

## Trustees' Report 2024

The 2024 season ended better than it had begun, when the wet state of the heath in April and May meant that we had no home matches (and therefore no bar income) for the first six weeks of the season.

After that, we had a most enjoyable summer. The Saturday 1st and 2nd XIs ended up comfortably mid-table and might have challenged for promotion had we been able to play fixtures against weaker sides when it was too wet to play. And the Sunday XI won their league.

Steve Nunn was **1st XI Batter of the Year** (321 runs) and talented youngster Henry Warner won the bowling award. There were also awards for Joe Young (best player) and Calum McDonald (best performance). **2nd XI Batter of the Year** was Nitya Patel and Luke Coppin, equal highest wicket-taker in the league with 18 wickets, was Bowler of the Year. Matt Murray was Player of the Year and Ollie Licence won Best Performance. The new **Midweek XI** won almost as many matches as they lost – Ethan Frost won the batting award and Matt Murray with his 5-5 v Boxted won the bowling award. Daryl Sleeman was Player of the Year and Will Spicer won Best Performance for his 103 v Elmstead.

A highlight of the year was the **Sunday XI** in the new 30 over league – full of talented young players graduating from youth cricket under Duncan Wyatt's excellent captaincy. They won seven of their eight games and confirmed their position as league champions on the last day of the season. Award winners were James Woodcock (best player), Felix Friedlein (batting), Luke Coppin (bowling) and Sam Collins (best performance).

A special moment was when we said a final farewell to our favourite New Zealander **Bev Guthrie**, who played his first game for the club in 2018 and has been back several summers since. He was in the UK this year to captain New Zealand in the Over 70s World Cup. This will be his last year with the Green so after his last game we made presentations to him and his wife Suzi.



**Women's cricket** remains a real strength of the club. The hardball team won convincingly in their last game of the season and, as I write, have won three of their first four indoor games this Autumn. The softball team (pictured at Castle Park) have a great mixture of talent and enthusiasm. **Youth matches** were badly affected by the weather but the Kwik Cricketers took part in six tournaments and the U13s, U14s and U15s, largely represented by the same players, had some good results. At the Awards morning in July we celebrated individual successes and thanked the coaches, especially **Mindy Irven** in her first year as Director of Youth Cricket. At the Awards evening in September Mindy was deservedly presented with the Club Member of the Year award.

**Cricket week** in July, our first for a few years, was a great success with eight matches in eight days. Many thanks to Rachel Watson for masterminding it all. As well as running the bar, Rachel also organised a number of excellent **social events** and has transformed our social media output. Groundsmen Mick Purser and Craig Scott have worked tirelessly to look after the **square and outfield** despite the best efforts of the weather. And our Safeguarding Officer Kathryn Spicer continues to safeguard our reputation as a **safe, welcoming and family-friendly** club. Richard Parker has continued to lead our drive towards **Carbon Net Zero** by 2030. In 2025 he plans to do more work on influencing other clubs in Essex and Suffolk to follow our lead in combatting climate change.



David Stovell keeps an eagle eye on our **finances** – we will almost have broken even this year, which is a good achievement when we lost so much income at the start of the season. As a registered charity, we are applying for the first time to claim back gift aid from the Government on membership subscriptions – if successful this will help to fill the gap between our income and expenditure.

We have remained a valued part of the **Eight Ash Green Village** community by taking an active role in the village summer festival, attending Parish Council meetings, helping out on village clear-up days, and making sure that we look after the Heath.

In July, we hosted the wake for Life Member **Robin 'Boo' Cant**, who gave countless hours to the club and built our second pavilion extension. He was a real character and will be much missed.

In September we were delighted by the success of our **Crowdfunding project** to raise funds for environmental improvements to the pavilion and outfield. With matched funding from Aviva, the campaign raised over £28000 in a month (plus almost £3000 in gift aid reclaim). We plan to start building work on the inside of the pavilion early in the New Year. Many thanks to everyone who supported the project – it was great to welcome a good number of them to tea and cake on the last day of the season.



As we end 2024, the club is in a strong position. We are financially stable and have money in the bank to start the pavilion work. Looking forward to 2025, here are some of the challenges to face:

- what can we do to the outfield to safeguard the future of cricket on the Heath in April and May?
- how can we build on our reputation as the greenest cricket club in Essex/Suffolk?
- how can we achieve promotion for the 1st and 2nd XIs?
- how do we maintain the strength of our youth cricket?
- how can we strengthen our links with the village?
- how can we involve more people in the club (parents, social members, sponsors)?

Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported the club this year as a player, parent, spectator or sponsor, not least the faithful committee members. You all help to make the Green a great place to play, watch and enjoy cricket!

Tim Chambers, Richard Parker, Rachel Watson  
Trustees  
December 2024



# EIGHT ASH GREEN CRICKET CLUB

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024

	2024	2023		2024	2023
<b>INCOME</b>			<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Subscriptions - Seniors	5470.00	4100.00	Ground Maintenance	11199.91	11276.70
Subscriptions - Youth	2040.00	2410.00	Pavilion & Equip Maint	336.88	575.38
Subscriptions - Women	570.00	760.00	Coaching & Match Exps	659.26	657.81
Match Fees - Seniors	175.00	490.00	Balls	862.00	825.00
Match Fees - Youth		10.00	Nets	1444.00	1584.00
Holmwood House Nets	439.00	353.57	Trophies	656.96	264.50
Bar	8862.61	7683.13	League Fees	949.50	965.00
Functions & Fundraising	461.00	2352.00	Merchandise & Kit	119.88	851.68
Merchandise & Kit	93.99	20.00	Rent, Rates & Water	500.86	498.92
Sponsorship	1200.00	2681.39	Electricity	636.62	394.94
Donations	940.00	18.72	Insurance	1176.78	1112.20
Grants	2150.00	1900.00	Bar	4923.99	5756.93
Interest Received	59.81	3.98	Functions & Fundraising	511.93	1197.41
Miscellaneous	18.79	0.00	Miscellaneous	265.85	20.00
Crowdfunding Appeal	25351.10	0.00	Legal & Professional	81.00	80.00
			Depreciation	1863.00	1863.00
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	47831.30	22782.79		26188.42	27923.47
<b>Surplus for the Year</b>				-----	-----
				21642.88	-5140.68
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				47831.30	22782.79
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## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 2024

Pavillion Extension, at cost		34302.88		
Less EET Grant Received		-5000.00		
Less Amortisation, 10% net cost per annum		-29302.88		
		-----	0.00	0.00
Equipment and Refurbishments, at cost		22530.00		
Less Grants Received		-4394.00		
Depreciation		-11751.00		
		-----	6385.00	8248.00
Accrued Expenses			-1068.00	-1556.00
Cash at Bank	Current Account		12181.44	26574.47
	Deposit Account		25985.58	400.97
	Liquidity Manager Account		12026.30	0.00
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Total Net Assets			55510.32	33667.44
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<i>represented by:-</i>				
General Reserve	Balance b/fwd		33667.44	38808.12
	Surplus for the Year		21642.88	-5140.68
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			55310.32	33667.44
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I have prepared the above accounts from the records and information supplied and certify the figures to be in accordance therewith Roy Girard Roy Girard - 23rd October 2024