

Hursley Park Cricket Club

Newsletter – May 2026



WE'RE BACK! NEW SEASON, NEW BEGINNINGS

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Welcome to the new season at Hursley Park! Whether you're pulling on your whites for the first time this year, dusting off the kit bag, or arriving with a boot full of snacks for junior training, it's great to have everyone back.

We've been spoiled with a lovely spell of weather to kick things off, and it's been fantastic to see the club buzzing again. Our first weekend of matches at The Quarters really felt like the proper return of cricket — sunshine on the square, games getting underway, and plenty of familiar faces around the boundary. It's a reminder of just how special our home ground is and how good it is to be back playing and watching cricket there.

As the club's new Chair, I'm really proud (and a little excited!) to be taking on this role. Hursley Park is a special place — not just because of the cricket we play, but because of the people who make the club what it is. From our senior men's and women's teams to our flourishing junior section, the club thrives on enthusiasm, inclusivity and a genuine love of the game.

Over the winter we've also had a few other changes to the Committee, with some new faces getting involved alongside those who continue to give the club so much of their time and energy. To help everyone put names to faces, we've included short Committee bios elsewhere in this newsletter — do take a look and say hello around the ground over the course of the season.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who helps keep things running — coaches, volunteers, captains, umpires, scorers, parents, and those who somehow manage to be all of the above. The time and effort you put in, week in and week out, makes it possible for players of all ages and abilities to enjoy their cricket.

This season promises plenty to look forward to across the club. We're keen to continue building strong pathways from junior to senior cricket, making sure opportunities are there for both girls and boys, women and men, to develop, compete and enjoy being part of Hursley Park. Just as importantly, we want the club to remain a welcoming, supportive place — whether you're chasing trophies, learning the basics, or simply enjoying a hit and a laugh with friends.

I'm really looking forward to seeing plenty of cricket, big smiles and (hopefully) plenty more sunshine over the coming months. Please do get involved, support one another, and share ideas — this is your club as much as anyone's.

Here's to a fun, successful and memorable season ahead for everyone at Hursley Park.

Anna-Louise Peters



WELCOME TO SERGIO ROSIER AND EMILY HORSTEAD



We're really pleased to welcome our overseas players Sergio Rosier and Emily Horstead to Hursley Park this season.



Sergio joins us from Kimberley in South Africa's Northern Cape, bringing flair as a top-order batsman and a seam bowling option. Playing in England long been a goal of his, so when we contacted him last year he didn't hesitate — even resigning from his job to make the move!

Sergio comes from a strong sporting family. His younger brother is a pro cricketer with the North West Dragons, his younger sister has just started university and their dad was also a top cricketer and even represented South Africa in hockey. Sergio didn't take long to make his mark, scoring an unbeaten 100 on his HPCC debut on 26th April – hopefully the first of many runs for us this season.

"I've had a great welcome at Hursley already. It's always been a goal of mine to play cricket in England, so to get going with a hundred was pretty special. I'm looking forward to the rest of the season and hopefully helping to get the first team promoted".

A fantastic addition both on and off the field, Sergio will also support coaching across the club, including with our junior players.

Emily is 19 years old from Sydney, Australia. After graduating last year, she is currently taking a gap year and using the opportunity to experience cricket and life across the world.

An all-rounder who bowls pace, she has played cricket since age six, initially in boys' teams before moving into girls' competitions once they became available. At one stage she played both, with games in the morning for the boys and afternoon for the girls, even going on to win two grand finals in the same day. She began representative cricket aged 10 and progressed through the NSW pathways, including NSW school teams at U12 and U19 level. She currently plays for Gordon Women's Cricket Club in NSW Premier Cricket.

A highlight so far for Emily has been the La Manga tour: "It was a great opportunity to get to know the girls, both on and off the field, while also enjoying some good cricket." This season, she's looking forward to challenging herself in conditions that are very different to Australia.

"The pitches, weather, and style of play all bring new challenges. I'm excited to adapt my game, learn as much as I can, and grow as a cricketer".



Please make sure you say hello and give both Sergio and Emily, a warm Hursley welcome when you see them around the club.

UPDATE FROM THE GROUND



In my summary of last year's Spring Newsletter, I reported on an incredibly wet autumn/winter, and wouldn't you know it, this time round it proved worse, not that it needs me to point this out! This deluge in years past would have created a number of issues, but our saving grace proved to be a new drainage ditch that, under the auspices of Mike Brimble, had been dug at the end of the season. That's not to say that the ground didn't look like a swamp on a number of occasions, but this major outlet saved us from flooding. Also, as part of our continued efforts to help with the drainage problem (the club is incredibly low-lying), our resident expert, Trevor Paice, once again bent his back to construct another channel at the bottom of the ground. These really are thankless but important tasks, that most of the membership would have little awareness of.

The other big project has involved the club roller. Having spent a good few thousand pounds in 2025 to keep our 1966 model going, it was clear that with parts becoming increasingly difficult to source, we needed to take action. This involved exploring a variety of options, buy new, buy second-hand, refurbishment, rental, etc. Taking a leap of faith, we entrusted a very small company in Yorkshire to strip our machine and refit pretty much every moving part. Fingers crossed that we get some continuous dry weather for a long summer of cricket!

Nigel Hunt



MEDIA UPDATE

We are looking to strengthen our HPCC presence across social media, and we'd love your help. The more we share our stories, celebrate our teams, and highlight what makes our club special, the more we can grow our community. If you're on social media, please follow our accounts, like and share our posts, and tag the club in your own cricket moments. Got photos and/or ideas for content? Send them our way!

Together we can spread the word and showcase everything happening around the club. Our email is: hursleyparkcricketclubmedia@gmail.com or contact us via the committee

100 CLUB

With numbers still available and at only £3 a number per month, this is a cheap way to help the club and give yourself a chance to win. With more members participating, the jackpot will increase and a third prize added, so what are you waiting for? Check the club noticeboard for details and to see what numbers are available, or contact Nigel Hunt: hpcc100club@gmail.com



@hursleyparkcc



/hursleyparkcc



Hursley Park Cricket Club channel



SPONSORSHIP



Pangea Insurance Brokers continue to be the main club sponsors and our thanks go to them for continuing their support of the club.

You will see numerous banners around the ground from various local businesses. Please try and support them where you can. If you are interested in advertising for the 2026 season or indeed know someone who would like to, please contact Phil Holden.

CLUB UPDATES

MEN'S UPDATE

Deep in the Pacific Ocean the end of La Nina has started and this may play a significant part in this season's fortunes. The last two years have seen the regular cooling period (La Nina) in effect, bringing warmer drier summers to the UK. But now the El Nino warming phase has taken over and with it, towards the end of this summer, will see wetter weather returning. In essence, make hay while the sun shines!

So we look forward to a fresh start, new faces among a largely returning cast but with refreshed minds and bodies after the winter. We welcome Sergio to the club as our overseas player who has already posted a century in his first game. The first team steps out this weekend under the captaincy of Jenson Bishop and we wish him all the best as he targets promotion in the SPL. The team which is a great blend of youthful talent and experience has the ability to beat any team in the league.

For the raft of juniors who were pitched into sides last summer to fill gaps, they can add that slab of experience themselves to their prodigious talents and continue to show why we are so excited about the club's future. We look forward to seeing them progress up through the sides and scoring bucketfuls of runs and taking sackloads of wickets en route. With three wise heads in Willie, Paul and Rich they will gain the benefit of captains who love seeing talent blossom.

So with no time to waste let's enjoy each and every game this season and celebrate wins and learn from losses in equal measure. I look forward to seeing you all out on the pitch and enjoying this incredible game.

Mike Brimble



WOMEN & GIRLS' UPDATE

The upturn in the weather has allowed us important game time opportunity prior to the opening league match on April 26th. To date we have played nine matches in our build up – with over 30 players involved, and seven victories have been recorded. Matilda Richings has been amongst the runs, with a century already recorded – and new overseas player, Emily 'Ribbons' Horstead has so far chalked up nine wickets.

Age-group matches have only started in the last week but over 50 juniors have been in attendance at each outdoor training session, which augurs well for the summer.

The softball team is looking forward to a second season, with several new recruits on board

Phil Green

JUNIOR BOYS' UPDATE

We've had a successful start to the 2026 season with well attended indoor cricket at Winchester Leisure Centre, Dummer, Places Leisure Eastleigh and nets at Thornden School.

Our junior membership has increased again. We are now officially the largest junior club in Hampshire with ten boys' & ten girls' teams. Please continue to support our Kit Exchange Scheme, whereby we recycle clothing & kit back to the younger age groups. Any kit you have outgrown please bring along on Thursday or Friday evenings & we can collate.

All Stars begins on Friday 8th May for eight weeks and we again welcome 56 new All Stars to start their journey in to the Hursley Park cricket family. With busy Thursday and Friday evenings ahead, we do need more volunteers, supporting the coaches, running the bar & assisting with the BBQ, so if you can offer some help, even occasionally, it makes a difference. On match days we also need volunteers to umpire, score & operate the scoreboard, with training provided.

A touring team will visit us from Essex and we will again host the Hampshire disability teams.

You will know that there is a great social vibe, with very good value drinks from the bar and a very reasonably priced BBQ. In exchange for those lovely evenings sat out with your friends listening to the sound of leather on willow with a cold drink in your hand, would you consider joining the club as a Social Member for £20 for the year? To put it into context, if just half the parents across the entire junior section joined as Social Members, it would raise over £1,000 for the club – which would be a huge contribution.

Finally thank you to all the junior players, parents, supporters & coaches who make the Hursley Park junior family so enjoyable.

Dave Coles



MEET THE COMMITTEE



Anna-Louise Peters – Chair

I am Chair of the club, having served on the Committee for the past year. While not a cricketer myself (despite the occasional attempt at W10), my two daughters, Issie and Millie, have played for Hursley Park for four years, so I have spent many enjoyable hours on the boundary with my husband, Tom, often with a score book and pen in hand.



Outside of cricket, I have worked in the energy industry since 2002, initially for Deloitte. I now run an independent consultancy business supporting clients with engineering and technical consultancy related to offshore energy projects. I am also the Finance Trustee of a charity, and recently stepped down as a school governor.

As Chair, I focus on governance, strategic leadership and oversight, helping ensure the club is well-run, sustainable and true to our sporting and community objectives. I lead Committee meetings, ensuring decisions are fair, transparent and in line with our development plan. I am supported by a fantastic Committee who help with the day to day running of the club and whose skills and experience help maintain a positive, inclusive and safe environment for all.

I took on the role of Chair because I care deeply about the future of our club and its impact on players, families, and the wider community. As a volunteer-run organisation, we rely on people giving their time and I felt it was important to do my part. I want to help create a welcoming, inclusive environment where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy the game, feel supported, and develop both on and off the field. Hursley Park has given my family so much over the years, and this felt like a meaningful way to give back. I hope to strengthen its foundations and ensure it continues to flourish for many seasons to come.



Oli Green – Vice Chair

I'm delighted to be stepping into the role of Vice Chair this season. Having been part of Hursley Park Cricket Club for over 15 years, it's a place that means a huge amount to me, both on and off the field.

During that time, I've been fortunate to captain the First XI across two spells, including during our time competing in Gold and Silver Premier League cricket. Those years were a real highlight, and I'm proud of what the club achieved in that period.

This season, I've taken the decision to step down as the men's First XI captain- partly because it feels like the right moment to give someone younger the opportunity to lead and bring fresh energy to the side. The club has always thrived when new voices step up, and I'm looking forward to supporting that transition.

In my new role, I'm passionate about continuing to raise playing standards across the club and, importantly, working towards bringing top-level Premier League cricket back to Hursley on the men's side. We've shown before what we're capable of, and with the talent and commitment we have across the club, there's no reason we can't get back there. I'm excited for the season ahead and to play a part in driving the club forward.



Phil Holden – Treasurer

Hello, I am Phil Holden and I am the Club Treasurer. I first joined Hursley back in the late 70s when my Dad and Uncle started playing for Hursley and Dad coached the boys (just the 2 junior teams back then!). I played as a junior through the age groups but left Hursley after University as I was working away from the area. I rejoined in 2010 and have played regularly for the Men's 3rds and occasionally 2nds. I also helped coach the boys' sides for around 9 years; mainly because both my boys love cricket too.



It has been special to play in the same team with them on a few occasions! I joined the Committee about 8 years ago as a general committee member, as I wanted to give something back to the Club that my family has been part of for decades; becoming Treasurer in 2025 when Mike Wilson retired. My role manages the Club's finances both in terms of the day-to-day bookkeeping but also the longer-term financial strategy. My day job before I retired was a Finance Director, so the Treasurer role is keeping me on my toes!



Rory Tennant – Club Secretary

My name is Rory and I am the Secretary of the club. I've been part of Hursley for as long as I can remember – first as a toddler on the boundary watching my older brother play and then as a player myself when I joined the U9s.

I had my first experience of leadership at 15 when I began captaining the men's Sunday XI on the pitch and since then I've represented all four of our Saturday league sides, making my Southern League debut in 2016. After Covid, I took a step back from higher-level cricket to captain the Saturday 3rd XI.

As Secretary, I handle much of the club's administration. I took on the role to strengthen my life experience and to help ensure the club is in the best possible position for the next generation – something that feels especially important to me with my nephew now playing in the U15s.

Mike Brimble – Head of Men's Cricket

My son Ollie first joined the club in 2012 and I took him to his U9s games. I was asked if I wanted a game on a Saturday due to low numbers and so I started my playing stint 14 years ago. I've enjoyed performing a variety of roles across most teams and loved being part of such a great club. As Head of Men's Cricket, I sit on the selection committee.

I took on this role as both a player and a parent, recognising the opportunity to build on the club's strengths. With a few focused improvements, I believe we can better develop our talent and continue to raise playing standards.

I've seen the impact strong coaching can have in a short time. With five of Ollie's original team now at first-team level, it shows the potential we have to create a consistent pathway for future success.





Dave Coles – Head of Junior Boys' Cricket

I'm head of junior boys cricket, overseeing the All Stars cohort through the age groups all the way up to our under 19 team.

I joined Hursley Park in 2015. Born & raised in Lymington, playing as a goalkeeper in Wessex League football & Southern Premier League cricket since the age of 16.

Highlights from over the years were conceding a Matt le Tissier hat-trick & scoring a Southern League Century away at Hambledon – opened the batting and scored 102 until I had a back spasm and retired hurt with 12 overs left!

I have the hugely exciting prospect of overseeing the development of a significant group of young cricketers in to adult cricket. I envisage many of our current juniors reaching our 1XI and beyond. I also work alongside Mike Brimble on the Willow Tree project which eventually we shall see Hursley Park players using cricket bats grown on the Hursley Estate in about ten-years time.



Phil Green – Head of Women & Girls' Cricket



I currently have two roles – Head of Women's Cricket and Head of Girls Cricket, although, in reality, there is much synergy between the two and they merge into one most of the time.

I joined Hursley Park in 2006 when my daughter's team moved to the club to form a new women's section – and I took up my current role in 2010 to help her with the growing female section.

As Head of Women and Girls Cricket I have overall responsibility for the sixteen female teams, and in excess of 100 players that play for the club – working with an army of volunteers that assist in team management, coaching, officiating and administrative duties.

Helen Evans – Safeguarding & Welfare Officer

I am one of HPCC's Welfare Officers, working alongside Helen Coles to ensure the club is a safe, welcoming and fun place for all. I am a point of contact for any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of junior and senior players, as well as vulnerable adults.

Now in my fifth season at HPCC, I've seen first hand what a great community we have. My own girls play in the junior girls' section, so I'm often at the ground on a Thursday evening and understand the club from a parent's perspective. My brother even played for the club around 30 years ago!

In my role I hope to be a friendly face: I'm here if any child, player or parent needs to talk about a concern, no matter how small. I will ensure our coaches and volunteers have the correct DBS checks and training and that we follow the ECB "Safe Hands" policy so that every training session and match is run safely. I will work closely with the committee to keep safeguarding at the heart of everything the club does.

With my girls so involved, I wanted to give back to a club that has given us so much. I'm passionate about ensuring every child has a positive and safe experience, and helping the club remain a supportive environment for the next generation of cricketers.





Tim Bacon – General Committee Member (Social)

I'm Tim and I've been a General Committee member for the past 5 years or so. I've been a member of the club for over 30 years after my Dad, Nick, played for the club from the mid 70s onwards and later led my colts side.

I've played through all age groups and all four Men's sides and was responsible for re-introducing midweek cricket to the club a decade ago and captained that side for 10 years.

I help out around the club as much as possible across a range of areas and am keen to help in any way possible to ensure HPCC continues to be the thriving club it currently is for future generations.

Keith Loader – General Committee Member (Grounds)

I have been a member of HPCC since the 1985 season and have held various positions within Hursley Park during this period. I held the position of club secretary from November 1987 to November 1990, I then returned as club secretary from July 2005 to February 2025.

I acted as U15 colts coach/administrator from April 1988 until April 1997 and captained the Hursley Park Sunday XI from 1990 to 1996 and again from 2009 until 2017.

I have been acting as the league umpire for the 2nd XI since the 1988 season. I was a club welfare officer from April 2005 to August 2024.

I am currently a general committee member for Hursley Park CC, now as the grounds team liaison member.

My other involvement in cricket in the locality has been with the Cuckoo CC pub side from 1982 until April 2011 in the New Forest.



Will Cope – General Committee Member (Media / Social Media)

My role is General Committee Member with responsibility for media/social media. I've been part of the club for the last 6 years since my son, Harry, got the cricket bug just prior to Covid. Harry plays for the boys U15s as well as for the men. My daughter, Amelia, plays for the girls U13s. I have also been known to dust down the bat and pads and have a run out in the men's teams when needed!

My role is to help to promote the club on social media platforms. We want to celebrate our amazing community and the great people that work tirelessly to make the club function, and also highlight the fantastic stories that come out of every team, every season.

I took on the role as I wanted to use my area of expertise to help the club that continues to bring so much joy to my family and so many others. I've been a broadcast media professional for over 25 years, and working in academia (at Southampton Solent University), I'm passionate about doing all I can to share the successes of the club.



Jenson Bishop – Men's Playing Representative and 1st Team Captain

My role on the committee is the men's first team captain and men's representative.

I have been in and about the club for a number of years and have progressed my way through from colts cricket all the way to seniors. This year I cannot wait to get back out to The Quarters, and push the Men's 1s for promotion!

My role within the club and committee is to try and win games with the first team, being committed, dedicated and getting the club back to where we should be.

The reason I took on this role is because I want to push myself, continue to progress at the club and improve my knowledge and IQ of the game.



Becky Blake – Women's Playing Representative and 1st Team Captain

I'm the Ladies Representative for the club. My role is to be the main point of contact for our women's players, helping to support participation and the continued growth of the ladies section. I represent the women's game within the wider club, making sure our players feel supported, included, and have a voice in decisions that affect them.

My journey with Hursley Park began back in 2015 when I played against the club while on tour from France. I loved the atmosphere and the people involved, and I joined full-time in 2016. I've been proud to call Hursley Park home ever since, and I now captain the Ladies 1st XI.

I took on the role of Ladies Representative because I wanted to give something back to a club that has become such a big part of my life. Hursley Park has given me so many great memories, friendships, and opportunities, and I'm passionate about helping the women's section continue to grow and thrive for current and future players.

