Issue 6 - March 2008

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Closing Date

The closing date for registering for NatWest CricketForce is 12pm on Thursday 3rd April. No registration forms will be processed after this point and so by not registering before this date you will miss out on the huge benefits available.

NO OF CLUBS REGISTERED SO FAR:

1120

NATWEST CRICKETFORCE SHOWCASE CLUBS 2008

We are pleased to announce that we have chosen our 5 Showcase Clubs for NatWest CricketForce 2008. We searched all over England and Wales looking for the clubs and projects that would best epitomise the idea and the potential of NatWest CricketForce. Here are the details of the 5 clubs that have been chosen as Showcase Clubs.

Hertford CC, Hertfordshire

Hertford CC's NatWest CricketForce projects are a range of small and medium projects all over their ground to prepare it for the new season and beyond. These projects include renovating their score box and installing a new electronic scoreboard, installing a new kitchen, installing new showers and retiling the changing rooms.

Lisvane CC, Cardiff

The NatWest CricketForce project for Lisvane CC is to renovate a cricket ground that hasn't been used for 6 years. Along with clearing back all of the undergrowth outside, this will include a complete refurbishment of the pavilion including putting in a new ceiling, replacing the entire kitchen and refurbishing the changing rooms.

Hambledon CC, Hampshire

Hambledon CC in Hampshire is known as the 'Cradle of Cricket', the place where Cricket in it's truest form began. Recently the club had the misfortune of an electrical fire which damaged much of the pavilion and so NatWest CricketForce for them is about restoring this to ensure it is ready for the 2008 season.

St James Montefiore CC, Sussex

St James Montefiore CC have just acquired a second ground and so lots of their activities will focus on that; including building a bridge between the two grounds and digging drainage ditches around the perimeter. On the existing ground an astro turf pitch will be relayed, new fences will be erected and other general work done.

Farsley CC, Yorkshire

The main objective at Farsley CC will be repair a pavilion built back in the 70's as it show signs of wear and tear. A new pitched roof will replace the current leaky roof and new UPVC windows will replace the rotting wooden frames that are there now. Once a new roof has been installed, further projects inside can begin.

Helpdesk - natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk

www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce

NatWest

NatWest Volunteers & Community Cashback Awards

NatWest are proud to sponsor NatWest CricketForce and are encouraging its employees to Volunteer in NatWest CricketForce 2008. Employees that do express an interest to get involved will be given a specific club's contact details and will contact you directly.

Additionally, NatWest will give cash to employees that help out through their Community Cashback Award scheme (as long as they haven't already had an award for another community project this year). This can be anything up to £500 depending on the number of NatWest employees who participate:

- £250 can be applied for where **up to 2-5 employees (minimum 2 required) get involved in NatWest CricketForce projects**
- £500 can be applied for where **6 or more employees get involved in NatWest CricketForce projects**

Community Cashback Awards are a means of recognising the efforts of NatWest employees as fundraisers and/or volunteers. Community Cashback Awards allow NatWest to make a difference to local community organisations and charities that benefit from the time, effort and skills of employees and NatWest would like to wish all clubs every success with their future projects.

JOHNSON Ceramics International

Competition

In last month's newsletter we reported on the competition where £2,500 worth of H&R Johnson tiles and tiling products were up for grabs. We are pleased to announce that the winners were:

- Bunwell CC, Norfolk
- Pershore CC, Worcestershire
- Tamworth CC, Staffordshire
- Worcester Nomads CC, Worcestershire

Thanks to all of the clubs who entered the competition and congratulations to the four successful clubs. For information on all of Official Supporters and their offers and discounts for NatWest CricketForce registered clubs please go to www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce

Make your club the winner on Grand National Day!!

Saturday the 5th April is the day of the Grand National, Britain's most famous day at the races. Why not have a sweepstake through your club and your volunteers on NatWest CricketForce weekend to guess the winner. This way you make money for the club, give a common interest to all those working on the day and also one lucky person can pocket whatever prize you decide to give!

All Out Cricket

All out Cricket magazine (AOC) is a contemporary lifestyle publication that gets closer to the stars of the game than any other cricket title on the market.
They have produced an online version of the magazine and the current edition is promoting NatWest CricketForce 2008 as well as containing an article on the NatWest CricketForce event at Kirby Muxloe CC, Leicestershire in January.
Please clink on the link below to receive the full online version.
http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/Launch.aspx?PBID=08d48cac-cf28-43f9-a94c-ea84942598a9

www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce

Help for Green Projects

We're always on the lookout for ways in which you can get help for any green projects you are doing.

We recently discovered that B&Q have their 'One Planet Living' Awards. Between £1,000 and £10,000 can be awarded and it is available to environmental groups, community organisations, schools, charities or SPORTS CLUBS. The scheme looks to award environmental/energy saving, natural habitats/wildlife and local culture projects. For more information please go to:

www.diy.com/awards

4 weeks to go!!

There is now only 4 weeks to go until the NatWest CricketForce weekend so you need to make sure that you have got everything in place to make your event a big success. At www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce there is a Vital Materials section that has lots of useful documents and checklists for your event so if you haven't checked it out yet do so as soon as possible to make sure there's nothing you forget!

NatWest CricketForce Blogs

A new feature on the NatWest CricketForce website is the addition of a blog section. Along with blogs from ourselves giving out useful information and keeping you up to date with the latest news, there are blogs from a number of Cricket Clubs telling their stories of their NatWest CricketForce events. There are stories there from our Showcase Clubs so you can see exactly what they'll be up to and what they've done so far. If you have an interesting story from your club's NatWest CricketForce experiences that you'd like to tell please tell us so we can share it with everyone else - natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk

Give Your Club A Scoreboard To Be Proud Of!!

As a NatWest CricketForce registered club **you are entitle to a fantastic 20% off EasyScore Manual Scorebaords and Number Scorers.** These scoreboards have great visibility, are simple to use and their unique design makes them easy to carry and store after use. Alternatively, you could just purchase the number scorers and give your existing scoreboard a makeover or design your own board.

At only £316 the scoreboards provide a professional image at a very affordable price. Several clubs have already taken advantage of this great offer - so don't miss out before the start of the 2008 season.

For clubs on a very tight budget Easy Score limited has a number of 'seconds' boards which are on sale for only £275/ Please contact Sarah on 01491 579734 for more details.

Please visit **www.easyscore.co.uk**

Best Practise

Whenever we can we like to let you in on the successes of other cricket clubs to try and inspire you to do something similar at your own club. Our example this month is Birstall Village CC in Leicestershire who had to take action to stop vandals ruining their pavilion and facilities. On a regular basis the clubhouse had to be repainted due to graffiti and it seemed there was no end to the problem. That was until the club worked with the police to find the culprits and invited them to the club to help remove the damage they had done. The result is that the clubhouse is now covered in a mural of cricketers which has remained intact, and the once vandals now work with members of the club to promote good behaviour.

Please contact Andy Corbett: corbetts@heron6.fsnet.co.uk for more on this story.

www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce