

## ASHLEY CC - End of Season Newsletter

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October 2009

### ASH BRADSHAW

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First of all everyone at the club would like to thank Ash Bradshaw for playing for us this year. He scored 743 runs for the 1st XI and hitting 1 century and 6 fifties and took a dozen catches, as well as half a dozen wickets. His attitude to the club and to his cricket and his contribution to Ashley was magnificent. He freely gave his time to help with the junior section offering advice to those who sought it and he undoubtedly made a difference to performance of many Ashley players.

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He flies back to Melbourne soon with his girlfriend Letitia and he will go straight into the 2009/10 season with his club Noble Park. They both have made many new friends at Ashley and on behalf of everyone I'd like to wish them both a safe trip home.

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We look forward to reading all about Ash's performances at Noble Park soon.

<http://noblepark.cricketvictoria.com.au/>

<http://vsdca.cricketvictoria.com.au/index.html>

### SENIOR TEAMS

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The last league matches were played this weekend and all 4 senior teams maintained their place in their respective divisions.

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The 1st XI finished with a defeat at home to Trafford, but they had already done enough to avoid relegation. Trafford needed to win and they did by 61 runs, Ashley finished 10th out of 12 but were only 25 points off 6th place. The division contained several clubs of a similar strength to Ashley, but next year they will face two new and ambitious clubs in Stockport and Weaverham who will undoubtedly be tougher than the two teams who were relegated. As always we are recruiting players of 1st team standard and this recruitment drive starts now.

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The 2nd XI had a great season, finishing 5th behind 4 strong teams. It was a great effort by the team and their new captain Ally Horn; they introduced several new young players to Saturday cricket and we hope this will continue in 2010 and beyond.

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The 3rds will be disappointed by their results in the last few games, they finished 3rd, a great effort and their highest finish for 20 years, but promotion was there for the taking; in the end they missed out on a runners up spot by 6 points.

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The 4ths finished one place higher than last year and managed their first win, although the aim of this side is to introduce youngsters to league cricket and to keep a few old-timers going a few more years.

### DARTS NIGHT

Thanks to Martin Howe the darts night was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended. Dan Eadie won the Plate competition when he defeated favourite Matt Wardle. In the main final Mel Thomas beat Alex Wardle. The best-dressed award went to John “The Walrus of Darts” Cheetham and best performance by a junior was Harry Brittain, who beat his Mum in the 1st round of the Plate competition.

We hope to have 3 or 4 darts nights next year, so please start to think up your nickname and your walk on music.

#### FOOTBALL PONTOON

The club has sold 57 teams out of 116 in the latest fundraiser.

Please consider helping us to raise money over the winter; each team costs £10 and the first team to score exactly 21 goals will win £200.

#### PLAYER OF THE YEAR TROPHIES

The club held a short presentation after the last home game of the season and the winners were as follows:

1st XI - Ian Barber  
2nd XI - Chris Pendlebury  
3rd XI - John Brownhill  
4th XI - James Semple  
Best U18 player in senior cricket – Martin Blain

The club has commissioned 5 new trophies and they will be handed out at the end of every season and each player will receive a small trophy as a memento.

All 5 trophies will be named in honour of past Ashley players/administrators; more details to follow soon.

#### IMPROVEMENTS TO FACILITIES

The club is in the process of applying for a grant to build outdoor practice nets and we hope to start construction of a score-box soon. The nets will cost approximately £30,000 and we will apply to the ECB for 75% of this amount and £3,000 from the Lord’s Taverners; the rest we will have to find ourselves, if you have any fundraising ideas please get in touch.

One thing the club needs is someone with experience of planning law and applications. If you think you can help us please contact the club secretary as soon as possible.

#### GRANTS

We are in the process of applying for a grant to purchase a bowling machine; this will be a useful coaching tool for the club and will undoubtedly help all our coaches to

continue to provide the best advice and guidance to our junior players.

## JUNIOR PRACTICE

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Altrincham Grammar School is once again our preferred venue for junior practice starting in mid to late January 2010. We are still waiting confirmation of our booking. Costs will have to increase to £2 per child unfortunately.

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Over the year we hope to offer practice for junior players that will concentrate on quality rather than quantity with a mixture of specialist sessions, general batting and bowling in the nets and fielding sessions. With the help of our volunteer coaches we also hope to offer one-to-one coaching sessions.

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Sefton Kwasnik has found a great facility in Ashton, Tameside that offers coaching on a group basis or one to one and is open all year round. Please email him if you would like more information. It might cost £3.50 per child for a group of 10 to receive an hours coaching from the coach who runs the venue.

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[Sefton.kwasnik@bpslaw.co.uk](mailto:Sefton.kwasnik@bpslaw.co.uk)

## SENIOR PRACTICE

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Senior players will be practicing at Old Trafford Indoor Cricket School from late January, hopefully on a Thursday night to avoid any clashes with Champions League football; those supporters of teams in the Europa League will have to make a tough choice.

## AVERAGES

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All the 2009 averages are or soon will be loaded onto the website, [www.ashleycc.co.uk](http://www.ashleycc.co.uk)

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Thanks to Simon Ferris for once again acting as web-master. Please get in touch if you have any suggestions for web content.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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The club's AGM will probably held late in January 2010; the pavilion is not very warm or welcoming that time of the year, so it may well be held in the LMRCA club on Navigation Road, right next to the tram stop.