THE PRIMARY CLUB

Registered Charity No. 285285

Hon. Treasurer: J.A.C. Bentall 24 Stanley Avenue Beckenham Kent BR3 2PX

Telephone: 081-658 0827



Hon. Secretary: E.C.M. Thomas 6 Denbigh Close Chislehurst Kent BR7 5EB

Telephone: 081-467 5665

Dear Member,

April 1994

"Summer will never be the same again" - said by one of our members, who also happens to be Prime Minister - and how right he was! All the world of cricket, and many others outside it, mourn Brian Johnston. The Primary Club has lost one of its staunchest and most effective supporters, and we shall miss his enthusiasm and his help very much. His concern for the blind is well known, and he did a great deal in furthering our work to supply them with sporting facilities.

We are glad to report that our funds are similar to last year, and we thank all our members for their continuing support. Mention should be made of the cricket and golf clubs, pub cricket XIs, schools and colleges who send us donations, very often collected from various functions they have organised, or fines imposed; also companies and charitable trusts which have supported us most generously. Our thanks are due, too, to the National Westminster Bank for continuing to sponsor the Old England Eleven for £1 per run, resulting in a very welcome addition to the Primary Club's funds.

Three of our most original contributors (known as the Pro., the Org. and the Owl) have come up with the idea of the 'Cricket Lovers of Warwickshire' (commonly called CLOW). The members of CLOW enthusiastically follow their county's fortunes during the season, and shamelessly fine each other for real and imaginary misdemeanours, which results in a generous donation to the Primary Club. Many members contribute under Deeds of Covenant, which increases the value of their donations, and to those, and all the others who send us regular amounts, we send a big 'Thank you', for it is from them we get the bulk of our income.

The scholarships we financed have proved very successful. Mike Barker has done extremely well in his marathon running; at the European Championships for the Visually Handicapped, held last year in Dublin, he achieved a personal best, winning the silver medal, and very narrowly missing gold. He is now employed as a masseur with Hull Rugby Football Club. Meirion Jones is still at Dorton House School for the Blind, doing very well at his judo, in which he has competed in the Kent County Championships. He is also making considerable progress in other skills.

We are very happy to welcome Peter Talbot, the new Chief Executive of the Royal London Society for the Blind, to our Board of Trustees. We are still committed to the kindergarten swimming pool at their school, Dorton House. Unfortunately, the total cost has risen, partly due to unforeseen building regulations, but we should still be able to meet the full cost, though over a longer period.

Other donations we have made this year are shown overleaf, with a brief description of what was provided in each case. Particular mention should be made of the Hebden Bridge Cricket Club project, which has resulted in the White Rose Cricket Club for the Blind having a ground for their sole use. The Primary Club financed the laying of the square, and this has now been completed and is ready for action this season.

One project we are supporting this year is golf for the blind. During the summer we are sponsoring a tournament for blind golfers. Although blind people have played golf for some time, organisation of events such as this is comparatively recent. It is to be called 'The English Masters Tournament', to be held at Pattshull Park Golf and Country Club, near Wolverhampton, from 1st to 3rd August. Any Primary Club members who would like to attend will be welcome.

Last year the Primary Club helped to finance the final of the Blind Cricket National Knock-out Competition held at Lords (Nursery pitch). This was a tremendously enjoyable occasion for players and spectators. Blind cricket is, of necessity, a very vocal activity, which adds to the fun. Birmingham Sports and Social Club for the Blind beat their London equivalent, but members of other clubs who had taken part were there, together with many of us who are interested in blind sport. This year's final will be held, again at Lords, on 30th July, and any members who like to attend will be very welcome.

Another event which might be of interest is a charity cricket match between Hursley Park Cricket Club, Winchester, and their Chairman's Celebrity XI, to be held on 29th May. Half the proceeds are to go to our funds. We are having made for use at this event a 10' x 3' banner, advertising the Primary Club. Should any other organisation wish to avail themselves of this for display at any function, please let us know.

We would ask our members not to give ties to their friends unless they make them members too. We like to think of ourselves as a club, as well as a charity, and on both counts the loyal support of our members is very important to us.

Our four annual reminders are:

- 1. Deed of Covenant forms can be obtained by ticking the box at the bottom of the application form.
- 2. We regret we are unable to keep members on our mailing list if we have not heard from them for a period of three years.
- 3. Two forms are enclosed one for your donation and one for introducing a new member.
- 4. Armchair Cricket a card game for all seasons and a nice Christmas present, which will also help the Primary Club. Please apply to us for details.

Wishing you all an enjoyable season in 1994

Yours sincerely,

E.C.M. Thomas HONORARY SECRETARY

THE PRIMARY CLUB SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31st March	1994	1993
	(estimated)	(actual)
	£	£
Subscriptions and donations, including sales of ties and brooches	62,500	64,000
Allocation from legacy fund	4,000	2,600
Interest receivable and income tax on deeds of covenant	5,000	5,700
	71,500	72,300
Cost of ties and brooches	(6,200)	(6,600)
Printing, postage and other administration expenses	(2,200)	(1,900)
	63,100	63,800
Undistributed income of earlier years	1,800	1,450
Donations (see below)	(63,100)	(63,450)
Undistributed income carried forward	1,800	1,800
Note: The Royal London Society for the Blind meets the cost of printing and posting this newsletter.	***************************************	

DONATIONS TO SCHOOLS AND CLUBS FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED

Dorton House School, Sevenoaks	Kindergarten swimming pool	45,000	44,200
Metropolitan Sports and Social Club	Cricket equipment	750	750
British Blind Sport	Lords national final	500	-
British Blind Sport	Goal Ball equipment	500	2,500
Birmingham Sports and Social Club	Midland cricket tournament	750	500
White Rose C.C., Leeds	New cricket square	2,750	3,000
St. Vincent School, Liverpool	Tandem bicycles	2,500	-
Royal National College, Hereford	Lifestep gym machine	2,850	-
Jordanstown Schools, Belfast	Two jogging machines	3,000	-
English Blind Golf	English Masters' Tournament	4,000	-
Peterborough Association	Bowls equipment	500	-
Henshaw's College, Harrogate		-	3,000
West of England School, Exeter		-	2,500
Royal School, Edinburgh		-	2,500
Queen Alexandra College, Birmingham		-	3,000
Joseph Clarke School, East London		-	1,000
Shree Ramana Maharishi Academy, India	l		500
		63,100	63,450