



The Carlton Lockdown Newsletter

Till the gates of Grange Loan are open again

ISSUE 11



Fun at Carlton Junior Competition

A great big Hi to all Carlton's junior members!

We hope that you are all keeping well and getting ready for a return to cricket in the not too distant future.

It's been a long wait, but our coaches are busy planning Carlton's return to cricket plan and we hope to be able to share more details with you soon.

So, to get everyone in the mood, we have a competition and would love as many junior members as possible to get involved.

All you have to do is a drawing, a story, a poem - anything which shows what Fun at Carlton means to you.

We have some special mystery prizes and we'll publish the best entries in this newsletter.

Please send your entries to

juniors@carltoncc.co.uk

by Wednesday 24 June.

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Matt and Holly

Many readers will remember Matt Crowther, who came to Carlton as Coach in 2013. Even more will remember Holly, whose circuits of the Grange Loan boundary every Saturday and Sunday became legendary.

How have they been and what do they remember from their summer at GL?

Hi Everyone - we were so pleased to be asked to contribute to the Newsletter! We keep in touch from afar and enjoy following Carlton updates via Twitter. We often sit and remember our summer in Scotland, and all the people who made it so special!

After a short stop back in Leeds, we moved west to take a lecturing job at the University of Central Lancashire in the summer of 2014. After a once in a lifetime trip to Australia, we found out that the two of us would become three! We celebrated Christmas 2016 as a new family and now have a 3 ½ year old, Libby, keeping us 'entertained'! We're also pleased to say that Libby will be welcoming a little brother very soon.

What we often look back on and brings a smile to our faces is the number of people who took the time to get to know us, and the friendships we developed, both inside and outside of Grange Loan. As always there's too many to mention – and we've been terrible at keeping in touch.



Perhaps this will act as the catalyst - so keep your eyes peeled for an out of the blue text message.

The 150th anniversary dinner was a lovely occasion in our final few weeks.

A more specific memory from Holly comes from a club night out. Arriving at a nightclub and boldly saying to the doorman "We're with Drummo" and immediately being waved in to the VIP area for free!!

What did I learn at Carlton that has stayed with me? I think it's this:

1. Carlton is Scotland's leading cricket club. 2. You get out what you put in. It's no surprise what Carlton gets out, when you see how many people put in. 3. Don't try and sweep up the hill at GL. It'll never go for 4!

We moved to Carlton for the job and never considered we would have such a wonderful experience.

And Holly misses de Luca's ice cream, more and more each day.

Great to hear from you Matt and Holly - good luck with the new arrival!



Calum Sibley reports

Two years ago, Carlton decided to take a step into the unknown by taking on the 'All Stars' programme. This has been specially designed by the ECB in order to engage children at the age 5-8 with cricket at the very simplest level.



Our risk paid off. An exceptional eight-week programme was run by our young coaching team. The sessions aimed at being a fun introduction to cricket. They grabbed the attention of the 55 youngsters who signed up. Many had never held or seen a cricket bat before, but this did not hold them back. The adults who accompanied them also got fully involved.

Every station was fast paced and energetic. Old hands hadn't seen anything like it - grown-ups and children throwing, catching and batting - diving everywhere and chasing balls to every corner of the ground. Pure enjoyment.

The first year was such a success we thought we would give it a go again. With a change of time and date to a Friday evening we weren't sure how many would come for the 8 week block. I don't think we could have predicted the 79 sign ups - a reflection of the success of the previous year and the hard work from all involved. The second 8 week block was also a huge success and we saw a great influx of 5-8 year olds trying cricket for the first time and looking to join the Carlton primary school section.

The All Stars programme has been a highlight at Carlton over the last two years, opening the game to many children who may never have taken that first step towards the club or towards cricket. If only a handful of those newcomers stays with the club in the years to come, I can hold my head up high to say we have started someone's journey in cricket. Hopefully they can enjoy many great years at this amazing club.

Plans were being made to build on these successes this year - but of course COVID got in the way. We are looking forward to next year. Go All Stars!





The club continued to progress under the captaincy of the late and much missed Steve Alleyne and in particular under Hugh Parker's leadership.

Perhaps the most impressive feature of the club's progression has been the formation and expansion of the junior section. I remember kids being told to get out of the nets on Saturday and Sundays. I could never understand that one. Nowadays our nets are used at will by our enthusiastic youngsters and the flow of talent from the junior section is impressive, culminating in the 2017 Scottish Cup win with a largely home reared side. The whole ethos of the club is concentrated on organisation and positivity and this will see it through this difficult time and carry it forward successfully in future years.

THE PAISLEY VIEW

Russell Weir has mown every blade of grass at Grange Loan - he looks back on his 50 year association with Carlton

It was culture shock when I first turned up at Grange Loan in 1970 having had my formative cricket education honed at the wonderful Ferguslie club in seriously working class Paisley. I'd never encountered kids with such fancy names before!

I have to say that there didn't seem to be much ambition or forward planning about the club then. Due to family commitments, I took a break from cricket for a few years. I returned in 1981 and noticed a significant difference in the club's structure. Nets were well organised under Richard Swan's captaincy and there was a much more positive feeling about the place. I was given the 2nd eleven captaincy in 1982 and held that position for 6 seasons. The only success we had was in winning the Grade League sixes at Goldenacre but, without any shadow of doubt, we had some fun along the way.

**Don't miss Carlton skipper
Ally Evans'
podcast**

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