



# THE BEAMER

## FIRST EDITION OF THE NEW LOSCC NEWSLETTER?!

"Hello everyone and welcome to the brand new Leigh-on-Sea newsletter.

This is the first, in what should be a, regular release to the Leigh membership and beyond. I hope that everyone finds them interesting and also useful to keep you firmly in touch with the news at our beloved club.

This is a very important year here at Leigh-on-Sea, with a brand new chairman in Simon Burch and Stuart Elliott in his very first season as the clubs' first team captain. You will be able to read some of their first thoughts on the season approaching and the future of the club as a whole.

With regular contributors and one off specials this newsletter is the only thing you need for all things relating to the brighter side of Chalkwell Park.

Here is a look at what we have in store for you this month!"

*Ed.*

\* \* \* \* \*

INCLUDED THIS MONTH...	
Welcome / News	Page 1
Sponsor the club/ A word from the Captain	Page 2
The Chairman's Perch / Pipe Up / Your Club Needs You/ Contribute..	Page 3
The Grilling...with Damian Liston	Page 4
Results / Merchandise / Meet you there!	Page 5
The Voice	Page 6

## THE BEAMER NEWS...

### Centenary Ends in style

New Year's Day saw the official end to the centenary celebrations for the club. It capped off a fine year for the club socially, with highlights throughout the year which saw more people than ever coming to the club and sharing in the atmosphere.

The club would like to offer it's thanks to all those that helped with the events, without you none of it would have been possible.

### Roll out the nets

As the 2008 season draws ever closer, preparations for the New Year will be starting very soon. This year the nets will take on a far more structured format. So if you are tired of watching dibbly-dobbly bowlers whizzing bouncers past your face, this could be the year for you! More details on page 5....

### New Leigh-on-Sea merchandise available!

There are several new ranges of Leigh leisurewear and training wear available from the club, so if you fancy some new threads look on page 5 for more details...

\* \* \* \* \*

- Sponsor -





## **Sponsor the Club**

### **Would you like your company to appear HERE in our Newsletter?**

The club is currently looking for sponsors, and has a range of options that any potential-sponsor would be able to consider, from kit, equipment, or pavilion sponsorship, to event sponsoring and more media-prominent projects.

If you'd be interested in investigating Leigh-on-Sea cricket club sponsorship further, please get in contact with either:

- Richard Stubbington (RICHARD\_STUBBINGTON@YAHOO.COM)
- Simon Burch (SIMON.BURCH@VIRGIN.NET)

### **A WORD FROM THE CAPTAIN...**

"If you didn't already know I have the honour of being the LOSCC first team captain for 2008. My aim this year is to get the first team promoted, which is part of the 5 year plan that I'll discuss shortly.

Clearly things need to change to stop our constant battle against relegation from Div 2. I've targeted 2 main areas where I feel we need to improve this season as a 1st team; 1) recruit Kumar Sangakarra 2) recruit Shane Warne, job done, promotion secured! Alas, Mike Green has told me that our budget couldn't quite stretch to recruiting either of those players so we are instead focusing on improving the team from within.

The first stage is that from the 22nd of January the 1st team squad (my selection made up of 2's and ones players) will be partaking in a gruelling preseason fitness campaign. We have a 12 week circuit training programme booked, which takes us up to the start of the season. The sessions are being lead by a qualified fitness trainer and pro boxer at Fitness First in Southend. The first sessions have been completed and as all attendees will confess its bloody hard work! The second stage is a complete re-structuring of the winter net sessions. This is so we can work on skills that will benefit the team during the season and not just trying to tickle Gilesy's chin with short balls.

The net sessions will be led by ECB qualified and newly installed Senior Coach Ken Sandeman. We have decided to split the net sessions into a) first team's squad and b) remaining seniors (with youth players only attending if they are specifically invited by a captain) I want you all to realise that this is not to discriminate against anyone but to allow for the more structured practise we all need if we want to improve.

As a club we have a great social and youth cricket set up, but simply speaking our senior cricket has not progressed over the last 10 years. There is absolutely no reason why we should not be targeting the Premier Division. Our 5 year plan is aiming at promotion from Division 2 within 2 years and reaching the Premier Division by year 5. Simon Burch and I are putting further details of this staged plan together and will be displaying it in the clubhouse so that everyone can read the aims we have for this club.

To summarise, we (the captains and cricket committee) want to take the club forward on the pitch. The way we are aiming to do this is by making structural improvements to the way the club trains and prepares for games. I am sure that with commitment from the membership, we are capable of doing this. I wish you all the best for the season ahead and you'll hear from me in future press releases."

*Stuart Elliott*



**THE CHAIRMAN'S PERCH...**

"Dear Club Member,

Hopefully you have wintered well and are looking forward to the forthcoming season. For some of us the season has already started and the new weekly circuit training means that a lot of our players will be significantly fitter, although one or two of us may fail to see the start of the season!

As I look forward to my 23rd season at Leigh and my first as chairman, I thought I would use this brief note to remind myself and share with you why this club is special. The club continues to thrive financially, socially and in playing numbers. As our primary purpose is to provide cricket, it is interesting to note that whilst many clubs are struggling to raise teams, we believe that this year we will have to run a 5th Saturday and a 3rd Sunday team on occasions this year. Our dinner dance was supported by over 150 people, the bar shows record profit and turnover and we have a loyal and dedicated group of individuals, many of whom are on the committee, ensuring the smooth running of all aspects of the club.

2008 promises to be an exciting year; Stuart Elliott, as new first team captain, has already put in place plans to ensure the first team is more competitive. Brian Pettitt has agreed to run the second eleven and I know Brian has similarly ambitious plans. We need to improve our on-field performances and I am pleased to tell you that Tim Knox (an opening bowler and middle order bat for Carlton in Australia) has provisionally agreed to join us in 2008.

I would like to thank all those individuals who are actively assisting in the running of the club; the contributions of everyone no matter how small greatly help. Steve Brown has done a great job on preparing this newsletter and hopefully, with your support, this will become a regular feature."

*Simon Burch*

\* \* \* \* \*

**PIPE UP...**

This section of The Beamer will be available for all members if they would like to provide any feedback, or write their own article. So if you have anything to say, then pipe up and send it in to...

[THEBEAMER2008@YAHOO.CO.UK](mailto:THEBEAMER2008@YAHOO.CO.UK)

\* \* \* \* \*

**YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU...**



The first Bar Committee meeting is due soon please contact Damian Liston on 07813 019 339 if you would like to join.

All extra assistance is appreciated.

Please note the club rooms are always open for events please contact Lee Willson to arrange bookings and available dates on 07789 221 973

\* \* \* \* \*

**CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLUB WEBSITE...**

Would you like to contribute to the club website? You can post straight to the live website in the News and Captain's Logs areas, or in a features column created just for YOU!

If you'd like to contribute, email [WINNSWORLD@YAHOO.COM](mailto:WINNSWORLD@YAHOO.COM) for access!



**THE GRILLING...**

**1. Name?**

*"Damian Liston"*

**2. What is your occupation?**

*"I am a Sales Director at an international freight company."*

**3. What other hobbies do you enjoy?**

*" I enjoy playing games on my PC, cooking, and enjoying crashing a golf ball around local courses! Go Aussies!"*

**4. What is your favourite food?**

*I love Far Eastern food. I especially like nasi goreng which is an Indonesian version of fried rice which is mostly eaten as a breakfast; it's made from leftovers of yesterday's dinner. Which is much nicer than it sounds I assure you!*

**5. What is your most embarrassing moment?**

*"At a work function in Oz with a major supplier to the company, 8 of us and 8 of them went to a luxury resort for a golf competition. The golf course was amazing, a very exclusive venue! We all had plenty to drink after the round and, in our drunken state, saw that there was a sauna. So our director and I decided to strip off and sweat out the alcohol. Unfortunately as we left the sauna we found our clothes had gone missing as well as the key to my room! In a drunken stupor we ran naked down the course through some bushes (and a couple of car parks) we finally found the cabins where everyone was staying. We bumped into a few older people that did not find it very amusing and had to knock on a number of doors until we eventually found our clothes and keys! It was invigorating though!"*

**6. What is your most treasured possession?**

*That's easy, my cars! However until very recently my Sky remote was up there too!*

**7. What phrase are you most likely to be heard using on the cricket field?**

*"Well I could write a novel on this one! Most of the time its like there are 10 other Aussies on the cricket field, although I think it's more like 10 Essex boys wanting to be Aussies! My favourites are 'Hit out or get out' and 'This game doesn't go over 5 days'. I think the score book should have another column to show 'Caught Catchpole, Bowled Elliot, Sledged Liston, something like that!"*

**8. In what area are you looking to improve this season?**

*"I know a lot of you are thinking 'fielding' I have no idea why though, I field like Punter! It has to be to working on my running. Not just looking to play big shots all the time, be even more patient this season and start to appreciate being called Tavare!"*

**9. If you could change one thing about Leigh-on-Sea what would it be**

*"Has to be that very few people help run this club. Less then a dozen people actually run the club. Considering the time these people give up during the whole year (not just a season!) it is very frustrating. I don't want to hear people whinging about the running of the club. If you have something to add, then make a difference and join the general or sub committees."*

**10. What do you see as your role within Leigh-on-Sea?**

*"My roles are clear off the ground really. I need to concentrate more on my cricket. I need to be more of a senior player and contribute to the team by being far more consistent with the bat."*

\* \* \* \* \*



## RESULTS...

It is now over halfway through the winter indoor cricket season, and if you have not been kept up to speed, here is how Dave Catchpole's side have been fared so far:

### Wed Nov 28th

Hadleigh 133-4                      19 pts  
Leigh-on-Sea 69-5                      6 pts

### Wed Jan 2nd

Leigh-on-Sea                              20 pts  
Southend-on-Sea                      0 pts  
(could not raise a side)

### Sun Jan 13th

Leigh-on-Sea 139-6                      20 pts  
Old Southendians 48-6                      6 pts

### Wed Jan 16th

Leigh-on-Sea 104-3                      20 pts  
Southend Trinity 54-6                      4 pts

### Wed Jan 23rd

Westcliff 77-5                              9 pts  
Leigh-on-Sea 78-6                      19 pts

Indoor Table - Top	P	W	D	L	Pts
Leigh-on-Sea	5	4	0	1	85
Basildon & Pitsea	5	3	0	2	78
Hadleigh & Thundersley	4	4	0	0	75
Westcliff-on-Sea	5	3	0	2	62

## NEW MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE!...

The club will this season have a range of new attire available for purchase (as well as our regular range of marvellous merchandise).

The all new items that can be purchased are:

- **New** 2008 Playing Shirt  
(Cool-mesh fabric)
- **New** 2008 Training Shirt/Shorts
- **New** 2008 Tracksuit  
(Top/Bottoms available separately)
- **New** headwear
  - Caps - 100% Wool cap
  - Sun Hat

Images of these new items, together with a price list and order form for the

full range of LOSCC merchandise will be circulated in the next edition of "THE BEAMER". Get your orders in early to ensure delivery for start of the season!

\* \* \* \* \*

## MEET YOU THERE!...

### Sri Lanka Tour 2007

For all those tourists out there, desperate to swap stories and show pictures, there is a get together at the Club on **Saturday 23 February** for all the Sri Lankan tourists (and anyone else who may be interested) in order to share a drink with your roommates and see how much your tan has faded!

### Nets and fitness

It is that time of year again, when the cricket season starts to feel like it's only just round the corner (hopefully not waiting to give us a jolly good kicking) and as such we can announce that nets sessions will soon be commencing. This year the format will be slightly different however. This is the new schedule:

#### Nets

Where - Southend High School for Boys  
When - Sunday mornings from **3rd of Feb**  
Times - 9.30am - 10.30am  
          10.30am - 11.30am

#### Please note!!! Only attend:

9.30 - 10.30 If you are contacted to do so by first team captain Stuart Elliott.

10.30 - 11.30 senior players only, no youth players unless asked by a captain.

The above is in place to reduce over crowding so structured practise can take place

#### Fitness Training

Where - Fitness First, Southend  
When - Tuesday Evenings from 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan  
Times - 20.30pm onwards

#### Please note!!!

Due to limited space this is only by invite from 1st team captain.

Next season we are looking to expand this as an option for all members.

**Details of other events will be here in future months so please take note and mark them into your diary! If you want your event advertised then please contact us at**

[THEBEAMER2008@YAHOO.CO.UK](mailto:THEBEAMER2008@YAHOO.CO.UK)



### THE VOICE...

The Voice would like to take this opportunity to welcome any new readers to his column. The Voice provides a highly irreverent look at the game we play and the club we play it for. Looking for wider trends in the fabric of cricketing culture and how they apply to the humble, honest club cricketer (and to the arrogant cheats amongst us too).

All the talk in the national media over the last few months has been centred on one thing. Not the storm brewing in Australia about the rights and wrongs of sledging, or the England cricket team arriving in NZ. No, the only story this winter so far has been the rumours of The Voice making a sensational £5 million January transfer window move from the website to the newsletter. This story was confirmed when the Leigh website had to report that it had indeed lost the services of The Voice as the window shut. There was a brief period of confusion regarding whether the paperwork was completed before midnight. But now The Voice has been unveiled and is looking to make an immediate impact for his new employers.

The Voice feels he should talk about the second most important story in the cricket news also, that being the current controversy in Australia. World cricket appears to have refocused its rather rheumy eye on the player's honesty and how it is affecting the umpires of the game and the decisions they then have to make. Now far be it from me to declare who is right and who is wrong in this debate (typical cheating Aussies though eh?) but I wonder whether the current hand wringing about the state of test cricket umpiring is not a tad overblown.

Here at Leigh umpiring is a far greater problem than that at the ICC. With all the fine tuning that the laws go through every year or so, there cant be more than 4 people at the club that are 100% confident that the ball that was just bowled was truly a no ball, is it above waist high or shoulder high for a spinner? The rest of us just have to rely on the hope that no one else knows any better, and if by some horrible chance they do, they have not brought a pocket copy of the rules out onto the field with them and therefore have no proof. The umpires' word is final after all. Well it's final until the umpire comes off the field, where they are set upon by their 3 disgruntled LBW victims, who all have 'special' insight into where the umpires should have his index finger inserted.

Umpiring is not simply a case of appeasing malevolent batsmen with axes to grind and

bowlers with a hatchet to bury however, The Voice remembers a piece of umpiring magic delivered by the father of Alan Henley during cricket week not too many seasons ago.

Having been informed that Ed Freeman (former Essex under 18's off spin legend) was cranking up the pace that day in an attempt to bowl mind-bendingly quickly, Alan had a word with his father (who was umpiring in the game) and together hatched a fiendish plot. Ed (believing the kindly looking chap in the white coat was merely a hired neutral) sprinted in for his first ball of the spell like a keyed up Linford Christie. "No ball!" came the cry from the umpire, turning to signal as such to the scorers. Ed walked back, turned and sped in again and again was met with the same "No ball!!!" cry. Seeking to alleviate an obvious run up misalignment he landed next time, a good foot behind the crease, "No ball!!!" again was heard. Now completely beside himself and looking at the umpire as if he were mentally deranged, Ed moves his marker back three feet and delivers from next to the umpire at least four feet behind the crease. "No ball!!!!" At this point the rest of his team broke out with uncontrollable laughter and the joke was revealed.

Generally speaking however, an umpiring stint can be a horrible thing to have to deal with. When is the best time to get it over with? If you are batting at 6 or 7 you will undoubtedly be called upon to don the white coats for the early exchanges, when the ball is swinging and a quick LBW or caught behind is almost always in the offing. Decisions can come thick and fast (one always brings two folks)!

A late umpiring stint, particularly in a bitter and close fought game, can be even more tricky. Either the team is hanging on for a draw or trying desperately to scrape through for a victory (normally the former). It is ok for the batsmen in so much that they just have to worry about hitting the ball and maybe (or maybe not) running between the wickets. As the umpire you not only worry about the team securing the result and remembering as many of the rules as you can, but you also have to look out for number 1 (not that difficult for some I grant you) and hope to god that you don't have to fire out any of your friends (assuming that in fact you are friends with anyone on the team) because as sure as Damo talks with an Aussie accent and James Pettit kicks a football like David Beckham, you just know that you will get a Paul Boughtwood sized portion of the blame if you let the team down!

\* \* \* \* \*