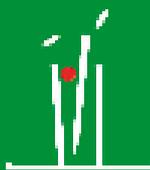


THE PRIMARY CLUB

The cricketers' charity for the blind and partially sighted



**STRAUSS
LAUNCHES CLUB
JUNIORS: PAGE 2**

PLEASE BE AS
GENEROUS
AS POSSIBLE
WITH YOUR
DONATION
THIS YEAR!



THE AMAZING ASHFORD ACTIONAIRES!

**SPORT IS VITAL TO VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN.
IT IMPROVES FITNESS, BUILDS CONFIDENCE AND
HELPS THEM TO MAKE FRIENDS.**

The Primary Club is working with Action for Blind People to open a network of Actionnaires Clubs throughout the UK, to show visually impaired youngsters what fun they can have and how they can benefit from sport.

The Ashford Actionnaires Club, in Kent, meets every second Saturday. The children are involved in several sports from cricket and football to discus and javelin throwing.

At present there are 21 Actionnaires Clubs in the UK. The plan is that, with support from Primary Club members, there will be 56 clubs by 2010.

**CHARLIE (7)
WAS BORN WITH
CATARACTS.** The lenses in both his eyes have been removed and he is registered partially sighted.

It is very difficult for Charlie to join in sports at school but he loves the Actionnaires Club.

He says: 'Some children have problems like me and some are worse. At the club everyone can join in all the games. It's great!'

INSIDE: SEAN AT THE PALACE PAGE 2; LASHINGS WORLD X1 DEFEATED PAGE 6;
TEN DUCKS AND NOT A SINGLE PRIMARY PAGE 6; 2007 CLUB GRANTS HIGHEST EVER PAGE 7

AMIDST THE BIZARRE EVENTS OF THE FINAL TEST MATCH AT THE OVAL LAST SUMMER, THERE WAS GOOD NEWS FOR THE PRIMARY CLUB. TWO BATSMEN ACHIEVED PRIMARIES IN ENGLAND'S FIRST INNINGS.

**K P PIETERSEN c AKMAL b ASIF
M S PANESAR b GUL**

UNDER RULE 5(C) MEMBERS ARE, THEREFORE, REQUESTED TO ADD £4 TO THEIR ANNUAL DONATION. 'BEARDERS' HAS SPOKEN. IF EVERY MEMBER OBSERVES THIS RULE IT WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT ADDITION TO THE CLUB'S INCOME.



PRIMARY CLUB JUNIORS LAUNCHED

The Primary Club Juniors were launched at the Brit Oval on May 18, 2006 by their President, Andrew Strauss.

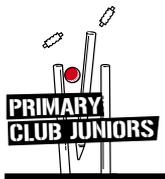
Local and national newspapers as well as broadcast press saw the new President awarded his Club tie by the Patron, Derek Underwood.

Andrew, wearing a blindfold, then tried his hand at blind cricket against the children of Linden Lodge, a school for visually impaired children in Wandsworth. He avoided a primary by one ball.

Earlier in the day, Andrew visited Linden Lodge and met some very excited England supporters. (Main pic above)

Primary Club Junior membership has become very popular amongst young people of 18 and under.

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN, THE WEBSITE IS WWW.PRIMARYCLUB.ORG/JUNIORS, OR WRITE TO THE HON SEC.



AREA REPS

This distinguished group of elder statesmen are Primary Club Representatives.

They are (clockwise from back row left) Jeremy Challis (Kent); Rowan Laxton (north London/Middlesex); David Boardman (Gloucs/Somerset); Luke Living (London); Rick Coleman (Warks/W Midlands); Roger Johnson (organiser) and Bob Southward (east Essex/Suffolk).

Five other reps, mostly from the north of the country, were unable to attend a not very sober inaugural dinner with the Chairman.

The Area Rep Scheme, launched last year, is gathering momentum and is starting to make a real difference to the Club in a variety of ways.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REPRESENT THE CLUB IN YOUR AREA, PLEASE CONTACT ROGER JOHNSON, 10 BERESFORD HALL, ST JAMES PARK, LONG DITTON, SURREY KT6 5RS ON 020 8786 6279 (MOBILE 07801 699107) OR EMAIL RECRUITMENT@PRIMARYCLUB.ORG



PHOTO 'BOB COLLIER'

SEAN AT THE PALACE

Members will remember Sean Harrington who featured on the front page of last year's newsletter. The Club had made a grant for a climbing frame for Sean, who lost his sight through cancer when he was two years old.

Shortly after the newsletter was published, Sean received an invitation to the special garden party at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the Queen's 80th birthday.

He was one of 3,000 guests chosen from

4 million people who applied.

His mother, Victoria, said "Sean was beside himself when he got the letter from Buckingham Palace. He was so happy he got a crown from his dressing up box and wore it for a week!"

The picture (left), which appeared on the front page of The Sunday Times, shows Sean, who is now six, proudly wearing his crown and holding his invitation.

YOUR GUIDE TO BLIND CRICKET

MOST SPORTS HAVE BEEN ADAPTED FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED PLAYERS. CRICKET IS NO EXCEPTION. EVERY YEAR THE PRIMARY CLUB SPONSORS THE BRITISH BLIND SPORT KNOCKOUT FINAL AT LORD'S.

IN 2006 THE FINAL WAS BETWEEN THE NORTH LONDON TEAM METRO, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL V.I. CRICKET TEAM IN RECENT YEARS, AND THE SOUTH WALES DRAGONS, WEARING RED, WHO TRAVELLED UP FROM CARDIFF BREATHING FIRE.

THERE ARE SOME SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE LAWS FOR SIGHTED AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED PLAYERS.

ONE



All players must be registered blind or partially sighted. There are four categories of players ranging from B1 (totally blind) to B4 (partials). Every team has to include at least four B1 players who usually field close to the bat. They can claim a catch after a ball has bounced.

TWO



B1 bowlers are sometimes guided towards the batsman by another player. The wicket-keeper helps by clapping his hands. The ball, which contains ball bearings, is the size of a small football. The ball can swing or move either way off the pitch. B1 bowlers must bowl three overs in every ten.

THREE



Bowling to a B1, the bowler calls 'are you ready?' as he approaches the wicket and 'play' as he releases the ball. A delivery must bounce twice for a B1 batsman and once for a B2 before reaching the crease. The wickets are painted white and are larger, making it easier for partially sighted players to see and B1 batsmen or bowlers to touch for orientation.

FOUR



A B1 batsman will only be given out on the second correct lbw appeal and cannot be stumped. He bats with a sighted runner and any runs he scores count double.

FIVE



The Dragons were eventually all out for 180. Blind cricket is played with a passion equal to any game played by sighted players.

SIX



In reply mighty Metro could only muster 126. The deciding moment was when England captain, Heinrich Swanepoel (left) was run out without facing a ball. The Dragon had roared.

HOW YOUR MONEY WAS SPENT IN 2006...

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS LIKE THIS IN 2007. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

They breed 'em tough in the Highlands.

The Highland Society for the Blind used its Club grant of £2,780 to test six youngsters, with very little sight, to their limit.

For 48 hours, at Strath Spey south of Inverness, the intrepid six went canoeing, abseiling, hill walking and zip (high wire) walking. Just as demanding for visually impaired children were shopping and cooking.

The weekend was a huge success. The children gained much needed confidence from succeeding at challenges they never dreamt they could conquer.

It wasn't easy – but all six youngsters want to come back next year.



THE FLYING CIVIL SERVANT

Marilyn Clenaghan likes a challenge. Before she retired, she worked for David Blunkett at the Home Office as his braille transcriber.

But piloting a glider? Marilyn has been totally blind since birth and, at first, even she was a little apprehensive when Stockton Blind People's Voice used part of their £5,000 grant from the Club to pay for eight visually impaired members to fly in a glider.

Very quickly Marilyn, on the left of the picture, realised she loved gliding.

'It was a great feeling' she says. 'The exhilaration and the freedom it gave me was something very special.'

Marilyn's sighted co-pilot guided her towards the thermals. 'You've no idea what to expect – the thermal takes over.' They even 'looped the loop' several times.

Marilyn, who is 60, has also been canoeing, sailing and powerboat racing. They seem a bit tame now.



ADVENTURE WEEK

A grant of £2,300 to St Vincent School for Blind and Partially Sighted Children in Liverpool, paid for six youngsters to have a week's adventure holiday in the Lake District.

The picture above shows Chantal Hampson (13), who has very limited sight, being tested in a pool in preparation for canoeing on the unpredictable Derwent Water.

Other activities included rock climbing, horse riding, curling and an assault course.

Because, inevitably, visually impaired children cannot grow up with the same experiences as their sighted peers, it is important they are given the chance to understand and experience the physical challenges of the world around them.

The independence this gives them is vital.

GEORGINA THE WITCH

Georgina Hollinshead (13) is not always a witch.

Most of the time she is a pupil in the visual impairment unit at St Benedict School in Derby.

Because there are few social opportunities for blind and partially sighted youngsters, St Benedict, supported by a Primary Club grant, opens a youth club on Friday nights for 24 V.I. young people, aged 11-18, from all over the county.

It is an opportunity for them to have social contact with other youngsters with similar problems, without worrying about what other people think.

The picture shows Georgina, who has very little sight, during a Halloween party, holding a 'crab' she has taken from a bran tub, filled with wallpaper paste and 'horrible creepy crawly things'.

Strange, the things that make you happy when you are 13.



HORSERIDING

For these three young equestrians from Joseph Clarke School, Amit Taylor (7), James Williams (8) and Jude Kalaimaran (5), their 30-minute riding lessons are the highlight of the week.

The lessons are paid for by a grant from The Primary Club.

It is never possible to predict the reaction of a child with multi-disabilities when put on a horse, but the experience can have a remarkable therapeutic effect.

These three remain calm, safe in the knowledge that they know the horse, which is very placid, and that there is a 'side walker' on one or both sides.

Riding a horse exposes visually impaired children to sensory experiences – smell, feel and touch – which gives them the stimulation they would otherwise miss.



A WEEK AT SEA

Every year ten yachts set off from Levington, in Suffolk, to Holland for the East Coast Blind Sailing Week run by the East Anglian Sailing Trust and funded by a grant from The Primary Club.

Each boat has a visually impaired sailor on board who plays a full part as a member of the crew. The only restrictions are cooking and going over the side with a mooring line.

In the picture above Barry Haywood is helming Chelena, using an audio compass (the black box below his right hand) donated by the Club.

The plan for the week is to sail all day and party all night. Being nautical types, doubtless the mineral water and orange juice are in great demand.



AND NOT A SINGLE PRIMARY!

One of the strangest stories last season was the dismissal of Goldsborough CC 2nd XI by Dishforth CC for 5 in the Nidderdale and District Amateur League in North Yorkshire.

The runs came from 4 byes and a leg bye. Not a single run was scored off the bat.

However, despite 10 batsmen being dismissed for ducks, no one achieved a primary.

The 4th estate was alerted and The Sunday Sport despatched its top investigative team, equipped with ball and duck. They are pictured above (not working undercover) making their enquiries before leaving.

They would have been made honorary members of The Primary Club but there was nowhere to pin the brooch.

Goldsborough captain, Peter Horseman, said "It beats shopping on a Saturday."

THE ROWING DETECTIVE

Members will remember that Andy Clark, a detective in the Metropolitan Police, planned to row the Atlantic in 2006. The Primary Club was his chosen charity.

Sadly, after the boat shipped a lot of water and the centre board snapped, the attempt had to be abandoned.

Refusing to accept defeat, Andy has now teamed up with a US Navy SEAL. They set off from New York, in the same boat, on June 9, 2007, hoping to arrive in Falmouth between 50 and 80 days later.

Members can follow Andy's progress on www.sevenoaksatlanticrow.com



LASHING(S) OUT

New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns plays a shot straight from the MCC handbook during his highly entertaining innings for the Lashings World XI against Metro, one of the top blind cricket clubs in the country.

Fielding at silly mid on (Cairns is right handed) is Primary Club trustee, Mike Brace, who is also chairman of the British Paralympic Association.

The match was played under the laws of blind cricket (see page 3).

Although Lashings fielded a team packed with famous Test cricketers, the result was in doubt until the final over. Metro scored the winning runs off the last ball of the day.

The two teams provided a wonderful day's cricket for a big audience.

The best news of all was that, at the end of the day, The Primary Club received a cheque for £15,000 from sponsors Lombard.

FAMOUS PRIMARIES!



This year's Famous Primary is from Albert Casey, who has a special place in Club history. He played for Old Olavians against Beckenham in the game which led to the formation of The Primary Club on July 31, 1955.

Later, still playing for the Old Olavians, he

achieved his ultimate disaster.

"My 'first ball' was against Courage at their brewery ground in Alton. We had travelled in pouring rain for an all-day game and the prospects for play did not look good. On our arrival at about 10.30, the captain of the Courage side said the weather was due to improve and we might get a game later. In the meantime he had arranged a

visit to the brewery and we would have a look at the square after lunch, weather permitting.

"Team members and some wives set off by car in convoy, leaving me as captain of the visiting side to keep their captain and some players company for the next couple of hours. As you can imagine, the bar opened early and the Courage Best Bitter (I still drink it) was excellent. It was still raining and did not look like stopping.

"The party arrived back from their trip to the brewery. We took our time over a somewhat liquid lunch and then the rain stopped. In the middle of the afternoon a pitch was cut at the side of the square and, full of Courage, I elected to open the innings.

"Sadly, the first ball penetrated my immaculate forward defensive prod and I became eligible to join The Primary Club.

"I returned to the pavilion to top up my Courage."

BEHIND EVERY PICTURE...



PHOTO 'CATHERINE SPRATT'

The elegant lady on the left is Pauline Johnston, wife of the late Brian Johnston.

The not quite so elegant figure on the right is Rowan Laxton, Club Area Rep for Middlesex.

The occasion was the inaugural Brian Johnston Six-a-side Tournament at Shenley on 18 August, organised by the indefatigable Bernie Spratt. Sadly, it barely stopped raining all day. Not a ball was bowled.

The assembled teams manfully drowned their sorrows during a thoroughly enjoyable day – and evening.

During the long afternoon, Rowan won the T-shirt of a band called 'Thin Lizzy'

(*not quite the Royal Marines – Ed.*) in a raffle. He is wearing it proudly (presumably).

He then paid £100 in the auction for a slice of the wooden 'chocolate cake' which is the base of the Brian Johnston Trophy, a silver wicket-keeping glove.

Rowan then insisted on trying to eat the cake. It became that sort of afternoon.

IF YOUR TEAM WOULD LIKE TO ENTER THE BRIAN JOHNSTON SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION AT SHENLEY ON TUESDAY 24TH JULY 2007, PLEASE CONTACT THE HON SEC.



FROM THE HON SEC...

Dear Member

After our record-breaking Jubilee Year in 2005, I was afraid that 2006 might not be such good news for the clubs and schools to whom we make grants – but I need not have worried: what a generous lot you all are. Our “normal” donation and other income showed an increase on 2005 and at their annual meeting last month the trustees were able to approve total grants of another record amount (£225,000, up 12% on last year). There are currently about 9,000 of you receiving this newsletter, of whom 40% have made a donation in the current year. However there are another 35% whose last donation was made between four and ten years ago – if you are one of them I do hope you will make a donation this year – or, better still, set up a standing order.

We have recruited about 360 new members this year (well down on last year’s figure of 500) but the Primary Club Juniors, launched last May with Andrew Strauss as their President, have made a steady start with about 100 members so far.

You may have noticed the new design of this newsletter – for this we are extremely grateful to Sam Walker of Northstar Publishing, who has undertaken the work at no cost to the Club; we are also very grateful to his boss at Northstar, Mark Beazleigh, arranged to have the newsletter printed by Burlington Press, Cambridge and the paper was supplied by McNaughton Paper, all free of charge. We are very grateful for their remarkable generosity.

Finally, we must thank The Wisden Cricketer, long time supporters of the Club, who were instrumental in our appointment as official charity to the npower Village Cup; we have agreed to include their subscription leaflet with this mailing. For a number of years they have promoted the Club, first with their “Primary of the Month” and, since the beginning of last season, with a “Golden Memories” feature.

Yours sincerely

Chris Larlham

BEFORE YOU DECLARE...

BEFORE YOU DECLARE YOUR INNINGS CLOSED AND RETIRE TO THE GREAT PAVILION IN THE SKY, THINK OF THE PRIMARY CLUB. LEGACIES ARE A VITAL SOURCE OF INCOME TO ANY CHARITY AND THE PRIMARY CLUB IS NO EXCEPTION.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CLUB IN YOUR WILL. FOR YOU IT WILL BE A PAIN-FREE DONATION.

THE PRIMARY CLUB FORECAST RESULT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

	2006/7 (forecast) £	2005/6 (actual) £
Joining subscriptions and donations	158,903	151,691
Lockwood bequest	4,200	113,000
Proceeds of sales of merchandise	23,436	24,797
Tax claim under Gift Aid	26,581	26,155
Dinner tickets and other receipts		43,694
Interest receivable	<u>7,778</u>	<u>4,233</u>
Total income	220,898	363,570
Cost of ties and brooches	(3,588)	(4,112)
Cost of merchandise sold	(13,513)	(18,218)
Dinner costs		(24,888)
Publicity and administration costs	<u>(12,218)</u>	<u>(17,424)</u>
Surplus for the year	191,579	298,928
Surplus from earlier years	103,810	4,359
Adjustment thereto	<u>1,001</u>	<u>1,070</u>
	296,390	304,357
Grants (details below)	<u>225,084</u>	<u>200,547</u>
Surplus to carry forward	<u>71,306</u>	<u>103,810</u>

Note: Copies of the Club’s full accounts can be obtained from the Honorary Treasurer.

2007 GRANTS TO SCHOOLS AND CLUBS FOR THE BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED

Action for Blind People	New "Actionnaires" Clubs in North Yorkshire	20,318
Berkshire Co Blind Society	Trips to London Zoo and Alton Towers	4,695
Birmingham Sports Club	2006 season expenses	2,000
Blatchington Court Trust, Sussex	Residential camp	4,100
Blind Cricket England & Wales	Trophies, equipment and tournament day	2,850
British Blind Sport	Archery	4,000
	Cricket development days	4,500
	Cricket KO Final at Lord's	5,950
	Shooting	1,200
	Balance of 2006	140
		15,790
Bromley London Borough	Children's picnic	300
Joseph Clarke School, East London	Skiing	2,100
	Music tuition	5,200
		7,300
Clevedon V H Bowling	2006 season expenses	1,000
Derbyshire Assoc for the Blind	Christmas holiday 2006	2,500
Disability Snowsport UK	Equipment and course	5,328
East Anglian Sailing Trust	Audio compass	400
Eastern Vipers CC	2007 season expenses	1,000
English Blind Golf Assoc	Matchplay Championship	3,000
Mrs A Etherington & family	Skiing holiday	2,000
Fairfield School, Heckmondwike	Soft Play Area	6,950
Football Association for The V I	"Have A Go" Days	2,370
Gwent Visual Impairment Service	Soft play room	9,344
HSBP Henshaws, Harrogate	Horticultural workshop	3,500
Highland Society, Inverness	Residential Outdoor Bound project	2,780
Honeywood House, Sussex (Royal Blind Society)	Family holidays 2006	2,352
Independent Tenpin Bowling League, Belfast	Winter Trios League	1,850
Kingsdown School, Southend	Playground equipment	3,601
Kirklees Education Service, Yorks	Sport and Recreation aids	9,022
Leeds Sports & Social Club	Cricket & goalball 2007	4,310
Linden Lodge School, London	Multi-sensory environment	6,000
London Community Cricket Association	Development programme	7,236
London Sports Club	2007 season expenses	2,500
London Sports Forum	Sport Connect Camps	3,450
	Goalball	1,185
		4,635
Metro	Cricket	2,500
	Lawn bowls	2,000
	Athletics	4,000
	Soundball	1,000
		9,500
Newry & Mourne Watch Club	Racing tandems	5,000
Northants Vixins VICC	2007 season expenses	2,500
Northern Galloway's VICC	2007 season expenses	2,500
The Outlook Trust, Yorks	Sailing week and equipment	4,090
Pennine Bowling Club	Winter bowling sessions 2006/07	3,000
RLSB (Dorton House)	Crew training	4,500
	Ski Trip	4,320
	Soft Play Area	10,200
		19,020
Royal Schools for the Deaf Manchester	Multi-sensory quiet room	7,300
St Benedict School Derby	Goalball expenses	1,000
St Vincent School Liverpool	Outdoor & adventure holidays	2,400
Scottish Blind Golf Soc	Strokeplay Championship	3,050
Sheffield Royal Society For the Blind	Short bows & sights	300
South Wales Dragons CC	2007 season expenses	2,500
Stockton Blind People's Voice	Various sports	4,800
Sussex Sharks VICC	2007 season expenses	2,500
Sutton V I Swimming Group	Pool hire & coaching	2,010
Tyneside Recreation Club	Summer camp 2006	3,200
Visibility, Glasgow	"Go Teens" Residential weekend	1,700
Warwickshire VICC	2007 season expenses	2,500
West Sussex Association for the Blind	Hydraulic hoist for hydrotherapy pool	5,646
Yorkshire VIP FC	Football club expenses	1,537

£225,084

JOSEPH CLARKE REVISITED

IN 2006 THE PRIMARY CLUB MADE A GRANT OF £5,700 TO THE JOSEPH CLARKE SCHOOL, FOR MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND TUITION. WE RETURNED ONE YEAR ON TO SEE HOW THE MONEY HAS BEEN USED.

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 100 VISUALLY IMPAIRED PUPILS AT THE SCHOOL, AGED BETWEEN 3 AND 18. SEVERAL OF THE CHILDREN HAVE OTHER, COMPLEX, DISABILITIES.

MUSIC HAS BECOME AN IMPORTANT PART OF LIFE AT JOSEPH CLARKE.



Sean Morris (9) with tutor Sean Turpin. Sean loves the buzz of making music with other children. His classmates are so impressed by his playing that he has become something of a hero.

Tom Mays (16) with tutor Josh Brown. Coordination is often difficult for people with little or no sight and playing the drums did not come easily to Tom. However, he persevered and his confidence is growing as his playing improves.



Jason Morris (14) and tutor Dennis Lammin. Jason is unable to read ordinary sheet music but Dennis has devised a system of enlarged single letters and symbols specially for him.

Ife Adesida (9) and Travis Murphy (8). When Ife had a stroke she could no longer play her clarinet. Last year she took up the trumpet and wowed the school Christmas concert with her rendition of 'When the Saints Come Marching In'.

Travis took up the clarinet recently and is a fast learner. He has the ability to succeed at more advanced levels which will give his confidence a real boost.



Allan Summers (11). Allan is totally blind. However, the music is helping him to improve his memory. It is important for blind people to develop other senses to compensate for their loss of sight.

Justin Cunningham (12). Rehearsing with a heavenly choir for the Christmas concert. Justin also plays the clarinet.



THE PRIMARY CLUB GRANT ENABLED JOSEPH CLARKE TO OFFER FREE USE OF INSTRUMENTS TO THE STUDENTS – SOMETHING FEW SCHOOLS CAN DO.

CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE!

THIS IS A MEMBERS' NEWLETTER. THE EDITOR URGENTLY NEEDS CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS. ANY PERSONAL CRICKETING ODDITY, INVOLVING A PRIMARY OR NOT, WOULD BE WELCOME. PHOTOS WOULD BE A BONUS.