



SEAXE NEWS

Editor: Glen Birkwood

Web site: www.middlesexccc.com/page/seaxe-club-home

Winter 2025

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – SEAXE NEWS WINTER 2025

At last we have an updated and functioning website. Not only that, but the Seaxe Club link is now one of the main banners on the MCCC website, thereby making access so much easier. Fletch was very instrumental in setting this up, and I for one will miss having him in the MCCC office. Our thanks also go to Jack Davis and Ollie Thorpe for maintaining the site.

You can see here the cheque presentation of £5000 from the Seaxe Club towards the Disability Squads tour of Dubai due to go ahead early next year if sufficient funds are accrued for the trip to be finalised. Currently it is looking very good.



Disability cheque presentation

Within these pages you will see details of the Seaxe Christmas Luncheon, a proposal to have some Seaxe Club shirts for purchase and the form for your Players of the Year

nominations. As previously noted, you vote for your red ball and white ball players. The 2nd XI, Woman's PoY, Disability PoY and Junior awards are nominated by their respective coaches.

Sadly we have recently lost two very supportive members of the Seaxe Club. Namely Alan Ashton Past President and past Editor of the News, and also Keith Mein, a regular visitor to the Seaxe Box and never without an opinion. They will be missed.

SEAXE NEWS



Soon it will be time to discuss future bursaries and the efficient allocation of our funds. I'm fairly confident this will include continued support of the Seaxe Winter League for Girls and further support for the Swyncombe Avenue development; but this is of course, dependent upon the requests we receive. Here's a photo of the plaque within the Swyncombe Avenue Pavilion.

Because of the ongoing works on the Allen Stand and there only being one point of access to the Tavern Stand, and a long walk to reach it; the Seaxe Box suffered from a drop in footfall for the final game of the season. Unfortunately, it would seem that this may well be the case for the whole of next season. Nevertheless, we will continue to welcome members and their guests for a cuppa and cake.

It is our intention to introduce a card machine next season for use within the Box, thereby giving one the option of paying with card or cash. This will prove useful when purchasing merchandise, paying your annual subscription, buying lottery tickets as well as the cake and tea.

With the rebuilding of the Allen Stand and the subsequent loss of the Middlesex Room, we are actively looking for another venue to hold our Awards Evening and AGM without being charged by MCC. We have suggested a potential venue to MCCC and will keep you posted; but you may be assured it will not be held in the Tavern Inn.

Here's to a successful season next year, continuing the strong finish we had this year.

I look forward to your company next season, both home and away.

Glen Birkwood
Chair Seaxe Club



Glen Birkwood

SEAXE MERCHANDISE SHIRTS

Dear member, please find herewith photos of the Seaxe shirts that we intend to have available to purchase dependent upon interest shown.

Prices are: Adults- £35 Junior £25 + £4.99 postage or free collection from Harrow store. Initial delivery: 4 – 6 weeks (in time for Christmas). Size range chart shown. Price includes printing of any additional names / numbers etc you may wish to add. i.e. your name on the back.

To order please contact glen.birkwood@hotmail.com

Payment to the Seaxe A/C No: 70831921 - Sort Code 20 74 63 - ref shirts

Thank you

Glen



CLOTHING SIZE GUIDE

JUNIOR SIZE GUIDE

Age	11-12 years	13-14 years	15-16 years	17-18 years	19-20 years	21-22 years	23-24 years	25+
Height	150	155	160	165	170	175	180	185
Weight	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75
Foot length	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

SENIOR SIZE GUIDE

Age	18-20	21-23	24-26	27-29	30-32	33-35	36-38	39-41
Height	170	175	180	185	190	195	200	205
Weight	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95
Foot length	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

WOMEN'S SIZE GUIDE

Age	18-20	21-23	24-26	27-29	30-32	33-35	36-38	39-41
Height	160	165	170	175	180	185	190	195
Weight	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85
Foot length	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

SEAXE NEWS

MIDDLESEX IN THE COMMUNITY

At this time last year, six months on from Middlesex in the Community coming into existence and myself taking on the role of Director, I was seriously wondering what I had let myself in for. By then Middlesex in the Community (MITC) had begun to make some progress but it was not in a particularly good place. A number of experienced staff had left the organisation, new staff were still learning their roles, and we were underperforming against our targets.

As I sit here now, wondering where the recently finished cricket season went, there is still plenty of work to be produced, but I must say, I am delighted to say much progress has been made. The staff that were finding their feet have proven to be excellent acquisitions. They have and continue to grow into their roles and are constantly adding to what we are delivering.



Angus Fraser

I am reluctant to pick members of staff out, but, on this occasion, I will, as their work was recently recognised at Middlesex County Cricket Club's End of Season lunch. When Chloe Longdon arrived our Schools (Chance to Shine) delivery was in a poor place. We were performing at around 63% of what we had committed to. In 12 months Chloe has moved the dial to 90%, which is a remarkable increase, especially as 100% is all but impossible. Chloe's Assistant Manager, Thomas Pegler needs to be congratulated here too. Similarly, when Amber Wright started as our County Safeguarding Officer in March this year, our County Partnership Agreement rating with the England and Wales Cricket was largely Red. Six months later there is no Red to be seen. Most of our ratings are Green, and those that are Red, Amber hopefully, soon turns to Green.

Other areas of the organisation have made excellent progress too. Our Inclusive Cricket offering, in the form of the sessions we deliver for Lord's Taverners, has improved considerably. So much so that the Grant we receive from them is almost double what it was 18 months ago. The relationship we have with Clubs and Leagues has improved considerably thanks to the work of Jack Davis. The proof of this is that the number of clubs affiliated to us has risen by over 40%. We also, through the excellent work of our Cricket Cities Partnership Manager, Dharani Thai, delivered the London Loop in 2025. The London Loop is a Cricket 4 London initiative and a video of what took place can be found on the Middlesex website.

Much of the work produced above is funded by large MITC stakeholders like ECB, Chance to Shine and Lord's Taverners. A significant proportion, however,

is not. And this is where a loyal supporter like the Seaxe Club is so helpful. The Seaxe Club have and continue to support the things MITC do brilliantly, with the latest support being for our Disability Cricketers, who are due to tour the UAE in February 2026. Without your help we would not be able to have the impact and help peoples involvement in cricket as we do.

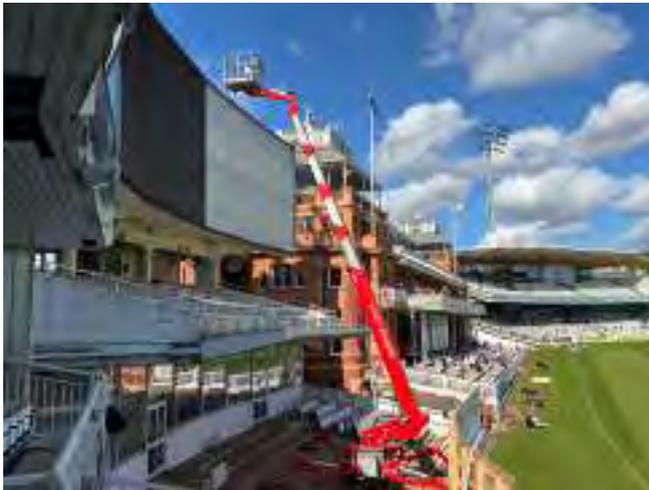
Many Thanks, once again.

Angus Fraser

Managing Director - Middlesex in the Community

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEAXE BOX

With the news that MCC's redevelopment of the Tavern Stand has been delayed, we will have use of our present Seaxe Box for another two seasons. Looking from the Box balcony during our September matches I could see the Allen Stand being demolished. Originally it was Q Stand when all the enclosures were given letters starting with A to the left of the Pavilion. We can look forward to a new Middlesex Room in the rebuilt Allen Stand for the 2027 season.



Demolition of Allen Stand

Throughout most of the 2025 season it was unclear what the structure for county cricket would be in 2026. Middlesex Members made very clear at a special meeting they wanted 14 Championship matches to be retained and the Middlesex Board agreed. Fortunately several of the other counties held strong to this view and no reduction will be made.

SEAXE NEWS

Another popular competition with members is the 50 over tournament. The composition of teams is a bit of a lottery with Hundred players missing, but the chance to see promising youngsters is welcome. I had the thrill of watching Middlesex defeat Lancashire at Old Trafford, scoring 292 for 9 with Noah Cornwell hitting the winning boundary in the last over after Nathan Fernando (92) and Seb Morgan 61) had put on 126.

Outgrounds

Given good weather, attending matches in outgrounds can be a real pleasure. Middlesex played a 50 over match at Rugby School and what a delightful venue it is. Our spinners brought us victory over Warwickshire. Unfortunately our game with Gloucestershire at Cheltenham College this year was marred by rain all four mornings. Our excellent record in Championship cricket at Merchant Taylors' School continued with a second victory in two years over Northamptonshire.



The view at Rugby School cricket ground



Friends

Another pleasure at county cricket is the opportunity to spend unhurried time with friends. Two of mine died in the summer. They both were also staunch



Keith Mein

members of the Seaxe Club and former members of the Middlesex Committee - Alan Ashton and Keith Mein. Alan served as Seaxe President until three years ago. Keith



sat in the front row inside the Box at the start of this season and correctly predicted Leicestershire would be Second Division Champions. None of us agreed.

Alan Ashton

Patsy Hendren

Recently I was asked to proof read a new biography of the prolific Middlesex and England batsman Patsy Hendren. His Middlesex career stretched from 1907 to 1937 and he scored an unbelievable 170 first class centuries. In 1933 he hit three hundreds in three days Lord's. Sadly there is little to mark his achievements at Lord's though there is a plaque on the memorial wall. The book *Patsy Hendren: A Different Kind of English Hero* will be published in June and the author Jeremy Lonsdale shows that Patsy was a remarkable and kind man as well as a very loyal player for Middlesex at cricket and Brentford FC for football.



Alvan Seth-Smith President Seaxe Club



Alvan Seth-Smith



THE SEAXE CLUB CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT LORD'S TAVERN
SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER, 2025

Members £48 Guests £53

Includes

Glass of prosecco on arrival
choice of main course and choice of dessert
complimentary tea/coffee and mince pie

DRINKS FROM MIDDAY – MEAL SERVED APPROXIMATELY 1.30 – 2.00pm

MAIN COURSE

ACCOMPANIED BY A SELECTION OF SEASONAL VEGETABLES AND ROAST POTATOES
ROAST NORFOLK STUFFED TURKEY BREAST & PIGS IN BLANKETS
CONFIT LEG OF TURKEY AND RED WINE JUS

PANFRIED COD FILLET

STEM BROCCOLI, PEAS AND LEMON BUTTER SAUCE

WILD MUSHROOM RISOTTO (VEG OR VEGAN)

ROCKET & PARMESAN SALAD

DESSERT

CHRISTMAS PUDDING

BRANDY CUSTARD

APPLE, CRANBERRIES AND MIXED SPICE CRUMBLE

VANILLA ICE CREAM

OR

TEXTURE OF ENGLISH CHEESE

GRAPES, CRACKERS, CELERY & TOMATO CHUTNEY

SEAXE NEWS

SOCIAL REPORT WINTER 2025

Following our successful Spring Social at the Argyll Arms, we are returning there for our Winter Social, being held on November 2nd.

Our annual Christmas Luncheon is once again being held at the Lord's Tavern on Sunday December 7th. Details of this occasion here within this edition of the News. We have endeavoured to keep the pricing as low as possible, but this is of course driven by the costs to us from the MCC. Even so we feel this is excellent value in a London pub so close to Christmas.

We do hope you are able to join us and take the opportunity to meet Fletch and Lorraine who are our guests of honour. Having done so much for MCCC and together with their support and assistance for the Seaxe Club, it is our way of saying thank you.

We will also be having the final lottery draw of the year, so you might even be leaving with a profit!

Gary Ford
Seaxe Club Committee/Social Secretary



Gary Ford



Seaxe Championship Player of the Year & Seaxe One Day Player of the Year Voting Slip – Season 2025



Please send your votes and comments by **Friday 21st November 2025**

They should be sent either by post to: Glen Birkwood, 86 Edgell Road, Staines Upon Thames, Middx, TW18 2EL or by e-mail to: glen.birkwood@hotmail.com

My vote for Championship Player of the year goes to:

For the following reasons:

My vote for One Day Player of the year goes to:

For the Following reasons:

My memorable moments:

SEAXE NEWS

WINTER 2025 OPINIONS / IDEAS ALWAYS WELCOME

I would be delighted to receive your comments (good or bad), any articles etc., for inclusion in the Seaxe News and possibly for placing on the Seaxe / MCCC websites.

All correspondence either by email: glen.birkwood@hotmail.com - or by post to: 86 Edgell Road, Staines, Middx. TW18 2EL
Thank you.

If you have yet to do so, could you please forward your email address to Barbara Buxton- see below. This makes communication so much easier and efficient.

Enquiries about membership should be addressed to Barbara Buxton, 1 Croft Court, Chelmsford, CM1 6UQ - email: buxtonb@hotmail.com

If you would prefer to receive Seaxe News by email, please send your email address to buxtonb@hotmail.com Thank you

Lottery result AUGUST 10th

Prize	Name
1st £120	Keith Macrae
2nd £800	Mick Kelly
3rd £50	Christopher Sheils
4th £25	Alan V Jones
5th £25	Nick Storer

Congratulations to them all.

The next Lottery Draw will be on December 7th at the Seaxe Christmas Luncheon

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Lord's next season, and hopefully at a number of our away games.

Enjoy your cricket.

Glen Birkwood
Editor Seaxe News