pairing of Pauline Adams and Carol Cann. Despite an early lead and then drawing 10-10 on the 14th end, the hosts scored 11 shots in four ends to emerge winners by 21 shots to 15.

BOWLS: League victory for Bantham

14th June 2010

BANTHAM and Ongar Bowls Club recorded a victory against Central Essex in its latest match in the Brentwood and District League. Bill Cook, Danny Bentley and Don Hedges drew 15-15, Ralph Cooper, Gerald Mufit and Keith Lodge won 32-17 while Don Wood, Jim Heppel and Eric Monk lost 14-26. The game involving Len Watson, Mike Nash and Fred Balcombe was given to Bantham and Ongar because one of the opposition did not turn up. The North Weald club got two points and ten shots - 71 shots for and 58 shots against with the club taking six points and Central Essex three.

BOWLS: Latest Bantham and Ongar results

30th May 2010

LADIES at Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club went down to a narrow defeat in the first round of the county fours competition.

In the first round of the D2 Area County Fours Bantham and Ongar ladies Hazel Issitt, Joan Barnes, Brenda Perrett and Doreen Oddy were away to Chelmsford and after a tight battle just lost out to the hosts by 13 shots to 15.

Brentwood and District League results: The second game of the Brentwood and District League was played at home against Billericay on Monday, May 10. Francis Czuba, Cliff Morris and Jim Heppel - lost 20-21
Gary Mitchell, Dave Stacey and Keith Lodge - lost 11-23
Len Watson, Mike Nash and Don Hedges - lost 14-25
Bill Cook, Ralph Cooper and Eric Monk - won 19-12.

In the third game of the Brentwood and District League, played on Monday, May 17, at home to Warley Hill the results were:

Francis Czuba, Ralph Cooper, Fred Balcombe - won 31-8
Ken Haynes, Dave Stacey, Keith Lodge - won 19-8
Gary Mitchell, Bill Cook, Don Hedges - lost 16-19
Roy Stockton, Jim Heppel, Eric Monk - lost 14-18

The following match was also played at home on May 24 against King George's.

Bill Cook, Len Harris and Fred Balcombe - won 26-10
Mike Nash, Francis Czuba, Jim Heppel - won 27-8
Gary Mithcell, Ralph Cooper, Don Hedges - won 21-12
Roy Stockton, Gerald Murfitt and Eric Monk - won 19-15.

The Roger Burton Memorial Trophy competition

The men won their first round match against Brentwood Bowls Club on Tuesday, May 18. Keith Lodge - Singles (Home)
Don Hedges and Ralph Cooper - Pairs (Away)
Bill Cook, Dave Stacey and Geoff Hyatt - Triples (Away)
Mike Nash, Gerald Murfitt, Jim Heppel and George Finbow - Fours (Home).

Chelmsford and District League - played at home on Wednesday, May 19 against RHP 'B'
Bill Cook, Danny Bentley, Ralph Cooper and Jim Heppell - lost 18-28

Francis Czuba, Ken Haynes, Don Hedges and Keith Lodge - won 24-8
Mike Nash, Roy Stockton, Dave Stacey and Geoff Hyatt - won 30-8

Don Wood Trophy (internal club competition)

The Don Wood Trophy commemorates a well-liked and respected club captain Don Wood. The year's event was played on Sunday, May 23 - the hottest day of the year so far - over 25 ends. Congratulations to George and Valerie Finbow who, having gained the most points, won the trophy. Chairman Jim Heppel, when presenting the trophy, thanked all members who took part in the all-day event.

BOWLS: Winning start for ladies

9th May 2010

LADIES at Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club have got off to a winning start in their new league, the Ernsten Plate.

They entertained Rainham and won on both rinks gaining maximum points of six available by 46 shots to 27. Hazel Issitt, Sheila Hawes, Brenda Perrett and Doreen Oddy had a fine win by 30 shots to 13 while Rita Stacey, Win Hyatt, Joan Cooper and Irene Carter fought a close battle winning by two shots 16-14.

Despite the chilly weather the club's open weekend was a great success.

Members opened the club to visitors who wanted to try their hand at lawn bowls this weekend.

As well as lawn bowls, short mat bowls (indoors) was also available for visitors to try. This proved popular probably due to the chilly and damp weather. However quite a few brave souls tried lawn bowls.

A further open day is being planned for Saturday, July 3 (11am to 4pm).

Alternatively anyone interested in finding out more about bowls can go along to the club nights at the club in Weald Bridge Road, North Weald, on Thursdays (from 6.30pm).

All you need is comfortable clothing and a pair of flat shoes.

New members are always welcome.

Visit www.banthamandongar.org.uk for more details, email banthamandongar@gmail.com or ring Jim Heppel on 01277 362631.

BOWLS: Gents start season with win

2nd May 2010

THE Gentlemen of Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club got off to a winning start in their first game in the Brentwood and District League.

The game was played at Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club, in Weald Bridge Road, North Weald, against Hutton Poplars.

Don Wood, Danny Bentley and Jim Heppel drew their match 13-13, Mike Nash, Len Harris and Keith Lodge won 20-9, Gary Mitchell, Dave Stacey and Eric Monk lost 11-14 while Bill Cook, Roy Stockton and Don Hedges won 17-12.

The matches secured Bantham and Ongar a 6-3 victory.

BOWLS: Victory for the ladies

27th April 2010

A LADIES versus Gents match at Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club resulted in victory to the ladies 101 shots to 90.

The ladies captain was Doreen Oddy and gentleman's captain George Finbow.

Last year's annual event was won by the gentlemen for the first time in six years.

This year the club, based in Weald Bridge Road, North Weald (behind the Talbot restaurant), will take part in a number of leagues.

Gentlemen will play in the Brentwood and District League and the Chelmsford District League. Ladies will play in the Harlow and District Ladies Triples League and the Ernsten Plate Ladies League which is a new venture for the club this year.

The club will also take part in the Harlow and District Senior Citizens League which is a mixed league.

Friendly matches have been arranged throughout the season with various clubs when both home and away games will be played.

Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club is keen to recruit new members.

The club is holding an open weekend on May 8 and 9 (11am to 4.30pm each day).

Everyone is welcome.

Please wear flat-soled shoes or trainers.

For more information, ring Jim Heppel on 01277 362631; email banthamandongar@gmail.com or visit www.banthamandongar.org.uk

CRICKET: Essex confirm Olympic stadium talks

13th April 2010

ESSEX County Cricket Club is to take part in negotiations investigating the possibility of playing Twenty20 cricket at the Olympic Stadium, Everything Epping Forest can exclusively reveal.

The club has been keeping tight-lipped about the idea - however chief executive David East told tonight's (Tuesday) annual general meeting of the club that it would be part of a consortium looking at the possibility of using the Stratford venue after the 2012 Games. East told the meeting that one of the visions for the stadium after the Olympics is that it becomes a "multi-sports facility".

East said he had attended a meeting with Newham Council and representatives from West Ham United Football Club, and added that using the venue would be hugely beneficial giving the cricket club a presence in east London.

He described the potential use of the stadium as being one of the county's "festival grounds".

It has already been reported that West Ham United are interested in making the stadium their home once the Olympics and Paralympics are over.

BOWLS: Club ready for new season

9th April 2010

PREPARATIONS are well in hand for the start of the 2010 season for Bantham and Ongar Bowls Club.

Dates for the ladies and gents league games are already fixed and with the weekend friendly games meaning a busy and active outdoor bowling season commencing late April and continuing until the end of September.

If you are interested in mastering the art of flat green bowls why not chance your arm at the club which is behind The Talbot, off Weald Bridge Road, North Weald? Any age group is welcome.

The club also caters for those with disabilities including wheelchair users. Bowling is a

sport which challenges everyone and can be played by all.

The club is holding an open weekend on May 8 and 9 (11am to 4.30pm) All you need is a pair of flat shoes, trainers are ideal. Refreshments will be available and the bar will be open (from midday).

The club boasts the best facilities in the area with play on an all-weather green.

A spokesman said: "We are a really friendly crowd and would welcome new bowlers.

There is currently free membership for two months and reduced fees for the first year for new members."

For more information contact Jim Heppel on 01277 362631 or by email at banthamandongar@gmail.com

Becoming an Associate member means you can join in with the club's other activities such as short mat bowls, whist, quiz, race and bingo nights.

Forthcoming events include whist nights on Friday, April 23 (7.30pm).

For more details visit www.banthamandongar.org.uk.

HOCKEY: Chigwell School boys in national finals

5th April 2010

CHIGWELL School's under-14 boys' hockey team are through to the English National Schools Championships National Finals.

It is the first time any Chigwell School team, boys or girls, have made it this far in the premier national hockey competition in England.

Having won their group in the east rounds, beating renowned big hockey schools such as Bedford School and The Perse, Cambridge, the team travelled to St Ives, in Cambridgeshire, to compete in the east finals where they had to come in the top two out of the three remaining teams.

Despite a nervous start Chigwell sealed a 4-1 over Greshams School, Norfolk, with goals from Albert Padfield (2), Rory Taylor and Henry Bate. Chigwell then lost 3-0 to Bishop's Stortford College however with Stortford then defeating Greshams, second place was assured.

The team now goes on to represent the East of England in the national finals.

The squad was William Godfrey (c), Lucas Watts, Ramana Ahilan (GKs), Albert Padfield, Chris Halls, Saf Imtiaz, Jack Redmond, Curran Kalha, Rory Taylor, Conor Caplan, Adam Dackombe, Henry Bate, Jack Good, Josh Banfield, Andrew MacGregor and Inderdeep Gill.

FOOTBALL: High Beech pupils' into county final

5th April 2010

PUPILS from High Beech Primary School will be competing in the final of a county-wide football tournament.

They were watched by Tottenham Hotspur goalkeeper Carlo Cudicini when they beat off competition from Upshire, Chigwell and Epping primary schools in the first heat of the Bill Nicholson Schools Cup at Old Chigwellians Sports Ground, Chigwell.

The Italian goalkeeper was on hand to reward the winners as the four schools battled it out to advance in the inaugural competition.

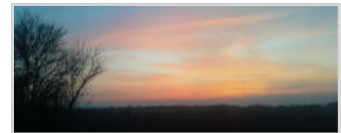
The Bill Nicholson Memorial Fund is providing funding to run the tournament in about 100 Essex and Hertfordshire schools.

The Bill Nicholson Schools Cup incorporates four age groups from each participant school ranging from Year 3 up to Year 6 - giving about 2,500 children the opportunity to take part.

Tottenham Hotspur Soccer Schools coaches will deliver the tournament in each selected area in school curriculum hours, giving each year group the chance to represent their school.

Each child receives a certificate of achievement, and the winners of each heat receive medals for all players and a trophy for the school.

The county finals involving the winners from each district will be at the Tottenham Hotspur First Team training ground, Chigwell, this summer.



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