

CHIPPENHAM SPORTS CLUB

Latest news and updates

December 2023 - Issue 1

WHO KNOW'S NEW NEW'S.

Journalism is not my forte and I am not a member of all sections so it would be great for anyone that would like something within their section to be advertised or mentioned within future issues of this newsletter to contact me.

The purpose of this is to advertise sections you may not be aware of, promote events within the section and the wider sports club and encourage more interaction between all our members regardless of your chosen sport or pastime.

There may be a potential cricketer in the hockey section, a tennis player that has always wanted to race a pigeon and looking at how spritely the bowls players are some of them may fancy a game of Dodgeball !

All of the sections of Chippenham Sports club are advertised on the Sports club website or just ask behind the bar and they will point you in the right direction. We will highlight events and stories from around the club via this newsletter, the frequency of which will depend on how well received this is.

If you have any feedback or suggestions you would like to make please feel free to ask for my email address from one of the lovely bar staff, if they give you the correct one it means they like you, if you don't get a reply from me it means they have given you the wrong one and they don't, or it may mean I just haven't had the chance to reply as yet.

Remember this is your club! Not literally of course, but you do have an opinion on what we should or should not be doing so please feel free to share your thoughts and come along to events.

Darren



This is how I envisage myself as a superhero. In the case of this story the hero's looked nothing like the above and in fact quite normal so I have chosen to go with a slightly more dynamic image to highlight their heroics.

NOT ALL HERO'S WEAR CAPE'S

Sunday 27th August saw the annual visit from the Netherlands of Alecto Hockey to the fortress that is Chippenham Hockey Club. Falling on the same day as The Cricket club's cider festival and cricket tournament this is always a popular event for Hockey well supported by spectators and players.

This year's event however was met by near tragedy when a member of the Alecto side suffered a cardiac arrest on the hockey pitch.

Members of the Hockey fraternity jumped in with lifesaving CPR and then the defibrillator had its first run out. Wiltshire Air Ambulance arrived on the scene, and we were pleased to hear later in the afternoon that the travelling player was stable.

A huge thanks for those that helped and saved this man's life, a Go Fund me page was started to raise funds for a second machine to be located at the dome which will service all sections, and as Taylor Swift famously sang, 2 is better than 1.

IT'S SANTA, I KNOW HIM

Sunday 3rd December sees Santa and maybe an elf or two visit us at the sports club for our Christmas Fayre.

Starting at 11am the day will be filled with festive fun, gift stalls and a choir that Aled Jones would be proud of.

A spokesman for Bath Christmas markets stated, "We may have to close on Sunday the 3rd as we cannot compete with what the sports club are doing".

A spokesman for the sports club was quoted as saying "Bath Christmas what?..."

Tickets for Santa are £5 per child, and this includes an early Christmas gift for which ever child is your favourite on the day.

Other activities include Face Painting and Christmas card making and with mulled wine served all day these creative activities may take an ugly turn as the alcohol kicks in.

In fact, by 4pm if we don't see a 5-year-old with their face painted like rock band Kiss and a Christmas card that says "F**k your lynx giftset" we will be bitterly disappointed.

Another date for your diary is the Boxing Day Skittles which of course is on the 26th December and open to anyone to enter a team of 4 or just come and support, drink far too much and try to forget the previous day's festivities where you offended an in-law.



The above is not the real Santa or the Santa that will be gracing us with his presents. (Deliberate spelling mistake)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

24th December - CLOSED

25th December - CLOSED

26th December - BOXING DAY SKITTLES

27th December - CLOSED

28th December - CLOSED

29th December - CLOSED

30th December - CLOSED

31st December - NYE PARTY - Tickets on sale

1st January - Recovery from night before

2nd January - BACK TO NORMAL OPENING HOURS

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Beyond the Thunder...Dome



The above image shows the recent emergency repairs to the dome that were required. We hired the services of the Bartertown dome engineers (Mad Max reference)

Tina Turner once sang “We don’t need another hero”, well dear old Tina didn’t know what she was singing about and we do, in fact, need a hero, or multiple, preferably with lots of money that they would like to donate to a worthy community sports project.

The Dome replacement meetings have been happening behind the scenes for some time now and we have detailed architectural plans and detailed costings. The next stages will be project planning with an associated financial plan for us to present to local authorities and businesses to gain support and traction.

The current Dome has a lifespan similar to a Guinea pig and we need to have a replacement in place prior to burying the current dome in a shoe box in the back garden. Recently the cost to repair the dome was circa £12,000 and let’s be honest, nobody is going to enjoy spending £12,000 on a dying Guinea pig.

If you have an interest in this project and feel you can help in some way, we would be interested to hear from you. We continue to update sections at our meetings and will be looking to update all members in the form of a presentation in early 2024.



The hybrid game we are all hoping for. Small balls, long shaft and a tight grip.

A CLOSED DOOR LEADS TO AN OPEN WINDOW, A CLOSED WINDOW WILL GET SMASHED.

As the final few games for Chippenham CC drew to a close finishing off a tough season for the 6 teams of Hardenhuish park it kick started the Hockey season for both the Men and Women of Chippenham Hockey Club.

Both sections have competitive fixtures for both Men & Women although in some instances it’s hard to tell them apart.....because they are both so good and their balls are of similar sizes!

Both sections also have fantastic Junior sections that are always looking for the next Joe Root, Ben Stokes, Stuart Broad or a famous Hockey Player. The Juniors for Hockey currently train on Sunday mornings, and they can be contacted through www.chippenhamhockeyclub.co.uk, the cricketers are currently hibernating but can normally be found in Ladbrokes or Costa on Saturday mornings looking lost and wearing far too many layers.

Hockey games are normally on all day every Saturday next to the Thunderdome and in all weathers but please check the website for fixtures. Cricket tends not to start until the first Daisy blooms in April, the weather is at a constant 21 degrees, the sandwiches cut at perfect right angles and the strawberry preserve has been taken from the pantry (I’m an ex-cricketer, I’m allowed to say that). In all seriousness cricket is on most nights though-out the summer with the senior fixtures on a Saturday

Taste the Rainbow

Skittles starts again at CSC.

The ever-popular sport that is not a sport but possibly should be a sport, skittles, started again on the 18th of September.

3 divisions of teams made up of people that never achieved anything in their chosen sports will turn up weekly to caress rubber balls awkwardly and partake in a friendly pass time which some players take far too seriously than they should. However, with a prize pot exceeding £4000 in the 22/23 you can understand why they do take it as serious as they do.

The season consists of the traditional league system and varying cup competitions such as knockout, nomination and a weird hybrid type thing that nobody knows the rules to or likes.

With games every night of the week there is more than enough for any skittles fans. In fact, its popularity will result in its own channel on Sky.

There is always potential for new teams and if you don’t have 5 friends you can always highlight your interest and loneliness to a member of the bar staff who will put you in contact with a team that may need your help.



The above image is of somebody else’s skittles and not of the glowing stones from Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom.

Darren and the wheeled warriors

I was honoured recently with an invite to the Chippenham Wheelers AGM. I’m not built for cycling and the closest I have come to a bike is an ex-girlfriend of mine from 1996.

It was a great opportunity for me to hear the fantastic things the newest section to Chippenham Sports have planned for 2024 including weekly ride-outs for all abilities, track days and off-road events and I even heard the word velodrome! All of their history is at the Wiltshire archive centre in Chippenham and dates back to the 1800’s.

They were extremely welcoming and really receptive to my speech on the current situation of the Sports Club, its history and the future Dome project and if there is another section that feel they would benefit from me having a 10-minute slot at one of their meetings I’m more than happy to attend.

I left the AGM really positive about the Chippenham Wheelers, their ambitions and relationship with the Sports Club. If cycling is your thing, they can be contacted via their website www.chippenhamwheelers.org.

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