



# SEAXE NEWS

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**Editor:** Glen Birkwood

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**Spring 2024**

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## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT SPRING 2024**

Dear members, in line with the need to reduce waste and lower costs, we will be mailing this edition to all those whose email addresses we have. If you are yet to notify us of your email address, please do so. Let us know where you are @. Those of you who have received an email copy of the News but would still like a hard copy, please let me know via [glen.birkwood@hotmail.com](mailto:glen.birkwood@hotmail.com) or [membership@seaxeclub.org](mailto:membership@seaxeclub.org).

We have also taken action on the printing and posting of membership cards i.e. we will no longer be doing so. A master membership list will be kept in our box and event venues, and on the occasion when we don't recognise you (don't take it personally), we will simply cross reference against the list.

The Seaxe Club will be taking a slightly different direction this year with regards to financial support. You will read in the Treasurers report a need to consolidate our finances. We shan't be supporting the All Stars and Dynamos cricket programmes this year, having provided bursaries to them for a number of years. I have explained the situation to them and they have thanked us for the support we have given them to date, and they fully understand the reasoning behind this decision. We will instead, be concentrating our resources more towards the Pathway, and following a request from Mark Lane, we have agreed to support a very talented young man with his transport costs to the tune of £500. We are taking this route as the end result will benefit Middlesex CCC as these youngsters develop into our first team players. After a request from Angus Fraser, we helped finance the refurbishment of Finchley Indoor Cricket School, which, contrary to rumour is definitely being utilised along with the Indoor School at Merchant Taylors. Following a



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recent meeting with Johan de Solva, we will be looking at areas throughout the season that are mutually beneficial to the County of Middlesex and MCCC and help promote the Seaxe Club. Awareness of our activities throughout the County, will hopefully generate an interest in joining, an increase in our membership is a priority.

Our Annual AGM is scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup> but instead of holding it our usual venue, namely the President's Suite, we will be holding it in The Lord's Tavern from 6pm. I look forward to seeing a number of you there. We are having to make this change because MCC have decided to charge us for using the Suite, a charge we cannot, nor will not pay. It is our intention to have a Q&A session after the AGM when the floor will be yours for discussion about where you would like to see the Seaxe Club channel its energies. We are delighted to confirm that Angus Fraser and Johan de Silva have agreed to attend our AGM and discuss Middlesex in the Community. We will be going ahead with our Awards Evening in the Middlesex Room on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>.. It will commence ½ hour after close of play (which hopefully will be a full day), when the first team will be there together with past players from Middlesex CCC. This is an important event in our calendar, rewarding and acknowledging the achievements of our up and coming talent on their way to representing MCCC at all levels, as well as rewarding members of the senior squad.

I have been asked “what happens to the Seaxe Box for county games when the Tavern stand is demolished?”, I have been assured on a number of occasions that a box will be sourced for us, most likely in the Grandstand. Again, I'll keep you posted as things develop.

Hoping to see a number of you in our box during the season, don't always leave it until the afternoon tea break. We'd be delighted to see you at any time.

**Glen Birkwood**  
**Chairman Seaxe Club**



*Glen Birkwood*

**SEAXE CLUB ANNUAL REVIEW 2023**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The accounts for 2023 are included in this edition of the Seaxe News. At the time of writing, they are still undergoing the independent check by John O Gorman and we are grateful to him for performing this role for the Club.

The Chair's report details the support we have provided over 2023. There were many requests for support and, as in recent years, we were keen to try and assist where possible.

Over 2023, we have recorded an excess of expenditure over income of £5,500 compared with a surplus of £1,275 in 2022. This leaves about £16,000 of reserves.

It has been the plan in recent years to reduce the Club's reserves, whilst providing enhanced support in these post-Covid times. At the first Committee meeting of 2024 we have agreed, and hope to reassure Members, that we should now enter a period of consolidation on the financial front.

Our other financial challenge is the general increase in cost of, well, everything! We have been grateful for the support from Middlesex in providing photocopying and postage for the Seaxe News but have decided to move towards sending this, and other communications, via email. We therefore urge Members who have not done so to supply a contact email address via [membership@seaxeclub.org](mailto:membership@seaxeclub.org)

On the positive side, the January subscription standing orders showed that a further 41 Members uplifted their payments from the old rate of £12.50 to £20. There are still 55 Members paying at the old rate but we hope, subtle nudge!, that this balance will continue to shift in coming years, or sooner!

And to finish on a high note, the committee remains grateful to Brian Cahill for his time and effort in running the Seaxe Box. The net income for tea – and cake, of course – exceeded £600 for the first time last year – well done.

**Stephen Lockwood -Treasurer**



*Stephen Lockwood*

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## THE SEAXE CLUB - ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 31 DECEMBER 2023

### INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31 December 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
<b>Income:</b>			
Members' subscriptions		4,758	3,553
Lottery surplus	1	2,212	1,772
Teas in the Seaxe Box		605	580
Christmas lunch net income	2	30	65
Memorabilia sales		49	87
Interest received		208	17
Donations received		364	5,800
Donations for bursaries		0	250
Transfer from Geoff Norris reserve	7	250	250
		<u>8,476</u>	<u>12,374</u>
<b>General Expenses:</b>			
Seaxe News (including associated postage)		2,150	2,084
Administration expenses	3	960	235
Social events		305	488
		<u>3,415</u>	<u>2,807</u>
		<u>5,061</u>	<u>9,567</u>
Net Income After General Expenses:		<u>5,061</u>	<u>9,567</u>
<b>Expenditure on awards and support:</b>			
Medal and trophy costs		566	416
Awards	4	1,125	1,080
Middlesex Cricket Board - All Stars Cricket / Dynamos		4,500	6,000
Bursaries		4,370	796
		<u>10,561</u>	<u>8,292</u>
		<u>(5,500)</u>	<u>1,275</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year:		<u>(5,500)</u>	<u>1,275</u>

### Basis of Accounting:

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and on a basis consistent with previous years.

**BALANCE SHEET****As at 31 December 2023**

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
<b>Current Assets:</b>			
Bank - Geoff Norris Award Account	7	1,417	1,651
Bank - High Interest Account		18,000	22,500
Bank - No 1 Account		238	386
Bank - Lottery Account		325	1,140
		<u>19,980</u>	<u>25,677</u>
<b>Prepayments:</b>			
Prepaid Expenses	5	150	20
		<u>20,130</u>	<u>25,697</u>
<b>Total Assets:</b>			
		<u>20,130</u>	<u>25,697</u>
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>			
Accruals	6	(2,752)	(2,585)
		<u>17,378</u>	<u>23,112</u>
<b>Net Assets:</b>			
		<u>17,378</u>	<u>23,112</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
Accumulated fund brought forward		21,461	20,186
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year:		(5,500)	1,275
Accumulated fund carried forward		15,961	21,461
Geoff Norris Award Reserve	7	1,417	1,651
<b>Total reserves</b>		<u>17,378</u>	<u>23,112</u>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<b>1 Lottery surplus</b>		
Subscriptions	3,412	2,722
Prizes paid out (35%)	(1,200)	(950)
Surplus	<u>2,212</u>	<u>1,772</u>
<b>2 Christmas Lunch:</b>		
Income	1,880	1,055
Expenditure	(1,850)	(990)
Surplus	<u>30</u>	<u>65</u>
<b>3 Administration Expenses:</b>		
Lottery Renewal Fee - Westminster Council	20	20
Sundry	0	25
Middlesex Cricket Board Subscription	9	9
Postage and Stationery	267	87
IT Expenses	664	94
	<u>960</u>	<u>235</u>

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4	<b>Awards</b>		
	Geoff Norris Award	250	240
	Elaine Knight Award	125	120
	David Newton Award	125	120
	Gerry Lillee Award	125	120
	Jack Robertson Award	125	120
	John Piddington Award	125	120
	Richard Davis Award	125	120
	Rynhold Family Award	125	120
		<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,080</u>
5	<b>Prepaid Expenses</b>		
	Prepaid Lottery Fee (City of Westminster)	0	20
	Prepaid website hosting fees	150	0
		<u>150</u>	<u>20</u>
6	<b>Accruals</b>		
	Membership Fees paid in advance	143	285
	Lottery Subscriptions paid in advance	384	900
	Lottery prizes not cleared	0	275
	Accrued awards & bursary payments	2,225	1,125
		<u>2,752</u>	<u>2,585</u>
7	<b>Geoff Norris Award Reserve:</b>		
	Opening balance	1,651	1,900
	Interest Received	16	1
	Awards during year	<u>(250)</u>	<u>(250)</u>
	Closing balance	<u>1,417</u>	<u>1,651</u>

**SOCIAL REPORT – 2023**

We enjoyed a well supported winter social on November 5<sup>th</sup> at The Clarence, a popular venue amongst our members. We combined this occasion with the year end thank you drink previously held in the Middlesex Room at the end of the season. Such has been the poor level of support for this year end event in the Middlesex Room, it was felt to be more beneficial to buy the first drink at The Clarence as a thank you for your support throughout the year.

A number of you will know that Steve Baldwin has decided after some 30 odd years, to stand down as the Social Secretary of the Seaxe Club and we thank him for his outstanding contribution. This doesn't mean winter socials, or indeed any social events will cease, far from it. You will be notified of all events as they are planned.

The Seaxe Christmas lunch was once again held in The Tavern on the 10<sup>th</sup> December. It was a well attended occasion very much enjoyed by all. We would like to thank the Middlesex CCC President Mark Ramprakash and his lovely lady Nina, for joining us on the day. The final lottery of the year was drawn and the list of winners can be found on the back page of this edition.

Please make a note of the following events scheduled for 2024:

Seaxe AGM – April 3<sup>rd</sup> – The Tavern Inn – 6pm

Seaxe Awards Night – April 19<sup>th</sup> – Middlesex Room – after close of play

Seaxe Box Reception – Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Seaxe Box in Tavern Stand

Seaxe Christmas Lunch – Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> – The Tavern



*Christmas lunch.*

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*Lunch at the bar.*



*The Ladies*



*Happy diners*

*If the Devil could cast his net!*



*Lottery draw*



## **SEAXE MJCA GIRLS U13 FINAL REPORT**

The Seaxe MJCA U13 Girls League was played at Laurel Park School on Saturday mornings throughout the Autumn Term. Lots of teams entered to give their girls more opportunity to play regular year-round cricket, and sharpen up their skills. As with the U15 league, bonus points for net runs scored and wickets taken ensured that the group stages were competitive.

Finals day was held on Saturday 2nd December, with Stoke Newington and Hornsey playing one another in the first semi-final. Stokey posted an imposing total of 121, losing only two wickets in the process. Violet was the standout bowler for Hornsey, conceding only four runs in her two overs and taking two wickets. In reply, an early flurry of wickets from Stoke Newington left Hornsey chasing the game, needing 103 off their final two pairs. Those pairs batted very nicely to bring Hornsey up to a final total of 97, which was an excellent effort with a side of predominantly U12 girls playing.

Canons and Highgate met in the second semi-final, with Highgate batting first. Highgate managed to score runs consistently across all of their pairs to finish on 134. In response, accurate bowling upped the pressure on the Canons batters, who did their best to find the walls and run effectively to increase their score. Each of Highgate's last few bowlers managed to pick up some late wickets to leave Canons on 48 in response.

Stoke Newington and Highgate then met in the final, Highgate choosing to bowl first. Two wickets in the first over dented Stoke Newington's approach with the bat, though their second pair recovered to bring them up to 32. Excellent bowling and fielding saw four wickets fall in the last pair to leave Stoke Newington on 47 after their 9 overs. Stoke Newington were one of the most threatening bowling sides in the group stages, and put Highgate under early pressure with two wickets in the first pair, however Highgate's second pair batted excellently to move the score to 84. Despite five wickets and a hat-trick attempt in the final pair, Highgate finished on 81 after their 9 overs and took home the trophy.

The game was played in a fantastic spirit from both sides, and it was great to have Seaxe Club Chairman Glen Birkwood on hand to present the trophy to the winning captain, Millie. Thanks



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once again to the Seaxe Club for their generous support of this competition over the Autumn Term, which has been well-received by all participants, parents, coaches and umpires who have been involved.

### SEAXE MJCA GIRLS U15 FINAL REPORT

The Seaxe MJCA U15 Girls League was played at William Perkins on Wednesday evenings throughout the Autumn Term, courtesy of Middlesex Cricket who generously allowed us use of the space. The group stages saw lots of competitive and exciting cricket, with no side remaining unbeaten. Bonus points for net runs scored and wickets taken added an interesting dynamic, ensuring that the sides who played the best cricket progressed to the final on 8th November.

Ealing U15 took on Highgate U15 in the final; Highgate won the toss and elected to bowl. Ealing's first pair recovered really well from a tight first over (in which two wickets fell) to post 30. Accurate Highgate bowling and dot balls restricted the second pair to just 16 runs, however a late surge and some good striking in the last few overs ensured Ealing progressed to a score of 73 in their allotted 9 overs.

The contest was almost identical in the second innings, with Highgate's first pair posting 29, however excellent striking from the second pair of Lila and Zahra moved Highgate to within 6 runs of the target. The final pair of Hafeeza and Rukhsana batted sensibly and ran well to leave Highgate finishing on 96 off their allotted 9 overs and as winners of a close encounter.

The quality of cricket on show in the final was fantastic, with disciplined bowling, excellent indoor technique, fielding and teamwork on show throughout. The standard of play throughout the competition was excellent with

plenty of players engaged across multiple age groups, and it has been brilliant to give more girls an opportunity to play Indoor Cricket this Autumn, so thank you for Seaxe for their generous sponsorship of this league.

**Laura De Silva**



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**SEAXE CLUB PLAYER OF THE YEAR – 2023 SEASON**



*Ryan Higgins*

A couple of names were put forward but it will come as no surprise that by a very clear majority the outright winner is Ryan Higgins



### Seaxe Club Women's Player of the Year – 2023 season

The winner is an impressive all-rounder who over the course of the season led by example. Her performances as Captain, opening batter and bowler are testament to the hard work she has put in over the 2 winters and summers she's been with Middlesex. 12 games, 307 runs highest score of 73, average of 27.9 and 8 wickets. A deserving winner is Isabella (Issy) Routledge.

*Issy Routledge*

### White Ball Player of the Year

Despite people telling me this was also a foregone conclusion, I received quite a number of nominations. Naturally Ryan Higgins, but also Mark Stoneman, Martin Andersson, and the eventual winner, who won by the narrowest of margins, is Max Holden.

*Max Holden*



*Joe Cracknell*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Player of the Year

Now we come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Player of the Year award:

This has been a difficult decision because so many games were affected by the bad weather, either shortened or abandoned altogether.

Nevertheless, after looking at all the performances and talking with coaches, a decision has been reached. There were a number of notable performances – Mark Stoneman with a 79 and 106; Rhodri Lewis 111; Robbie White 101 and 117; Luke

Hollman with 82 and 75; Thilan regular wicket taking, including 5 against Kent. But, it has been decided that with back to back centuries of 158 and 103 and influencing the games, the award of 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Player of the Year goes to Joe Cracknell.

### **Memorable Moments**

In a season which didn't excite too many of you, there were really only 2 memorable moments. Namely Tim Murtagh's 1000<sup>th</sup> wicket, but there was the moment which highlighted the respect that county cricket clubs have for Murts, and showed true sportsmanship; and that was when the Warwickshire players formed a guard of honour for Tim when he came out to bat in his last match at Lord's.

### **Seaxe Club Disability Player of the Year – 2023 season**

Umesh Valjee. Umesh is an opening batter who consistently scored runs throughout the season. His top score for the season was 81 runs off 80 balls against local rivals Essex, securing victory for Middlesex in the process.

Umesh finished the season with an unbeaten record having been injured for our only loss of the season; proving just how important he is to our line-up.



*Michael Wilson*

**Michael Wilson**

**Head of Middlesex Disability Cricket**

## **SEAXE CLUB JUNIOR AWARDS**

### **Geoff Norris Award**

Sammy Singh- Highest wicket taker in country in ECB U16 County Cup

### **Jack Robertson (highest score)**

Sebastian Morgan 200no

Rhys Lewis 200no

### **David Newton (Batting award)**

James Isbell- 25 Inns 1270 runs 4x 50's 6 x 100's ave 63.50

### **John Piddlington (all rounder)**

Atharv Sharma- played most of his cricket an age group up. 332 runs at 30.2 and 38 wkts at 13.6

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### **Gerry Lillee (outstanding bowling)**

Nilesh Bhandari 48 wkts at 14.75. 3<sup>rd</sup> highest wicket taker in the country in ECB U16 County Cup, highest wicket taker in Middlesex Player Pathway

### **Rynold Family (special moment)**

U16 squad retaining the ECB U16 County Cup.

Captain was Sebastian Morgan

### **Richard Davis (fielding)**

Amelia Gingell

Amelia is an impressive young wicket keeper bat who has improved immensely over the season Amelia represented the Club at U15 and U18 level. Snaring 9 victims and scoring 301 runs with an average of 33.44. Fully deserving of this award.

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## **NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 55th Annual General Meeting of the Seaxe Club will be held in the **Lord's Tavern**, Lords Cricket Ground, St John's Wood Road, London, NW8 8QP at 6.00pm on Wednesday, 3rd April 2024.

The formal proceedings having been concluded, there will be a general discussion and also a Q&A with Angus Fraser and Johan de Silva about Middlesex in the Community.

(The Minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023 will be available prior to the Meeting or through a prior request from [pejj@btinternet.com](mailto:pejj@btinternet.com) (Peter Jackson)).

### **AGENDA:**

1. Notice convening the Meeting
2. To approve the Minutes of the 54th AGM held on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023
3. Matters Arising

4. Chairman`s Address
5. Treasurer`s Report and Adoption of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023
6. Election of Officers and Committee Members:
  - i. President – Committee nomination – Alvan Seth-Smith
  - ii. Vice Presidents – Mike Brearley, David Killick, Geoff Norris, RVC Robins, Mrs Dorothy Rynhold, Jane Saxton, Alan Ashton and Les Rowland.  
  
New nominations by the Committee – Peter Jackson
  - iii. Chairman – Committee nomination – Glen Birkwood
  - iv. Treasurer – Committee nomination – Stephen Lockwood
  - v. Secretary – Nominations sought
  - vi. Committee Members – Les Rowland (Membership), Barbara Buxton (Membership), Keith Macrae, and Bob Baxter
7. To confirm the Appointment of Honorary Members
8. To Appoint the Independent Checker – John O`Gorman
9. A.O.B.

(Rule 8.1.2 NOMINATIONS for the Officers of the Club and Committee must be submitted with the written consent of the Nominee and received in writing by the Treasurer 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting)

**Peter Jackson**  
**Acting Secretary**

## **SEAXE NEWS**

**SPRING 2024**

### **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](mailto: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 Les Rowland - see below. This makes communication so much easier and efficient. As mentioned within this issue, we are sending as much as we can via email. [lesrowland41@gmail.com](mailto:lesrowland41@gmail.com)

Enquiries about membership should be addressed to: Barbara Buxton, 1 Croft Court, Chelmsford, CM1 6UQ – or via the details on our website [seaxeclub.org](http://seaxeclub.org)

### **Lottery result Dec. 2023**

<b>Prize</b>	<b>Name</b>
1st £200	Chris Lowe
2nd £100	Chris Lowe
3 <sup>rd</sup> £80	Robert Legget
4th £60	James Scott
5th £40	Peter Drummond
6 <sup>th</sup> £20	Roger Down

Congratulations to them all.

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. Don't forget to visit our box for a cuppa, some cake and a natter.

Enjoy your cricket.

**Glen Birkwood**  
**Editor Seaxe News**