



The Kent County Playing Fields Association



Winter 2011 Newsletter



Robert Horner KCPFA Chairman

Activity within the Charity remains steady with various meetings attended and several grants awarded. Following our successful Council Meeting held at Maidstone Town Hall on the 21st of October, we would like to thank **Mr. John Shepherd, President of the Kent County Cricket Club and former West Indian Test Cricketer**, who kindly gave his time to address the audience and reflect amusingly on his arrival in the UK, his friendships within cricket and some behind the scenes anecdotes of Test Class Cricket. We would also thank **Mr Terry Housden, Fields in Trust's representative in Kent** for bringing us up to speed on the progress of the **Queen Elizabeth 11 Challenge** and **Malcolm and Pauline Hawks** for their assistance in setting up our promotional stands and for helping with the catering. Our thanks must also go to **Mrs. Angela Peacock** for her efforts in preparing the buffet and to **Vice President, Helen Skellorn** and **Chairman Robert Horner** for providing the wine. It was extremely encouraging to see so many guests which included some of our Local Authority, Parish Council, District and Head of Governing Sport representatives. Our **Patron Edwin Boorman OBE. DL,MA** was also present and delivered an eloquent closing speech. Last but not least, our thanks to **His Worship the Mayor of Maidstone, Cllr. Brian Mortimer** who despite a hectic schedule made time to attend, welcome our guests and share his time with the Charity. **Thank you all.**

Maidstone Sports Awards

On the 27th of January 2012 following an invitation, the Secretary will attend the above awards held at the Leisure Centre Maidstone. Several prestigious awards will be made to local sportsmen and women in the County. **Minister for Sport, Hugh Robertson MP** will also be attending with other County Representatives. The Charity has sponsored the event and the **Secretary will present an award for the Best Club of 2011.**

Grants

Several grants have been made recently and include **St Mary's Boxing Club** in Chatham. Sadly the sale of the club's premises after 70 years has forced changes at the club. They have now purchased land at Shipwright's Avenue, the site of the former Scouts Hut and are seeking funds to develop the plot into Kent's Regional Boxing Centre. The Trustees have **awarded a grant of £1000** to the project. **A grant of £1000** was also pledged to **West Farleigh Sports Club** to assist with the replacement of changing facilities at Charlton Lane. The club has also received confirmation of a £25,000 grant from Sport England which shows there is still money out there if your application meets the criteria. **Deal Victoria & Barns Close Cricket Club** has also been **awarded a grant of £1000** to assist with the cost of laying a new artificial wicket at their ground at Gun Meadow in Deal. Further applications will be considered in February next year.

Giving at Christmas.....

An alternative way of making donations is now available. **Just Text Giving** by Vodafone is a new service that helps UK registered charities to raise money, no matter how big or small. Donations can be made from any network with just a simple text message. Donors can give up to £10 using our Vodafone Individual Code, which is unique to the Kent County Playing Fields Association. **SMS Donations** You can donate to The Kent County Playing Fields by SMS: **Text KPFA22 (& the amount) to 70070 from your mobile.** To donate up to £10 to the Association and help us protect your local outdoor recreational spaces! Encourage youngsters into sport. **We get every penny there are no running costs !**

Or you can also donate VIA:



Every little helps...no matter how small...make that call.

The Ivy Hawkes Memorial Award



Several applications for this award were considered and approved.

Jack Finch (pictured left) in action received £300. Jack hopes to retain his National Mountain Bike Championship won in 2010 and improve on his 5th placing in Europe.

Neil Parry was awarded £200. Referred to us by the Kent Sport Development Officer for Boxing, James Cullen. Neil trains at the **Frank Bruno Academy** at Orpington and is an exciting new prospect and has already represented Kent in a match against Hampshire.



Benjamin Pomeroy (pictured left centre) had a successful year of **Karate**. He can be seen here with his South West England Trophy to add to a growing list of achievement. Ben was **awarded £300** towards the costs of competing.

Blessed Sithole also trains at the Frank Bruno Academy and represents **Margate ABC**. Another exciting young prospect referred to the KCPFA by Neil Leach, Committee Member of the Kent Amateur Boxing Association. Blessed **received £200** towards his costs.

Charlotte Wise received £300 to help with travel costs, subscription fees and equipment in her sport of **Hockey**.

Casey Jazz Hamill was **awarded £200** towards the cost of competing in Twirl Mania, a **Baton Twirling** Contest to be held in Florida USA in February 2012.

Maidstone's Dream Award



The Trustees have decided to make an award to the young **Tennis Player Gabrielle Paul** providing **£300 in sponsorship**. Gabrielle represents Kent U18's and has already earned European ranking points. She hopes to represent Great Britain in the future and expects to play at Wimbledon. It is her dream to become a top world player. Her proudest moment to date was hitting with Naomi Cavaday (British top 10 player) and being able to keep up with her pace and also getting to the British Grand Prix Final. She may be one to look out for in the future and we wish her every success.

The Ernest Virgo Awards

The Cricket season may be over for the moment but now is the time to be thinking of that young cricketer who may benefit from an award to start the new season with. Our next meeting to determine awards is February 2012.....what are you waiting for?

This award is open to those young aspiring Cricketers of lesser means and opportunity so that more young people can be encouraged to participate in the sport. **Do you have a player that could benefit from up to £300 a year?**

Association Tie

The office has commissioned a new tie which is available to members at a price of **£15** inclusive of postage. It is hoped members will be proud to wear it. Please contact the Secretary for more information.

The Elizabeth II Challenge & good news for the KCPFA

Mr Terry Housden, Fields in Trusts' representative for Kent & Sussex, continues to make progress with Kent's nominations for the QE11 Challenge. Mr Housden provided a full update at our **Council Meeting on October 21st at Maidstone Town Hall**, whilst presenting the **QE11 Challenge** to our guests. Following that meeting the Charity has recently received notification that Fields in Trust will make a **donation of £750** to the Charity in recognition of the promotion work carried out on its behalf by the KCPFA. **Thank you Terry and thank you FIT.** Nominations continue to come in and will be considered through to next year. This is your chance to protect playing fields in your area.....don't delay...save your favourite play space...its never too late.

For further information on the Queen Elizabeth II Challenge please contact either the Secretary Paul Peacock at the KCPFA or Helen Griffiths, Head of Communications FIT (Fields in Trust), on helen.griffiths@fieldsintrust.org or 02074272110 or visit www.qe2fields.com. Alternatively contact Terry Housden, FIT's representative for Kent at terry.housden@fieldsintrust.org

Donations and subscriptions

Despite the recession and the general downturn in the economy the work of the Association continues at a steady pace. Special mention then must be given to those who have assisted the Charity this year by providing donations. Our gratitude goes to the **Stonewall Park Charitable Trust, Cobtree Charity Trust Ltd, Fiat Lipscombe** and to the **Countess Mountbatten of Burma Trust** for their generosity. To **Fields in Trust** for their valued contribution. These sums together with those received from **Eltham Warren Golf Club, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, North Foreland Golf Club Ladies Section, Sidcup Golf Club, Whitstable & Seasalter Golf Club, Woodlands Manor Golf Club, Hartley Golf & Country Golf Club Ladies Section, Shooters Hill Golf Club Ladies Section**, and the **Mote Cricket Club**, have all contributed and enable us, as a Charity, to continue fulfilling our objectives. **A huge thank you also to our Parish Council and Sports Club Members who have paid their subscriptions on time and to all those new members** who subscribed this year. Our thanks also to all **those who made donations towards the Ashford Town Cricket Club Appeal and those who sponsored the Cecil Leitch 5 Club Competition**. Last but not least, our gratitude goes to **all individual members who make donations year in year out** in particular to **Malcolm and Pauline Hawkes, and to Mr K.Cheng Wong** for their continued generosity on behalf of **The Ivy Hawkes Memorial Fund**.

Pre Olympic Boxing Event

On the evening of Friday 25th November the Secretary attended the **ExCel Centre in London Docklands** to see the final preparations for the **Olympic Boxing Tournament**.

The arena provides ample space for up to 6000 spectators for the finals with huge viewing screens at each side of the ring.

Although a dress rehearsal for the main event, international matches had been arranged with several bouts taking place throughout the afternoon and evening sessions. The standard of refereeing was very good and consistent, matched only by the high class of boxing expected of athletes representing their home countries. Our thanks to **James Cullen, Kent's Boxing development Officer** and the **Amateur Boxing Association of England** for making the visit possible.

The Secretary also spoke with several representatives of the **English Table Tennis Association** about their plans for the finals at Excel and was again impressed by the sheer scale of the event, the numbers expected to attend and by the dedication and commitment of those supervising the Table Tennis. The venue is huge and has the capacity to accommodate 9000 spectators, indeed the facilities at ExCel are excellent and those lucky enough to have tickets for the Olympics are fortunate.

Change in inheritance Tax laws encourages charitable giving

The Chancellor recently announced a cut in the rate of inheritance tax from 40% to 36% from next April 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 is currently examining 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.

The Stanley Blow & Ole Kverndal Awards

- **Applications for the above awards are invited and should be with the Secretary no later than 20th March next year.** Successful candidates will receive awards at the AGM at Tonbridge Castle on Wednesday 25th April 2012. **Application forms may be downloaded from the Association website www.kentpfa.org.uk or by contacting the Secretary.**
- Applicants must be sporting organisations or organisations promoting a sporting initiative in Kent. Applications will not be considered from public bodies or individuals.
- Qualifying schemes must be initiatives providing additional sporting opportunities for young people.
- Examples of qualifying schemes – coaching courses to develop sporting skills, courses for aspiring officials within a sport, competitions, and provision of items of non-personal equipment aimed at developing skills.
- There will be no restriction on qualifying sports.
- The beneficiaries must generally be between the ages of 10 and 16 years. The maximum grant payable will be £300

The Olympic Torch Relay



Members will recall our having made three nominations to carry the Olympic Torch through Kent. After months of consideration two of the three made it to the next round. We have now been informed unfortunately that neither Luca Russo nor Lloyd Milner has been successful in the final deliberations. Although disappointed at not being chosen, all three are to be congratulated for having taken the chance of nomination and can hold their heads high for the level of achievement attained to date, in their respective sports. They remain perfect Ambassadors for the Kent County Playing Fields Association.

Final Comment

Over the years the KCPFA has built up a revolving fund by careful and cautious management from which we provide the grants, loans and all other assistance above, but funds are limited. We rely on voluntary subscription/membership and charitable donations to meet the costs of administration. The nominal rates of subscription are kept low to attract support whilst we provide a service that is valuable, both intrinsically and financially. We do hope you continue supporting the Association.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

On behalf of the Management Committee and all Trustees we wish you the very best for the festive season and hope we may be of service in the New Year.