

CHIPPENHAM SPORTS CLUB

Latest news and updates
March 2024 - Issue 2



We have a few dates available for the eventual Dome deflation party where guests will be invited to watch on in amazement as the upside-down balloon slowly hisses and squeals at us before eventually flying off towards hardenhuish school.

The speedDOMEeter reaches top speed

The Dome replacement project has taken some significant steps these past few months thanks to the project committee in place.

Plans have been drawn, governing bodies have been contacted and Sport England have visited the site and given their full support.

The next stages will be pre-planning and discussions with local and county councils before going to some already highlighted potential financial supports.

At present the new building will fill the space of the current dome including the overgrown boundary shrubbery where serial killers bury their victims and the pupils of the 2 secondary schools throw their cigarette butts.

It's a 2-storey building that will have its own entrance reception, changing facilities, multi-use rooms for classes and school use, dedicated space for a local boxing gym, and pull-out seating and a balcony for spectators.

The current Dome installation led by previous Chairman Tim Waycott and the then committee was erected in 2008 and has served more than its purpose. It has housed more ball sports than the Dallas Health studio over the years and is a permanent home for Chippenham Netball, Dodgeball, Vampire Tennis players and the mysterious sport of Badminton.

The new building will secure The Sports clubs position on the map and will be the envy of not only all other clubs in Wiltshire but the envy of sports clubs in the Southwest. With an improved floor, secure entrance, storage and actual hot water this long-awaited replacement will improve conditions for those currently using, those wanting to use and even attract some alternative sports such as Paddleboard, Handball, Parkour and Quidditch.

There is no set timeline for the new structure so keep your ear to the ground or even better come to the AGM to get more information.

Chairmans Corner



2023 was a great year for the club, more visitors, more members, more skittles and more sport than any other previous year. However, it also came with more renovations, more rain and more repairs than any other previous year so we are as yet not sitting on a pile of gold coins.

2024 hopefully brings better weather. This alone will allow us to hold more events both privately and for members including a revamped open day, race nights and section organised quiz nights. I am also hoping 2024 is a year of more cross section socialising and we will kick start that with the first Race Night of the year hosted by yours truly. This night is a perfect opportunity to raise monies for your chosen section and even walk away with some winnings for yourself.

2023 was also the year we lost a few members of staff to pastures new. Id like to take this opportunity to thank all staff members past and present for their hard work over the years, after a few recent shifts myself I have a new appreciation for you all. On that note if anyone is aware of anyone that may be interested in employment at the sports club, please email enquiries@chippenhamsportsclub.co.uk.

I look forward to greeting you all over 2024 and for those of you I really like I may even buy you a drink.

Darren

DATES FOR THE DIARY

21st February – Scampi Fries Launch Party
2nd March – Race Night – 7pm
20th April – Hockey End of Season Presentation
28th April – Sports Club Open Day
19th May – AGM – 7PM

DATES FOR THE DIARY

25th August – CCC Beer Festival
15th September – Half Marathon
20th – 22nd September – Bikers weekend
13th, 20, 27th April – Cricket Pre-season friendlies
4th May – 1st Cricket League matches

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The above shows a depiction of the cricketers swarming the boundary barbie when Chris Barrow cleans off the grill

CRICKET(S) RETURN ON MASS

The smell of linseed oil is in the air again as the 2024 Cricket season soon starts at Hardenhuish Park, 6 teams will once again wield their willow swords and throw their leather grenades at enemies from near and far in the hope for league glory and the elusive NAM SLAM.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to the AGM and although my slot was small (Insert inappropriate joke) on the agenda, I was allowed to hang around like a bad smell coming from Craigs Frys kit bag. I was enthused to hear of the new positions and volunteers stepping up to lend a hand and although some captains could not make the night to be ceremoniously sworn in to their positions it was amazing to hear the news of the 1st team captain being Chippenham's own Josh Smith.

6 senior Teams and the Ladies Diamonds will take the field at Hardenhuish park and the equally impressive school pitches on Saturday afternoons through-out the summer months depending on the weather. Equally impressive is the youth section of the cricket club offering coaching from ex professionals and a better baby-sitting service than most 15-year-olds. The Friday night Pub league offers cricket to those social cricketers that once went to Trent Bridge on a paid for work event, bought the Dickie Bird autobiography and now think they are the next Ben Stokes.

Always on the look out for new members, new volunteers and more pub teams please direct yourself to www.chippenhamcc.co.uk where you will find all the relevant contact details, fixtures and some suspect photos of Sheldon teachers pretending they are good at cricket.

Ill certainly find myself on the balcony on more than one occasion this year so come up and say hello and if I'm in a good mood or drunk I may even buy you a drink. If I'm with my kids leave me alone, I will not be in a good mood!

Is Running Fun?

No

But the Chippenham Harriers and many more people think it is and if you are one of those that thinks it's fun, I'd suggest you get in touch with them.

They are a decent bunch once you get past their obsession for brightly coloured trainers and they love nothing more than a pint, a game of darts, and some cheesy chips on a Thursday night. In fact, they are so social that they have been called alcoholics with a running problem.

They have beginner classes, social events and of course are heavily involved in the infamous Chippenham Half Marathon. This does however all involve running, so only get in touch if that is your thing, if like me you are fat and lazy, I maybe wouldn't bother.



The above is a picture of me running but because I am so fast there was not a shutter speed in the country that could capture it

AN OPEN DAY LIKE NO OTHER



The above shows how happy ~~my~~ your family could look like if ~~you~~ attend The Sports Club open day, rather than the depressed state ~~you~~ find myself in with children like feral rats ~~you~~ currently may have.

This year's open day will hopefully be the best we have ever run. Dedicated slots for all section sports will allow all visitors to experience everything through-out the day whilst simultaneously filling themselves on processed sugared treats and riding highly decorated fairground rides that give an adrenaline rush based on the fact they may break at any time.

Local councils are also involved this year to give much needed financial support to local families to allow them access all sports associated at the club, so this year is the best opportunity to find a rough diamond, a needle in a haystack or just new members who want to play some sport.

Emails have been circulated to all sections regarding the opportunities and help required on the day. Flyers are being designed and regrettably Fiona has given me access to the social media accounts so look at for some risky Facebook posts and racy Instagram photos over the coming months.

As with all Sports club events support is required to make this a success, by supporting the club it allows us to do the work needed and wanted. A leak in the roof, lights on the driveway, repainted parking lines, a better beer choice, clean skittle balls, a beard trim and a 12million pound dome replacement all cost money and I would rather raise this money by having fun events than increasing membership and drinks pricing. You have been warned!!!

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