



Issue 1 - October 2007

Welcome to the first newsletter for NatWest CricketForce 2008. There will be a newsletter sent out at the end of every month between now and the NatWest CricketForce weekend—
4th, 5th and 6th April 2008!!

History of NatWest CricketForce

NatWest CricketForce first took place in 2002 when just one club took part - Lingfield CC in Surrey.

By 2005 that number rose to 665, in 2006 it hit 1062 and then last year we had 1150 clubs involved.

The investment involved in NatWest CricketForce last year reached £35 million with over 80,000 volunteers taking part. All this came from volunteers coming together to engage in a self-help initiative that can change a cricket clubs world.

This year we want to make it even bigger so why don't **YOU** do something that could change **YOUR** cricket club's world—register now and start planning for NatWest CricketForce 2008!!
www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce



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NatWest CricketForce 2008—Going Green.

For this years NatWest CricketForce we are promoting the concept of cricket clubs doing their bit to help the environment and save energy. Some of the ideas we have for clubs to do so are:

- Replacing light bulbs with ones with a low energy specification.
- Reduce, re-use, recycle - a general campaign to control the location of bottle banks, plastic banks etc.
- Flush Reduction - using an example from Severn Trent Water in the form of a bag placed in the cistern which can save one litre of water every time you flush.
- Campaigning energy efficiency - purchasing efficient products only, use of energy saving boilers, turning radiators down one degree, etc.
- Water Conservation - water butts can be bought at a cost of £10-£20 or, for example, major DIY outlets sell a rain water collection package for around £1,600.
- Grass Cuttings - composting guidance.
- Power Suppliers - some companies offer a green tariff.
- Insulation - explore all local authority energy partnerships.
- Sustainable Energy Supplies - explore opportunities for ground source heat pumps, solar panelling, etc.

If you have any queries, ideas, etc, want advice or guidance, or just want to keep in touch please contact the helpdesk: natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk

Why take part in NatWest CricketForce 2008???

NatWest CricketForce:

- revitalises run down pavilions and grounds
- attracts more volunteers
- increases membership
- dramatically increases club revenue
- attracts more players
- excites members/the community to get involved
- grows community partnerships
- develops sponsorships
- boosts morale - Big Time!!!

www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce

Inspiration from 2007 - Shepperton CC



From this

.....to this!

Shepperton CC is a village club located by the River Thames in Surrey consisting of 3 men's, 3 women's, 5 boys and 2 girls teams. Before NatWest CricketForce 2007 their pavilion was an army nissen hut that was in a state of disrepair and with no heating etc, the club was unable to open during the winter months, and was not suitable to hold social events. Despite plans to replace the old pavilion for over 10 years nothing had ever been set in motion until NatWest CricketForce 2007 came along and Shepperton CC saw the chance to be the launch club. This revitalised the planning and they set off on a mission to replace the old pavilion with a newly built modern wooden structure. With the help of NatWest CricketForce 2007 this task was accomplished with over £20,000 worth of materials and £30,000 worth of skilled labour donated; the help of 150 volunteers over the weekend; and £5,500 in cash donations from members and friends!!

Your club can achieve this, and more, too!! Here are some handy tips from Shepperton CC to help make YOUR

NatWest CricketForce 2008 a success:

- Aim high! It's amazing what can be achieved in a small space of time
- Meet regularly. Form a small group to drive the project and keep in constant communication
- Seek professional advice early
- Involve as many people as possible. You never know who knows what or who!
- Don't be afraid to ask. If you don't ask you don't get!
- Publicity, both internal and external. Keep everyone informed at all times
- Ensure that all Insurance and Health and Safety issues are taken care of from the start
- ENJOY IT!! Take lots of photos for a scrap book, website etc and to encourage future support
- Remember to say Thank You!! It costs nothing and goes a long way.

What help is available and where can it be found?

Help Desk -

natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk

County Cricket Development Managers/ Regional Support Officers - Contact the helpdesk to find out who they are and how they can help

Vital Materials - Available at www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce. These include a step by step guide, top tips, risk assessment advice, 'How to organise your event' and many more useful materials

Case Studies - Look at the examples from past NatWest CricketForce events that clubs have submitted, available at www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce

Newsletters - A monthly newsletter will be sent out to all registrants and all will be available on the website also (see below)

Helpdesk - natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk

There are a range of benefits to registering with NatWest CricketForce, none more so than those that are offered by our Official Supporters. Here are some of those benefits **ONLY** available to NatWest CricketForce registrants.

(please contact them - details at www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce)

Official Business Supporters and benefits:

Daktronics - 20% discount on Electrical Scoreboards

Climate Cover - 20% discount on Flat Sheet Covers

H & R Johnson Tiles - 15% discount on Tiles and Tiling products

Barlows Electrical - 10% discount on Electrical Items

Autoguide - 10% discount on 3ft and 4ft AutoRollers and Diesel powered Re-Power Kit

Community Repaint - Heavily discounted paint

Jacksons Fine Fencing - Timber and security fencing and gates

Synergy Products - Aerators and top dressing machinery

Wolseley Build Center - All building products

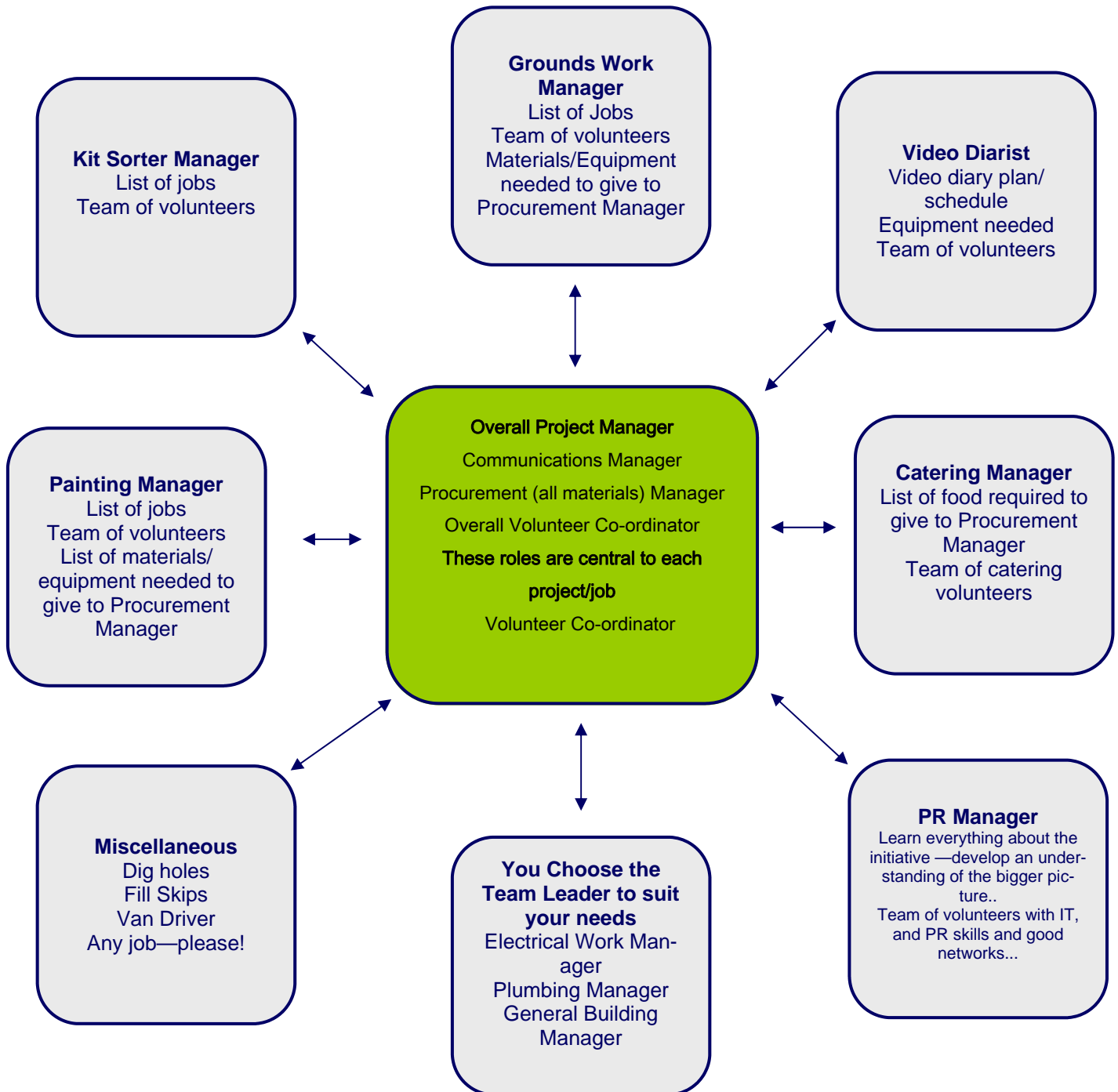
EasyScore - Portable Scoreboards

Dulux Decorator Centres—All decorating products

www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce

How you could manage your event/volunteers

Here we suggest a model and potential team leaders...apply the model and select appropriate team leaders to meet your club's requirements!!



Here are some “Top Tips” to help you on your way to preparing for NatWest CricketForce weekend on the 4th, 5th and 6th April 2008, more will follow next month.

If you have any tips or ideas that you think can help registrants then drop the helpdesk an email at natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk so we can share them with everyone in future newsletters!



Start to plan and take action now...

we strongly recommend that you don't leave it until the last minute, don't wait for it all to happen – you need to make it happen! The overriding message that clubs gave in their previous year's NatWest CricketForce evaluations was the awareness that you need to plan early, plan well and start the process as soon as possible. Clubs that planned early and planned well really did make a difference.



Be proactive...

decide on your aims and objectives – read the Step-by-Step Guide and Case Studies from clubs that have been there done and worn the T-Shirt with pride!!! - think outside the boundary – every step of the way!! www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce



Form a management team...

...of 'diverse' members that will reach all those that you would like to be involved – this team will be the 'movers and shakers'...

with the skills to galvanise support from all club members – a team that will support each other, when the going gets tough! The team should be headed by someone with enthusiasm, commitment, has a good understanding of the potential and benefits and a real vision of what is possible. Rest assured, your club has the people who have all the skills required to make a difference – involve them, ask them to be a part of it...view information on the 'Big Picture/ 'Maximising the Potential and 'How to Manage Your Event' – all to be found on the web-site www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce



Communicate

Not only details of the projects, but the reasons for doing them and the anticipated legacy it will leave. Be very certain to communicate the difference that everyone's contribution can make to the club – view the Case Studies forwarded by other clubs and read about the legacy and the difference it has made to them.

Hold regular progress meetings...



Skills Audit/People Inventory

Find out where each of your club members work – they may have great contacts and may be able to get what the club needs or they may know someone else that does.

Ask what skills your members have and be sure to record this on a data base – use the table we have provided to complete your audit/inventory – www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce

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