

## RESUME OF THE 2011 SEASON

Mr Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Welcome to the 2011 A.G.M of Evenley Cricket Club. The 2011 season contained lots of enjoyable cricket for all four of our sides with some exciting and nail biting wins and some shock defeats. Our greatest achievement was undoubtedly the first eleven comfortably re-gaining their "champions" status as winners of the Premier league (and the players certainly celebrated in style at the end of season party with "all sorts" being consumed from the trophy)! The taste of victory was all the sweeter, knowing that several younger members of the club had stepped up to play "premier" league cricket and proved to be a handful for most opposition at this higher standard. The captains did have a couple of selections issues, as the squad had at times, not quite had the depth to always select 33 cricketers and the club does need to recruit some new players. Off the pitch, the club has been well supported by residents and friends of the village, enabling the committee to organise several fund raising events including a successful Cheese & Wine evening and Picnic in the Paddock The current sponsorship arrangement completed its second year which has also helped the club with its revenue and the season was closed off with another well attended dinner dance and awards night.

### FIRST ELEVEN

2011 saw Ant Romaine, continuing the captaincy for his third season. The retirement of several "key players" in 2010 meant that by his own admission, he had not set expectations too high. However, the team got progressively stronger week by week and won the league by a comfortable 40 points over Warwick University and 50 points clear of rivals, Byfield. The team only lost twice in the season and fell foul to the weather only once with a draw – the weather being a great improvement on the season before. Consistent individual performances from Ant Romaine, Steve Harris and Dave Holden with the bat saw Evenley post some impressive scores, particularly at home, on a wicket that hosted many 200+ innings. Bowling wise, the team was less consistent but some encouraging performances from Talib Ali, Ben Patterson, Barney and Charlie Williams all taking wickets at crucial times. The coming season sees Castletorpe and Middleton enter the division as Radway and Hinton go down.

| <i>P</i>  | <i>W</i>  | <i>D</i> | <i>L</i> | <i>PTS</i> | <i>POSITION</i>        |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|------------------------|
| <i>16</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>289</i> | <i>1st (Champions)</i> |

### SECOND ELEVEN

2011 saw Neil Bellingham take over the captaincy /and he did so with real enthusiasm and determination. With some of the younger players stepping up to the 1st team, the second XI team varied somewhat, but this did not stop the enjoyment of participating in a division with several sides all of similar ability. Although Byield and Wroxton pulled away as the top two sides by the end of the season, there were only 53 points between 3rd and 6th place and the side missed a mid table finishing position by just 2 points. Although the seconds lost half of their matches, they were always narrow defeats giving oppositions a run for their money and certainly giving hope and inspiration to what the team is capable of going forwards. The 6th place finish does not do justice to some strong individual batting performances from Ollie Patterson, bowling from Sam Holden and good all round fielding performances. Next season sees Dunchurch and Fenny Compton join the division.

| <i>P</i>  | <i>W</i> | <i>D</i> | <i>L</i> | <i>PTS</i> | <i>POSITION</i> |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|-----------------|
| <i>18</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>216</i> | <i>6th</i>      |

### THIRD ELEVEN

Tat Greatbatch and Mike Boshier shared the captaincy following Andy Reader's decision to play second XI cricket. The team largely consisted of younger players, many of them making their debuts during the season and meeting the clubs objective for the 3rd XI to be the stepping stone from junior to adult cricket. Although the team lost 12 matches, they were only 5 points behind Thronborough and 7 points behind Braunston. Had it not been for the "scratching" of one fixture and the consequential point deduction that followed, the team would not have finished bottom. Throughout the season/, the team played their cricket with high spirits and enjoyment with some promising performances with bat and ball. Next season, Priors and Hinton will go up and Grange Park and Boddington will become opponents as they come down from Div 4. Sadly Beachborough are no longer able to support our use of their facilities and at the time of writing, we are desperately seeking an alternative venue.

| <i>P</i>  | <i>W</i> | <i>D</i> | <i>L</i>  | <i>PTS</i> | <i>POSITION</i> |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| <i>18</i> | <i>4</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>151</i> | <i>10th</i>     |

### JUNIOR SECTION

Under the direction of Richard Darby, the 2011 season has been another successful season for the juniors. Richard has overseen the coaching of 50 children, who have taken part in indoor winter nets, Under 13 matches, Kwik Cricket tournaments and Sunday morning coaching. Graham Chaston and Miles Brooke have joined the coaching team and enabled us to run a specific Junior/Beginners session on Sunday mornings, some of whom will be moving up to the Kwik Cricket squad next season. Rachel Gallyot, Kate Darby and Ange Crompton have continued to coach our Kwik Cricketers, who were unbeaten in their first tournament, organised by the S.N.C Junior League, but then unfortunately had two tournaments rained off, including one which we were due to host on the Village Green. Our Under 13 squad, under the dedicated guidance of Tat Greatbatch and Julian Walker, has had a mixed season in the S.N.C Junior League, ending up with five wins and eight defeats. We have been encouraged by the boys' enthusiasm and hard work – which have been commented on by other team's coaches - they have competed hard in every game and many could have gone either way. Andy Reader and Sam Holden also lent a valuable hand early in the season in the winter nets. One exciting addition this season has been a group of teenagers helping with our coaching sessions as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Awards – they have developed a great rapport with the younger children, so well done Tom, Henry, Charlie and Tom.