

The Kent County Playing Fields Association

Supporting Young People In Sport

April 2015 Newsletter



Mr. Bill Cockcroft DL
Patron

As we progress into the year it is important and perhaps overdue that we introduce our Patron, pictured left. Bill joined the association in March 2013. B President of the Kent Scouts Association and a partner at Sawyer & Fisher, Chartered Quantity Surveyors, based in Maidstone, Bill is always willing to support the charity when he can and more often than not, attends most Committee meetings and has presented awards at both AGM's and Council meetings since his appointment.

It is also entirely appropriate to report changes to the board of trustees. After many years, Mr. Anthony Levick has stepped down as a trustee although he will continue to represent Maidstone South, as our district representative. On behalf of the Chairman and all trustees, we would like to thank Anthony for his years of service. His replacement is expected to be appointed at the AGM in May.

Malcolm Spencer Hawkes 1944 - 2015

It is with great sadness we have to report the sudden and untimely death of trustee Mr. Malcolm Hawkes. Malcolm joined the association in 1987, the year the charity celebrated its 60th Diamond Anniversary. He immediately made an impact with his enthusiasm and goodwill and organised several fundraising events including dog shows and bridge tournaments. Malcolm received the Patron's Award in 1992 collecting his award for outstanding service to the charity, from HRH the Duchess of Kent, at York House. In 1993, he became District Representative for Medway North East, adding to his area of coverage. He was later to become Chairman of the publicity and fundraising committee and over the 10 year period since his initial appointment as trustee, he is mentioned in practically every annual report, accounting for his modest approach but significant contribution to all his fundraising activities on behalf of the charity. He was one of that rare breed who gave because he wanted to, enjoyed doing so and never wanted to be in the spotlight or to draw attention to himself. In 2009, following the death of his mother, Ivy, Malcolm suggested a fund in her memory which has gone on to be the most active and successful fund managed by the charity. To date, 80 young sports men and women have benefited from over £15,000 of grant funding. Ever supportive of the charity, Malcolm became a key member of the Golf Committee and once more, proved to be an asset to the annual Cecil Leitch competition, ensuring all preparation for the event and providing assistance during the day in arranging competitor photographs to be taken and processed in time for collection, following the end of their round of golf. A very much liked and popular trustee, it is entirely consistent with his character that in January earlier this year, he had compiled a report for the Chairman and



trustees to consider new ways in which to promote the charity and raise funds. It is no easy task to find a successor to such a person when the need arises from a charitable perspective but we at the Kent Playing Fields will always endeavour to maintain the high and exemplary standard, which the likes of Malcolm set us. He will be sadly missed.



Bourne Amenity Ltd - Principal Contractors Natural Sportsturf Division Manufacturers and Suppliers. Have been delivering on high quality natural and artificial sports surfaces for over 20 years. Their Contracting arm has worked with local authorities, term maintenance contractors and private sports clubs to achieve superior turf and synthetic surfaces and aid the playability of existing natural sports facilities.

The Edwin Boorman Memorial Award.



The criterion is broadly similar to the Stanley Blow & Ole Kverndal Fund, (now closed) however; beneficiaries must generally be between the ages of 10 to 18 years. This fund is specifically aimed at clubs and other voluntary organisations with new initiatives. Application forms may be downloaded from our website www.kentpfa.org.uk or by contacting the Secretary. Successful applicants will receive awards at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for May 2015.

Simon Langton Grammar School New 3g Artificial Pitch

The Opening Ceremony took place as part of a Festival of Youth Rugby on Wednesday 29th October 2014. (Too late to include in November's newsletter). The Ceremony was attended by the President of the Kent RFU (and other members of the Kent RFU Committee), the President of the Canterbury RFC, the outgoing Chairman of CRFC (and other committee members of CRFC), as well as, of course, the Head Teacher and the Director of Sport of the Langton Boys Grammar School, plus a number of key sponsors and also representatives from Saracens. Our Chairman and former President of the English RFU Robert Horner and Vice Chairman & Trustee, Richard Young also attended, Richard being a former pupil (1947-55). Both were impressed by the quality of the playing surface and although primarily installed for rugby, it is also marked out for soccer. The President of Kent RFU said a few words, congratulating the school on its foresight in providing a facility which will aid youth sport generally in East Kent. A symbolic ribbon across an entrance onto the playing surface was then cut by Nathan Earle, who had been a member of the England Team which won the U20 World Cup in New Zealand in 2014 by defeating South Africa 21-20.

Grants – Ivy Hawkes Awards



Once more several awards were considered and approved from the above fund. In January **Matt Blandford**, aged 19 **received £200**. Matt plays rugby for England in his age category and is currently UK Champion at Discus. He hopes to enter the Under 23 category for discus this year and is aiming for a top ten finish. Now studying at Exeter University he also hopes to make Exeter Chiefs first team and maintain his links to the England set up. Funds will be used to further his development in both sports. **Matthew Day**, (photo left in blue & white) **aged 16 received £200** primarily to assist with travelling costs for training. Matthew plays for Millwall U16's and hopes to make the next step up to the U18's team in due

course.

Ashleigh West (pictured below) also received £200 to assist with overnight accommodation and travel costs for the AAA England Athletic Championships in Sheffield, at the end of February.



Ashleigh is currently number one in the UK for U15'S Women's High Jump. We have subsequently been informed that Ashleigh won the Gold Medal with a jump of 1.62 meters at the Sheffield meeting, (pictured right) and maintains her number one ranking. We wish her and all other award winners continued success.



The Ernest Virgo Cricket Award - Do you have a player that could benefit from up to

£300 a year? The Ernest Virgo Fund was set up so that awards should be made annually to a number of young cricketers of lesser means and opportunities so that more young people would be encouraged to actively participate in the sport; Applicants for the award should provide a statement of attainment and be ideally of county level within their respective sport. Awards should be made for the expenses relating to coaching/training travel and accommodation up to a maximum of £300 a year and should be made to persons recommended by the Kent Schools Cricket Association or by the Senior Coach of the club they are members/affiliated to.

Cecil Leitch Five Club Competition 2015

Entries for the **Cecil Leitch Five Club Competition** to be held at **Gillingham Golf Club on Monday 8th June** are now coming in. This long standing and exciting competition now has, in addition to very good prizes for 1st 2nd & 3rd places, an exceptional prize for both the Men and Lady winners of **a week's accommodation at a luxury villa in Marbella, Spain** with all modern appliances, air conditioning and its own private pool! Make sure your club enters to be in with a chance of winning this fantastic prize. **We look forward to welcoming all players to this year's final.**



We get every penny there are no running costs !

SMS Donations

You can donate to The Kent County Playing Fields by SMS: Text **KPFA22** to **70070** from your mobile. To donate up to £10 to the Association and help us protect your local outdoor recreational spaces! And encourage youngsters into sport.

The Ernest Virgo Cricket Award

Kai Appleby, U16's player for Whitstable 1st X1 was awarded £200 from the fund to assist with cost of training and kit . Kai is the team's wicket keeper and a top 5 batsman and has been part of the Kent set up since the age of 12. Part of the elite cricket academy at Canterbury Academy School, Kai has done his support coaching course (formerly level 1) and hopes to progress with level 2 soon as he continues to play and coach at his club.

General Grants

Casey Jazz Hamill, aged 17 received a grant of £100 towards the cost of attending the Baton Twirling World Championships in Italy in April. **A grant of £1000 was awarded to Wrotham Heath Golf Club Ltd** to assist with the cost of renewing and improving irrigation systems to their course.

Loans

The **Cudham Wyse Sports Association Ltd** has been awarded a loan of **£15000** to meet part of the cost of extending and refurbishing the Recreation Ground Sports Pavilion.



Park Leisure (UK) Ltd – Provides a full range of Play and Sports Equipment - Park Leisure is committed to designing play equipment for parks, open spaces and leisure facilities. Park Leisure works with local authorities and private industry alike. It supplies equipment for all ages and abilities as a specialist in play, outdoor gym, skate, BMX and parkour schemes.

Park Leisure has developed its product range and **launched a new catalogue**, contact **Bradley Walton 01233 841073** or **bradley.walton@parkleisure.com** to get your copy.



Sustainable Futures For All - Park Leisure is extremely proud to announce that, following an assessment by an independent body (QMS International plc), the company has been awarded ISO 14001 certification. This certification has only been achieved by less than 1% of UK businesses and this prestigious award is supported by the government and recognised world-wide.

Donations

Our thanks go to Countess Mountbatten of Burma, Mr Colin Stevens and to Mr Richard T. Maylam. Mention should also be made of those supporting the charity through **Just Giving**. In addition, **Sponsorship Forms** are also available should you wish to compete in any event on behalf of the charity. Please contact the Secretary.

Subscriptions - Thank you to those members who have already made their subscription payments and a gentle respectful reminder for those who may not have done so.



Outdoorsy Living Ltd is a local Kent based company specialising in the installation, maintenance and safety inspection of commercial outdoor Play Equipment, safety surfacing and artificial grass. With 20 years of combined experience of the Play Industry, our mission is provide a complete set of services to our customers to exceed their requirements, together with providing value for money.

Telephone:-01622 844238 Email:- info@outdoorsy-living.co.uk

National CPFA Conference – Ramada Hotel, Kenilworth, Warwickshire June 17th 2015

The Secretary will attend the above conference on behalf of the Charity. The theme this year is “**The value of Playing Fields contribution to increasing participation in Physical Activity**” The utilisation of inspirational ideas and good practice, the usage of playing fields and the value of volunteering and the role that CPFA's have, will feature in the programme, together with Guest Speakers.

The conference is open to Borough, District and Parish Councils throughout the county. This is a very useful day for these organisations to exchange views, make contacts and to see what other local authorities are doing. Please contact the Secretary for further information, should you wish to attend.

Grounds Man of the Year Awards at the Kent & Sussex Courier & Sevenoaks Chronicle Sports Awards 2015.

The event held at the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells was a huge success with some 350 people attending. A grant of **£350** was made in connection with our sponsorship of the event and two awards for the above category were made to **John Woodhams of Platt Cricket Club** and **Keith Russell at Kemsing Cricket Club**. Trustee Richard Maylam seen below left with winner Keith Russell receiving his award and Keith below right, addressing the audience. Our thank you to Kim Pearman at the East Sussex & Kent Courier, who organised the event and

to all staff at the Assembly Hall.



We expect to sponsor this award in future years and need your nominations. Most clubs have their unsung heroes who prepare the playing

surfaces year in, year out, to enable sport to take place in all weathers. Say thank you to your Grounds Man by making your nomination this year!

courier.co.uk/awards or sevenoakschronicle.co.uk/awards

Annual Report and Accounts for year ended December 2015

Are expected to be approved by Trustees and signed off by our accountants MHA MacIntyre Hudson and will shortly be available to view on our website and with the Charity Commission. Hard copies are available from the Secretary upon request after 16th April.

Change in inheritance Tax laws encourages charitable giving

Just 1% of your estate could make a tremendous difference to the Charity.....

The Chancellor announced a cut in the rate of inheritance tax from 40% to 36% from April 2012 for those who left at least 10% of their estates to a good cause. Inheritance tax is only paid on estates worth more than £325,000. Currently therefore, an estate of £1m would see the beneficiaries receive £730,000 and the taxman £270,000. However, if 10% of that estate above the threshold is given to Charity, the beneficiaries would only receive £713,000 and the taxman £218,700. It means the charity receives £67,500. George Osborne said, "if you leave 10% or more of your estate to charity, then the Government will take 10% off your inheritance tax rate. I want to make giving 10% of your legacy to charity the norm in our country". The Charity has examined the possibility of providing a deed of Codicil for potential donors to simplify the process of **Legacy Donations**. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary and on our website.

Refreshing News – Mark Cryer



It is always good to receive a letter of thanks or an update on progress made by past award recipients and the following example is no exception. **Mark was the recipient of a couple of grants from the Ivy Hawkes Memorial Fund** which he put to good use in supporting his athletics ambitions. He is currently at **Brunel University** – this is his 4th year as an undergraduate (he split his final year over two years to allow himself time to study and train to give him the best opportunity of achieving his ambition of getting another GB vest as a multi-eventer) and is **currently the university's track and field Captain**.

In January he competed in the England Combined Events Indoor Championships in Sheffield where he secured the bronze medal in the heptathlon (see link below – although it mistakenly refers to the event as the decathlon!)

http://www.brunel.ac.uk/news-and-events/news/news-items/ne_405118

That 3rd place secured him a place on the U23 GB Team that competed in France a couple of weeks ago against the host country and Spain. Our congratulations to Mark and his Father, Howard for staying in touch and providing us with a welcome report on his continued development as an athlete and role model for all aspiring athletes.