



The Bobcat

Newsletter for the Broadwater Bobcats Youth Baseball Club,
The Guildford Mavericks
& the UKYBA

August 2011

Hello Bobcats & Mavericks!

Welcome to the August edition of our club newsletter - you'll notice that we are now also the official newsletter of the Guildford Mavericks too....so don't forget to send in your snippets for the next issue.....

I don't know where the time has gone, we are in August already - right in the heart of holiday season when we traditionally get less busy on the field as so many people are away on their family holidays. Depending on the uptake, we may extend practice well in to September if that's what everyone wants....we'll see how it goes.

Don't forget that this is YOUR newsletter, so if you want to add anything, please email your story, pictures or news to Richard at:

Richjamesw@hotmail.com

FOR SALE!

If you guys have anything you want to sell, such as old kit, why not advertise it here? Just jot down what you've got & how much you want for it & I'll put it in the newsletter! Anything's up for grabs apart from Calor Gas bottles & firearms!



Baseball Taster Session Roundup

Sunday 19th June - Surrey Sports Park

We did intend for this event to be a taster session, but in the end we participated in the re-enactment game as part of our project with the



Surrey History Centre. It was lovely to meet Handa Bray who threw out the first pitch, in a game that saw the 18th Century 9 take on the 21st Century Mavericks.

The players looked great in their period costumes & everyone did really well coping with their "new" clothing..... We had the BBC crew filming the event, so we got some publicity



for the UKYBA & baseball in general.

Unfortunately, due to the nature of the weekend, there were no youngsters about to have a go at



baseball, although we did get quite a few enquiries through the fence from curious people wondering what was going on!

Thank you to all the Mavericks who turned up on the day & special thanks go out to the courageous actors: Leonie Oliva, Geraldine Bruce, Karen Hatcher, Brian Kendal, David Jones, Ben Stobart, Jorgen Lovebakke, Rob Shaw & Matt Bruce.

An extra thank you to Nick Jolly too - as he fixed it for us to hold the event on the 3G pitch rather than being on one of the distant sports fields!!



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-surrey-13839565>

Highcliffe Secondary School - Bournemouth

Yes, we had a jaunt down to the South coast on the 19th June, to visit Highcliffe school, where we ran taster sessions for Year 10's & Year 7/8's....what a great bunch of youngsters...really fired up & enthusiastic to play. They had already

marked out a softball diamond in the centre of their playing field. The PE staff were fantastic & showed a real enthusiasm for the game - we even discussed introducing baseball into their PE curriculum subjects.

We met up with 2 parents, Sarah & Jason Chubb & even before Tony & I had arrived back home, there were registrations arriving through the website from young people ready to form a team - how cool was that? We are hoping to work with Sarah & Jason & the PE staff at Highcliffe, to form the first junior team on the South Coast in over 15 years....we'll keep you posted.....

George Abbot Multi-Skills Festival -

On the 27th June, we were invited to run several sessions of baseball at the George Abbot multi-skills festival....we seem to have become the darlings of the Surrey Sports Partnership & so we ran 2 diamonds & had groups of 20 youngsters visiting us every 20 minutes....it was a challenge to get them up & running within that time period...but we managed it & we had some great help from John Kristensen & Tunde Fagbayimu, who had offered to help us out due to the huge throughput.....

The kids were from 6 of the local Junior schools & we wasted no time in making ourselves known to the PE teachers.....at the time of writing, we have taken a last minute booking for a couple of Taster sessions at Bookham Junior school.....

St.James Primary School - Elstead

On the 1st July, Tony & I spent the day at St.James junior school in Elstead, giving sessions of up to an hour. We saw some very keen youngsters who really got involved in the games.

We were also given an envelope at the end of the day which contained a set of drawings that the kids had drawn for us after they had finished their events.....

The teachers were very complimentary about the sessions & they do seem to fire up enthusiasm amongst the youngsters - we did in fact get an enquiry from a parent that very evening....so the message had clearly been put across.....

1st West Byfleet Scouts

After our day at Elstead, we then travelled to Byfleet to run a session for the scouts.....the Memorial recreation ground over there is ideal for baseball - large, flat & very smooth.....not sure how the cricketers would react to our use of their wicket however!

We had over 20 scouts (& a couple of senior leaders) who played ball until the sun had virtually set behind the oak trees.....glorious!

Lots of interest afterwards - we got mobbed for cards.....

Family Softball BBQ - July 2nd

Our annual Family Day was yet again favoured with lovely sunshine with the occasional shade from the clouds....proceedings kicked off at 1pm



The Angel of the South...

& we continued to play softball until 5.30 (al-



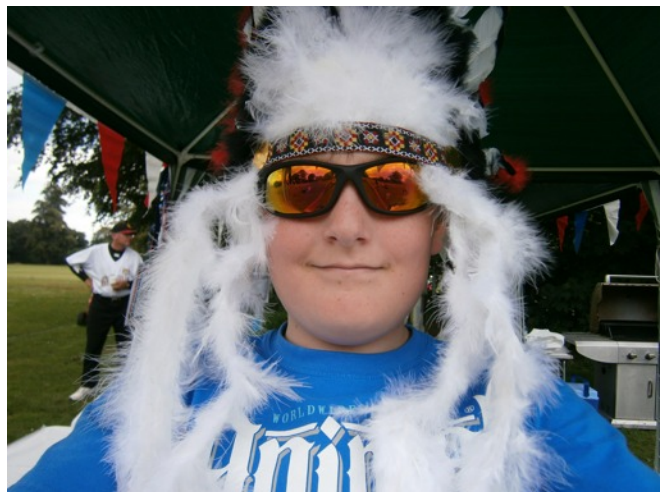
though some diehards were still at it at 6!)

Our thanks go to all of you who came & supported the event & our special thanks go out to Sandra, Eddie & James, who worked so hard throughout the day transporting equipment, set-



Peter Price deceives the shortstop!

ting up gazebos & running the food stall.....our celebrity griddle cook was a certain Mr Oliva...who seemed to be a natural at flipping burgers....although we think his policy of "1 for you & two for me" will have a very negative effect on his waistband!



Ed from the "Broadwater Indians"

The highlight of the afternoon was definitely the Oliva commentary during the game.....& the skills shown by all of the kids who took part on the day...well done all of you!



Ole Blue Eyes is back!

If you'd like to see more images from the day, visit the Bobcats Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/39946015@N08/>

Bobcats Practice Moves From Broadwater

After 3 years using the facilities at Broadwater, we have decided to relocate our practices to Guildford - mainly driven by the need to provide



coaching to the growing interest at George Abbot school.

In order to grow the club membership & to get a much more even spread of the age groupings, we have felt it necessary to centre our practice sessions at the school.

Unfortunately, this move has been a problem for some of our families, as they are finding it difficult to get over to Guildford from the Godalming area...equally some others are delighted as it moves us closer to them.

We are so sorry to have to (temporarily) say good-bye to some of our members but we hope that our work with the local schools will eventually bear fruit & we will see the healthy return of *supported* baseball to Godalming.



We are certain that the future of the youth game lies within the involvement of schools & we will only make a difference by continual work with them through the UKYBA.

The senior squad, the Mavericks, will continue to be based at Broadwater & the Bobcats will have access to the diamond if they need it for any league games that may evolve.....

Guildford FISH Event - August 2011



Following on from our popularity at the FISH event at Easter - we have been invited back to run 3 days of baseball in

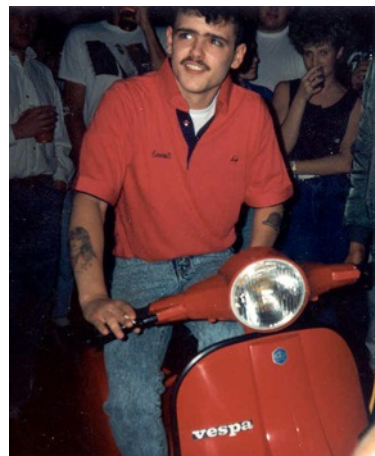
August. FISH (Fun In School Holidays) is organised by Guildford Borough Council & offers a range of activities for youngsters to enjoy...in an effort to stop them getting bored during the school holidays.....it is always well attended & there are a huge range of activities available....the most popular being baseball..!

So if any of you out there fancy doing something a little different this year - get hold of a booking form & come & join us.....

For more details click on this link:

<http://www.guildford.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=9343&p=0>

Emmet Borcik Memorial Trophy 2011



The Mavericks Vets met up with the Mavericks A team for a friendly game on 10th July, in a baseball event that celebrates the memory of our good friend Emmet Borcik, who sadly took his own life but left a legacy of love &

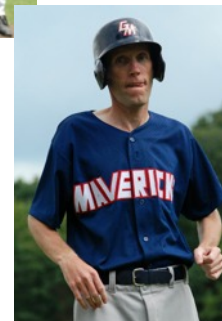
respect from his family & those who knew him.

We remember Emmet by way of a game each Season & this year was even more special as we had Emmet's daughter, Hayley as our special guest. Hayley started the game by throwing out the first pitch.....

Last years event was won by the Mavericks A's so the old boys had a score to settle.....this we did with some room to spare (a little like the waist-band on our trousers) & we eventually trotted (limped) off as 16 - 9 winners.....

The game was played with a wonderful spirit & that was just what Emmet would have wanted, so thank you to all of you who attended & supported the event by playing & buying food, the proceeds from food sales & generous donations to the cup will be given to MIND, the charity for mental health.....

After the event, Nick ruefully told me that the accumulative age of the Vets was 375 years.....just goes to show, there's life in the old dogs yet!



Thanks to Mike Burdett for taking the photos.....none of us ever thinks to bring a camera!



Stevens & Bolton Corporate Softball Night - 7th July

On 7th July, the UKYBA with the help of the Mavericks, hosted a Corporate softball afternoon for Stevens & Bolton, a firm of solicitors in Guildford.

The day had been awful, with heavy rain in the area & we honestly thought the event would be cancelled. At 11am we received an email from Laura at S&B saying that *"in true British style we would like to go ahead come rain or come shine"*....at 3.30 the rain stopped & then we had sunshine right through until 8.30.....the game was played through 8 1/2 innings with the partners eventually beating their staff 12 runs to 10.

This event raised funds for the UKYBA & the Bobcats & we are very grateful to the superb help that we received from Mike Burdett, Nick Jolly, Brian Kendal & Ollie Whitman, who provided coaching & umpiring as well as sound effects & organ music.....thank you guys!

We hope that this will be the first of many to come.....

18th & 19th July - Boxgrove School

Tony & I were invited to run a series of taster sessions for the entire Year 4 group at Boxgrove school & the event culminated in a mini - World



Series involving 6 teams on the last day. We were finally beaten by a torrential downpour which put paid to the final game, but the rain didn't dampen the kids spirit & they were raving about the experience.

We have had a very positive response from the Head Teacher & PE staff & are currently putting together a proposal whereby we can "teach" baseball at their school as part of their PE curriculum - which is exactly what we want to be doing to promote awareness of the sport....we'll keep you posted, particularly as Boxgrove act as one of the feeder schools to George Abbot - where we are also working on a similar project.....

Teachers Softball Match - Broadwater School, Friday 22nd July

We acted as Umpires & coaches for the Broadwater School teachers, end of year softball game - which did turn out to be fairly competitive in the end. We had 2 full teams of 10 players & the game was played over 7 innings with the winning run being scored in the bottom of the 7th!

Excellent performances by the staff, who really enjoyed the activity & helped develop a bit of team building & rivalry & despite the headmaster having a stick thrown at his head by the cover supervisor, it was played in an excellent spirit!

Superb (& funny) commentary provided throughout by Tony & excellent coaching & umpiring by Nick Jolly & Dave Jones - thanks guys - always so professional.....

Highlight of the game, George Michael at the plate & Ollie Whitman's game tying RBI....(& he said he couldn't hit!).....

Saturday 23rd July - Essex Redbacks visit Broadwater

We played hosts to Graham Meikles young team from Chelmsford on 23rd July, on a lovely sunny day at Broadwater. The Bobcats fielded a very inexperienced side and got some fantastic game time facing real pitching from a real opposition.



Tony Oliva pitched for the Bobcats & Richard played the part of catcher - although he spent most of the time complaining about a sore hand! Tony was able to demonstrate a whole range of pitches which was very much appreciated by the visiting youngsters.....

Our Bobcats played bravely & showed some real guts & determination out there - not least Alastair Haxton, who in the bottom of the ninth was the lead-off hitter, who was hit in the back by a pitch, walked to first & then in a moment of inspiration, stole three bases & scored a run. Other notable performances were Laura Hirons, who bravely faced all the pitchers & shrugged it off when she got squarely hit by an errant pitch in the ninth.....



Alastair



Laura

Our thanks also go out to Milly, Dannii & Becki, who joined us from Guildford to make up the team - they all played well.

A big thank you also goes out to our sterling helpers who Coached & Umpired, Brian Kendal, Dave Jones, Nick Jolly & Tony "Nolan Ryan" Oliva - thanks Guys! We cannot run these events without your help!

We've attached the stats for the day for all of you who study these things....well done to each & every one of you....

Final Score: Bobcats 3 Redbacks ? (more than 3, but not by much!)

In Memory.....

Brian Williams
27.11.34 - 17.7.11



A big man, with a big heart, who lost his fight to cancer on 17th July 2011. A newly converted baseball fan who never got the chance to play....



You will be missed Dad.

Karen & Richard xxxxx

And Finally.....

Can I just confirm to everyone that Bobcats weekly practice is being held on **WEDNESDAY** evenings at **STOKE PARK**, Guildford... starting at 5.30 until 7.00 pm.

In the event of bad weather, before setting out, please contact Richard on **0771 006 9417** to confirm if practice is on or postponed. Whenever possible we will move practice to Saturday morning if we have to cancel Wednesdays!

Thank you!!!

Richard

USEFUL CONTACTS



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Broadwater Bobcats
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UKYBA
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Bobcats v Redbacks

Saturday 23rd July 2011

STATS

(in batting order)	At Bats	Hits	Runs	SB	Caught Stealing	Walks	Hit by Pitch	Singled	Doubled	Batting Avg	On Base %	Slugging %
Alastair Haxton	2	0	2	5	0	1	1	0	0	0.000	0.500	0.000
Matt Halsey	5	3	1	2	1	0	0	2	1	0.600	0.600	0.800
Luke Flavell	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0.000	0.250	0.000
Matt Taylor	3	1	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	0.333	0.600	0.333
Laura Hirons	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.000	0.200	0.000
Milly	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.200	0.200	0.200
Dannii	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000	0.000