

THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

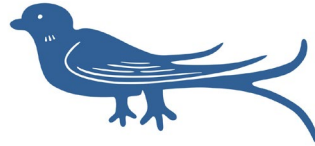
Notice of the 2021 Annual General Meeting of The Sussex Martlets Cricket Club

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of The Sussex Martlets will be held on Monday 15 March 2021 commencing at 7.30pm. The meeting is being held virtually this year and Zoom details will be sent out the day before the meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will be preceded by the presentation of the Annual Awards.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising from the minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting
4. To receive the Annual Report for the Year Ending 31st December 2020 comprising:
 - a) Chairman's Report
 - b) Cricket Report
 - c) Junior Martlets Report
 - d) Martlets Over 40s Report
 - e) Golfing Society Report
 - f) Real Tennis Report
 - g) Social Report
5. To approve the Annual Accounts for the Year Ending 31st December 2020
6. To approve the 2021 Membership Subscriptions and Playing Fees
7. To note the 2021 Forecast of Income and Expenditure
8. To receive a report on the Harrison Vice Presidents Fund
9. To extend the term of office by one year of the Club's President Brian O'Gorman
10. To note the retirement of Stuart Ritchie from the Committee (to take effect from the end of the AGM)
11. To elect officers and other members of the Committee:



THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

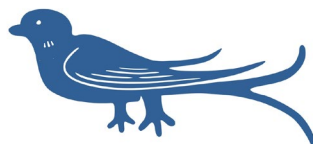
- a) To elect Paul Walker as Chairman (to take effect from the end of the AGM)
 - b) Alan Newman who completes his term and offers himself for re-election as Hon. Secretary for a three year term
 - c) Alan Newman who completed his term as Fixture Sectary at 2020 AGM - ratification of his re-election as Fixture Secretary for a three year term from 2020 AGM
 - d) John Bettridge who completes his term and offers himself for re-election for a three year term
 - e) Josh Burrows who completes his term and offers himself for re-election for a three year term
 - f) Hector Loughton who completes his term and offers himself for re-election for a three year term
12. To elect Vice-Presidents of the Club:
- a) Nick Creed
 - b) Mike Harrison
 - c) Mark Semmence
13. To elect Honorary Members of the Club:
- a) Judith Jenkin
 - b) Caroline Seaton
 - c) Christine Semmence
14. To consider any other business without formal resolution

Alan Newman
Secretary

21 February 2021

Notes:

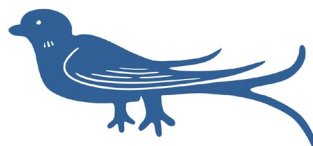
1. All members of the Club shall be entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting.
2. The quorum for the Annual General Meeting shall be seven.
3. All members, other than Honorary Members, shall be entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting.



THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

Accounts – Year ended 31 December 2020

Income and Expenditure Account	2020	2019
	£	£
General Fund		
Income:		
Subscriptions	9,234	10,159
Entrance fees	460	40
Match fees	4,577	6,726
Social functions	1,010	3,532
Interest	12	21
Donations	-	2,200
Sponsorship	-	1,000
Sale of blazers	-	328
Total income	<u>15,293</u>	<u>24,006</u>
Expenditure:		
Umpires and scorers	1,215	2,545
Match expenses	5,406	9,374
Social functions	1,321	3,380
Golf Society	279	550
Printing and stationery	819	945
Equipment	-	738
Secretarial and banking	60	54
Subscriptions	75	75
Insurance	567	578
Website maintenance	376	411
Awards	394	128
Cost of sales - blazers	-	328
Donations	250	-
Transfer to Harrison Vice Presidents' Fund	-	3,205
Write-off of Premium Bonds	-	277
Total expenditure	<u>10,762</u>	<u>22,588</u>
Surplus for the year	4,531	1,418
Balance at 1 January 2020	7,575	6,157
Balance at 31 December 2020	<u>12,106</u>	<u>7,575</u>
Harrison Vice Presidents' Fund		
Balance at 1 January 2020	6,510	3,055
VP Donations	680	250
Transfer from General Fund	-	3,205
Balance at 31 December 2020	<u>7,190</u>	<u>6,510</u>
Total Funds at 31 December 2020	<u>19,296</u>	<u>14,085</u>



THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

Accounts – Year ended 31 December 2020

Balance sheet at 31 December 2020	2020	2019
	£	£
Current Assets		
Stock	1,540	1,540
Balances with Barclays Bank	18,582	12,101
Debtors and prepayments	-	999
	<u>20,122</u>	<u>14,640</u>
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	(350)	-
Deferred income (Life membership)	(476)	(555)
	<u>(826)</u>	<u>(555)</u>
Total	<u>19,296</u>	<u>14,085</u>

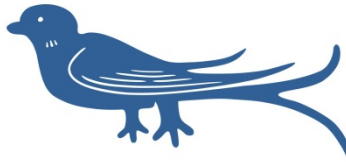
Approved by the Committee on 8 February 2021 and signed by:

Stuart Ritchie
Chairman

Mike Charman
Treasurer

Accounting Policies

- 1. Accounting convention**
The annual accounts are prepared on the historic cost convention.
- 2. Subscriptions**
Annual subscriptions are credited to the income and expenditure account when received or receivable.
Life members subscriptions are credited to the income and expenditure account over 20 years.
- 3. Stock**
Stock of blazer material and books is shown at the lower of cost or net realisable value.



THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

2021 Annual Subscriptions and Match Fees

	Present	Proposed
	£	2021 £
Joining fees:		
- Playing – full	60	60
- Playing – under 23 years (incl. of subs until age 23 on 1 January)	80	80
- Non-playing (incl. golf & real tennis)	40	40
Subscriptions:		
- Full	60	60
- Under 23 years – not paid £80 joining fee	30	30
- Non-playing (incl. golf & real tennis)	30	30
- Juniors	-	-
Match fees:		
- Arundel fixtures:		
~ Full	25	25
~ U23	20	20
- Other fixtures:		
~ All day	20	20
~ Afternoon	15	15
- Seniors fixtures (afternoon games only):		
~ Playing member	15	15
- Juniors:		
~ Arundel fixtures	15	15
~ Other fixtures		
~ All day	10	10
~ Afternoon	5	5

Mike Charman
Treasurer
Sussex Martlets
26 January 2021



THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

Forecast Accounts – Year Ended 31 December 2021

(Approved by the committee on 8 February 2021)

Income and Expenditure Account	Forecast 2020	Actual 2020	Forecast 2021
	£	£	£
Income:			
Subscriptions	11,250	9,234	10,750
Joining Fees	100	460	520
Match Fees	7,000	4,577	7,425
Social Functions	3,500	1,010	2,500
Sponsorship	2,000	0	0
Interest	30	12	10
Donation	0	0	0
VP Fund Transfer	500	0	500
Total Income	24,380	15,293	21,705
Expenditure:			
Umpires & Scorers	2,750	1,215	3,150
Match Expenses	11,000	5,406	11,700
Social Functions	3,500	1,321	2,500
Golf Society	650	279	600
Printing & Stationery	1,200	819	1,000
Equipment	600	0	800
Secretarial	100	60	100
Subscriptions	75	75	75
Insurance	600	567	625
Website maintenance	150	376	750
Awards	600	394	350
Donations	0	250	0
Total Expenditure	21,225	10,762	21,650
Surplus/(Deficit)	3,155	4,531	55

MJ Charman
Treasurer Sussex Martlets
29/1/2021

Registration number: 10649966

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

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Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Company Information

Chairman	Mr S D Ritchie
Directors	Mr S D Ritchie Mr M J Charman Mr A G Newman
Registered office	Ground Floor, Afon House Worthing Road Horsham West Sussex RH12 1TL

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Directors of the company

The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

Mr S D Ritchie - Chairman

Mr M J Charman

Mr A G Newman

Principal activity

The principal activity of the company is the administration of a members' sports club.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board on 8 February 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mr S D Ritchie
Chairman

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Turnover		<u>15,293</u>	<u>24,006</u>
Gross surplus		15,293	24,006
Administrative expenses		<u>(10,762)</u>	<u>(22,588)</u>
Operating surplus		<u>4,531</u>	<u>1,418</u>
Surplus before tax		<u>4,531</u>	<u>1,418</u>
Surplus for the financial year		<u><u>4,531</u></u>	<u><u>1,418</u></u>

The above results were derived from continuing operations.

The company has no recognised gains or losses for the year other than the results above.

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Surplus for the year	<u>4,531</u>	<u>1,418</u>
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u><u>4,531</u></u>	<u><u>1,418</u></u>

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

(Registration number: 10649966) Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Current assets			
Stocks	4	1,540	1,540
Debtors	5	-	999
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>18,582</u>	<u>12,101</u>
		20,122	14,640
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>(8,016)</u>	<u>(7,065)</u>
Net assets		<u>12,106</u>	<u>7,575</u>
Reserves			
Income and expenditure account		<u>12,106</u>	<u>7,575</u>
Total reserves		<u>12,106</u>	<u>7,575</u>

For the financial year ending 31 December 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved and authorised by the Board on 8 February 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Mr S D Ritchie
Chairman

.....

Mr M J Charman
Director

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Statement of Changes in Reserves for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Income and expenditure account £	Total £
At 1 January 2020	7,575	7,575
Surplus for the year	4,531	4,531
Total comprehensive income	4,531	4,531
At 31 December 2020	12,106	12,106

	Income and expenditure account £	Total £
At 1 January 2019	6,157	6,157
Surplus for the year	1,418	1,418
Total comprehensive income	1,418	1,418
At 31 December 2019	7,575	7,575

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Notes to the Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1 General information

The company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Ground Floor, Afon House
Worthing Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 1TL
England

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1A - 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 105 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the Micro-entities Regime'.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention except that as disclosed in the accounting policies certain items are shown at fair value.

Revenue recognition

Turnover comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods and provision of services in the ordinary course of the company's activities. Turnover is shown net of sales/value added tax, returns, rebates and discounts.

The company recognises revenue when:

The amount of revenue can be reliably measured;

it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity;

and specific criteria have been met for each of the company's activities.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and at bank and other short-term highly liquid bank deposits.

Trade debtors

Debtors do not carry any interest and are stated at their nominal value. Appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts are recognised in the income and expenditure account when there is objective evidence that the asset is impaired.

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Notes to the Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. At each reporting date, stocks are assessed for impairment. If stocks are impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price and the impairment loss is recognised immediately in the income and expenditure account.

3 Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the company (including directors) during the year, was 3 (2019 - 3).

4 Stocks

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other inventories	<u>1,540</u>	<u>1,540</u>

5 Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Prepayments	<u>-</u>	<u>999</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>999</u>

6 Creditors

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Due within one year		
Accruals and deferred income	826	555
Other creditors	<u>7,190</u>	<u>6,510</u>
	<u>8,016</u>	<u>7,065</u>

Creditors includes the balance on the Harrison Vice Presidents' Fund of £7,190 (2019 - £6,510) at the balance sheet date.

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Detailed Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Turnover	15,293	24,006
Gross surplus (%)	100%	100%
Administrative expenses		
General administrative expenses	<u>(10,762)</u>	<u>(22,588)</u>
Operating surplus	<u>4,531</u>	<u>1,418</u>
Surplus before tax	<u><u>4,531</u></u>	<u><u>1,418</u></u>

Sussex Martlets Cricket Club Limited

Detailed Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Turnover		
Subscriptions	9,234	10,159
Entrance fees	460	40
Match fees	4,577	6,726
Social functions	1,010	3,532
Donations	-	2,200
Sponsorship	-	1,000
Sale of blazers	-	328
Interest received	12	21
	<u>15,293</u>	<u>24,006</u>
Expenditure		
Donations	(250)	-
Umpires and scorers	(1,215)	(2,545)
Match expenses	(5,406)	(9,374)
Social functions	(1,321)	(3,380)
Golf Society	(279)	(550)
Printing and stationery	(819)	(945)
Equipment	-	(738)
Secretarial	(60)	(54)
Subscriptions	(75)	(75)
Insurance	(567)	(578)
Website maintenance	(376)	(411)
Awards	(394)	(128)
Cost of sales - blazers	-	(328)
Transfer to Harrison VP Fund	-	(3,205)
Write off of Premium Bonds	-	(277)
	<u>(10,762)</u>	<u>(22,588)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.



THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

**Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting of The Sussex Martlets
Held on Monday 16 March 2020, at 7.00pm
at The Long Room, The Sussex County Cricket Ground, Eaton Road, Hove, BN3 3AN**

Present: Brian O’Gorman (President), Stuart Ritchie (Chairman), Mike Charman (Treasurer), Desmond Devitt, Mark Jeffries, Paul Lack, Darryl Rebbetts, Nigel Russell, Phil Savage and Paul Walker.

Welcome and Chairman’s Introduction

I would like to give a very warm welcome to all attending the AGM this evening.

I understand these are concerning times and I understand for many of our members it has not been a straightforward decision to attend this evening. For those that have attended, I am grateful to you for making the choice to be here this evening.

I have previously announced that I have decided to conclude my term as chairman at the 2021 AGM. Although this is a year earlier than announced last year, I feel it is right as I will then have served six years as chairman and prior to that two years as treasurer. Much has been accomplished in this period and I am confident the Club will do well in the future. I must add it has been a privilege to serve.

The Chairman then turned to our business for this evening.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from 50 members:

John Ashworth, Johnny Barclay, Nick Beechey, John Bettridge, Martin Bodenham, David Bowden, Neil Bushell, Robin Carr, Bob Daisley, Adrian Ford, Robert Forster, Jim Gatherum, Chris Gray, Tony Gibbs, John Goodacre, Nicholas Hamilton, Mike Harrison, Peter Hartland, Charlie Hartridge, John Hartridge, Andrew Hartridge, George Hill, Daniel James, Keith Jenkin, Omkar Khot, Robert Lagden, Ted Lewis, Hector Loughton, Michael Loveday, James Meynell, Terry Moore, Dave Morris, Les Newcombe, Alan Newman, Colin Oliver-Redgate, Ron Pateman, Barry Peay, Michael Phillipps, David Pullan, Peter Ross, Richard Seager, Chris Snell, Tony Spicer, David Talalla, Zac Toumazi, Chris Tucker, Alan Wadey, Adrian White, Geoff Wills and Jonathan Wills.

2. Minutes of the 2019 AGM

The minutes of the 2019 AGM had been published ahead of the meeting and no changes had been notified ahead of the meeting. The minutes were approved.

3. Matters arising from the 2019 Minutes

The chairman reported he was not aware of any matters arising not otherwise going to be

covered in the meeting save for the subject of sponsorship. He reported:

“In as long as I have served on the committee, there has been a suggestion that the Club should be able to secure sponsorship, but no one has come forward to take on this role.

Last autumn, I offered to do just that, and put forward a comprehensive proposal to put the Club in a position where it could pitch for sponsorship from the membership and from businesses whose values aligned with the Club. The approach was predicated on the approach advocated by John Goodacre at the 2019 AGM and which he followed up with a long and detailed email to the committee.

That approach is about to go live with:

- a) An updated website that takes the best content of the old website with a more modern approach
- b) The issue of a sponsorship brochure which makes a compelling offer to prospective sponsors in return for a fair engagement with our members.
- c) Email to all members about the introduction of our sponsorship approach and giving assurance over the use of personal data and the protection of personal privacy
- d) Letter to all members with an A5 copy of the sponsorship brochure inviting their positive response.
- e) Letter to businesses with an A4 copy of the sponsorship brochure likewise inviting their positive response.

It seemed to me that as a Club we needed to find out if actually the Club had a viable sponsorship offer or not and I believe we have reached a stage where we will find that out in the next month. Our timing to market is unfortunate giving the coronavirus pandemic but I have reasons to think it will be well received.

Already I have a repeat of last year's £1,000 sponsorship offer which I suspect will be subject to the Sussex county championship game going ahead at Arundel at the end of June. I also have had a conversation with another member of the Club who talked in terms of a £2,000 sponsorship and now that the website and brochure are ready, I can follow up on that conversation.

The forecast sent out in advance of this meeting includes expected income of £1,000 and I am hopeful we will beat that target this year. Even if the approach does not get traction this year due to coronavirus, establishing this approach this year gives the Club a foundation on which to build in future years.

The costs of this comprehensive proposal are circa £4,000 and have been met by my business in their entirety in return for a five year deal where the two brands of my business will be Principal Sponsor and a Club sponsor. I declared an interest in this transaction and took no part in the committee decision of its approval.

There are varying levels where members of the Club can give their support from simply coming to the Arundel matches for lunch right through to becoming a Club Sponsor or the Junior Martlets Sponsor. I very much hope you will response positively to this initiative.”

There was a discussion regarding the approach being taken. There was one suggestion that the Club consider if a multi-year offer could be put together to secure sponsorship for more than just a single year, in a way that perhaps addressed the issue of taking this sponsorship proposal to potential sponsors during the coronavirus pandemic, which clearly was not ideal from the

point of view of the Club. The chairman would consider this, liaising with particular members of the committee and also seeking the views of John Goodacre and the Sussex CCC commercial director Tony Cottey as appropriate.

Post Meeting Note:

The committee have, since the AGM, decided to defer launching this sponsorship approach, save for publishing the new website.

4. Committee Reports

a. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported:

"I am pleased to say that the Sussex Martlets had a good year in 2019. There is much to celebrate.

Our mantra of Sussex Martlets cricket being aspirational and inclusive, whilst respecting our traditions, has meant that the Club continues to be well regarded.

The real evidence of this is when you see Martlets taking to the cricket field or golf course or the real tennis court or one of our social events and I encourage you all to take part or attend our matches and events.

Notably, our cricket results have taken an upturn, and we have won more games than lost this last season. Importantly our cricket continues to be played in the right spirit where our teams strive to win while playing fairly. There have consequently been a number of exceptionally close games and it is right to conclude The Sussex Martlets continues to play declaration cricket very well.

The quality of our fixtures remains high. For the second year we had a fixture at Wormsley against the Sir John Paul Getty XI and it is pleasing to note we will be hosting a reciprocal fixture this year at Arundel. On the subject of Arundel, our spiritual home, we will have six games this coming year culminating in the Club day on Friday 14 August where the Club plays our Juniors – and all are welcome to attend this fixture.

Talking of Arundel, strong relationships are maintained with the Friends of Arundel Castle Cricket Club, where I serve on the board of directors to represent the interests of the Sussex Martlets. I shall seek to meet with Rob Andrew in his capacity as chief executive of Sussex Cricket during the course of this year. It seems important to me to keep reinforcing these existing relationships and to continue supporting both the cricketing missions of Arundel and Sussex to ensure the cause of the Sussex Martlets continues to be well recognised.

Last year, in respect of the Sussex Martlets, I received the assurance of the chairman and treasurer of the Friends of Arundel Castle Cricket Club that there was no intention to reduce our seven games and once the new lease was in place, I was advised that the Club should receive a letter of comfort to that effect. I shall now procure that letter.

Last year, I also advised the Club can in no way be perceived as ever taking for granted any playing rights at Arundel. At risk of repeating myself, we have to put out the best sides we can for our fixtures at Arundel. We have to adhere to the finest standards of cricket at Arundel. We should provide only officials of the right standard for our games. We should expect our

opposition to live by these same standards.

And I also said last year we must pay our way properly at Arundel. If we do all of these things, then I remain confident that we will maintain our playing privileges at Arundel Castle. That is certainly my hope and one which I also hope is shared unreservedly by members of the Club.

With Alan Newman as our fixture secretary, we have an excellent fixture list for the season this year. I fear however that we will lose fixtures at the start of the 2020 season due to coronavirus.

The Sussex Martlets Over 40's side goes from strength to strength, and all it needs is to find winning ways! Our Over 40's fixtures are proving popular, being midweek afternoon matches and occasional Sunday afternoon matches, and a strong band of cricketers has been assembled to represent the Club in this form of age grade cricket. The Over 40's now have a fixture list of ten games for the forthcoming season.

I will speak later on the subject of real tennis, save to say that I am encouraged by this initiative.

None of this, of course, would be possible without the dedication of a band of volunteers who make possible all our sport for the Sussex Martlets and I give my thanks to all members of the committee who organise the Club's activities.

In particular I need to tell you about a number of changes, some immediate and others in the future:

- i. As reported last year, John Bettridge approached me to say that he would stand down from organising the Martlet Juniors after the 2020 season. John has given fair notice of his intentions and we should be grateful for that as well as his unbridled enthusiasm in organising our junior cricket. I remain in no doubt that finding a successor for John will be one of the most important tasks undertaken by the committee in the next year and as soon as I have more to report on that subject, I will of course do so.
- ii. Mike Charman has approached me to say that he should stand down from looking after our finances from the 2021 AGM. Mike is utterly dependable and finding a replacement will also be a tall order, but one which the committee should take on in the coming year.
- iii. As reported last year, Brian O'Gorman has said to me that he sees himself as a single term President, and so will continue to March 2021. As he would say himself, there are many good Martlets who could be President of this Club. That seems to me to be a quite selfless approach and entirely consistent with his life-long devotion to the Club.
- iv. As mentioned earlier, and announced in February, I will serve as Chairman of the Sussex Martlets for a further year and will stand down at the 2021 AGM. I have indicated to the committee that they should appoint a successor at their April meeting, so that person has the benefit of shadowing my role over the coming year.

In summary, there is much change afoot together with a raft of challenges to be met by your committee and the Club. I am however optimistic your committee will meet these challenges with a great deal of success along the way.

In closing therefore, as always, I look forward to seeing you on a cricket field, or a golf course, or a real tennis court in Sussex as we have a great season planned for this year."

b. Cricket Report

Darryl Rebbetts reported as follows:

“Played 33, Won 16, Lost 10, Drew 2, 5 Abandoned

The most entertaining game was against the Juniors on the Vice Presidents’ Day at Arundel. Victory for the Juniors should have been assured but for 3 wickets lost in the final overs, before the win was secured with two balls spare.

Other notable games were:

- i. West Chiltington and Thakeham – the Martlets scored 302-4 in 46 overs and the number 11 batsman of the opposition was bowled with the penultimate ball of the game.
- ii. The marquee fixture against the MCC at Arundel. Dan Smith’s century rescued a Martlets collapse only for the MCC to overhaul our total in the penultimate over.
- iii. The match against Ardingly College included a match winning 183 not out from Tom Clark – who has gone on to play for Sussex CCC

Centuries were scored by Jens Richardson against Lancing Rovers, Henry Blackwell and Darryl Rebbetts against Eton Ramblers, Peter Lamb and Michael Murray against Hampshire Hogs (remarkably Michael’s first ever Martlets century), Jens Moller against The Butterflies, Abi Raut against West Chiltington and Thakeham, Toby Pullan against Horsham (as mentioned), Dan Smith against MCC and Hector Loughton against Band of Brothers. Hector Loughton (again) took the only five wickets haul against West Chiltington and Thakeham.”

c. Junior Martlets Report

In the absence of John Bettridge, the Chairman read his report as follows:

“Junior Martlets 2019
Played 5 Won 5 Cancelled 1

The record gives a clear indication that this was not at all a bad year for the Juniors! The story behind the figures shows that there is considerable enthusiasm to play for the Martlets but some disappointment too that the weather and other factors restricted the chances to participate to a degree.

There were 2 successes of particular note;

1. The winning of the Chris Snell Salver for the T20 Tournament between the three county wandering clubs.
2. Beating the Martlets at Arundel on the Vice Presidents Day.

Rain led to the cancellation of the first game against the Hampshire Hoggetts. This was followed by an all too easy victory over the Junior Band of Brothers, where 61 all out played 62-1. We beat both the Hoggetts and the Band of Brothers in the T20. Against the latter we amassed 232 runs, high for T20 game but more outstanding was Toby Shepperson’s 116. After some very close and exciting games against our elders and betters at Arundel the Juniors pulled off a victory, despite slowing down the pace at the end just to add to the excitement. Toby Shepperson’s 92 and Joe Willis’s 49 were of particular note. The final win was a comfortable one against the Brighton & Hove City Club’s XI.

This victory marked the end of the Junior Martlets short summer holiday season and they ended with a fine record. I would like to thank all who played for their enthusiasm, loyalty and obvious enjoyment of Martlets cricket. Nathan Cooper has been a fine captain, often selfless in his approach in order to make sure others have an opportunity before himself. Nothing would happen without the help from the parents, who drive and support. Finally, I have a special word of thanks to Michael Foreman who is a genius at finding me new players for the Club."

d. Martlets Over 40s Report

Phil Savage gave the report of Alan Newman as follows:

"Played 6, Won 1 ,Tied 1, Drawn2 , Lost 2, Cancelled 4

In what will be my only report as the Over40s Interim Manager, I can report that it was a season of "what might have been".

Having inherited a finely tuned and able squad from the guiding force of John Goodacre, the selected eleven nearly a year older and no wiser, navigated their way to Heathfield Park in May only to be thwarted by an ever increasing drizzle, even getting changed into whites as the precipitation eased briefly. Always better to ease gently into the season! We did of course eat tea and go to the pub.

Next were the Dutch Flamingoes / Red & White led by the perennially enthusiastic Jaap Vogelaar and they provided us with the only victory of the season despite us being a man down due to last minute work pressures for the match manager - a comfortable victory by 7 wickets on the John Dew Ground at Horsham.

Difficult availability for the Forty Club produced the first of two such casualties, Cuckfield being the other, in both cases , neither club had a full side confirmed. Both to be tried again in 2020 maybe on different dates.

Rottingdean claimed a rare victory after our run chase lost its way, finishing 41 short but the Fish and Chips on the seafront provided some compensation.

Next came the Bradman Foundation on the main ground at Horsham, a key moment being the recruitment by the BF XI, the previous evening, of that well- known overseas in Sussex, Toby Pullan. Displaying his uncanny knack of finding easy runs, he displayed his true Martlet colours by taking a century, a couple of wickets and catches off us, needless to say his Martlet membership is now under review after we came a distant second in a high-scoring rain interrupted 35 over game.

We had the better of a draw at Wadhurst, Streat fell victim to the weather, leaving us another year to contemplate the temptation of Stan Spiegel's bowling.

So to St James, with Neil Bushell engaged on a walk between pubs on the South Downs thus taking an extremely neutral position by not even being present. We fielded and bowled well restricting SJM to 172 all out, our reply ebbed and flowed and looked to be heading for defeat but Mark Trubshaw batted our way back into it so that we needed 3 off the last ball and managed 2, finishing 9 down, possibly the first tie in Martlets over 40's matches and certainly a fine game!

The season concluded similarly in a timed game in the picturesque surroundings of Petworth as

again we looked to be heading for a draw but this time Mark Chapple put us back on track so we needed 4 off the last ball, again managing 2 this time to draw with 2 wickets in hand.

In summary, you could say we were 3 runs from a 3 win season. That, however, is less important than the cricket played, the new (old) recruits to the Martlet cause and the team spirit, good humour and camaraderie of this developing Martlet squad.

Next year we will again be a year older and still no wiser, hoping for good weather and victory over new Australian tourists. Hopefully under my successor Phil Savage's guidance, we will play some cricket at some point although I would imagine that is by no means guaranteed unless the situation is brought under control."

e. Golfing Society Report

The chairman read Adrian White's report as follows:

"Of our 8 matches, we won 2, lost 4, drew 1 and 1 was rained off.

Robert Reed was once again kind enough to arrange the annual Sussex Martlets Golf meeting at Mannings Heath GC. 12 Martlet members both cricketers and golfers played for the trophy which was won (retained) by Steve Pook after a fine round. We enjoyed an excellent lunch including some of the Mannings Estate wines.

Once again we held an Invitation event at West Sussex Golf Club when we were pleased to see two golfers from each of Rye, West Sussex, Royal Ashdown, Cooden Beach, Piltown and Crowborough Beacon Golf Clubs join us for lunch and a foursomes stableford

During the year we were delighted to welcome new members Martin Phillimore, James Stedman, David Moffatt, Will Rydon and Jonny Heaven to our Golfing Society.

My term as Hon Sec has come to an end after some 9 years. I am delighted to propose Robert Forster as the new Hon Sec. He is a fine golfer, a member at West Sussex (the Martlets Golfing Society's home course). With a son also a member at West Sussex and a Martlet, I have no doubt he will bring a new emphasis and younger members into the Society."

f. Real Tennis Report

The Chairman reported:

"Last year we took a tentative step to reintroduce real tennis into the curriculum of the Sussex Martlets in an initiative now taken forward by myself and Mark Stevenson. Our morning sessions at Petworth House Tennis Court followed by a convivial lunch in the Club room, is much enjoyable and is being repeated periodically. In the offing are matches against Petworth House and possibly a game at Lords."

g. Social Secretary Report

Paul Walker reported:

"The main social events in 2019 included the FACCC Spring Lunch, Sussex v Australia A at Arundel, FACCC Christmas lunch and the club dinner.

The Aussie lunch was fun, albeit the day was a little soggy.

A 20/20 night at Hove had been mooted but sadly did not happen due to a rather disappointing response from members.

The Club dinner survived a speech by yours truly, perhaps because of the lovely folk who attended and some very delicious food.

Book early for this Autumn and I promise you won't hear my dulcet tones again!

Events under consideration for this summer include Arundel matches and a 20/20 night at Hove. It would be great to see as many members and their friends and family at these events as possible.

Please feel free to contact me by email or mobile with any ideas for social events".

5. To approve the accounts for the Year Ending 31st December 2019

Mike Charman reported:

a. Annual accounts

I am delighted to be able to start this report by pointing out that for the first time for a few years the accounts reflect a surplus in excess of £1,400 which is a turn-round of in round terms of £2,500 on 2018. This surplus could have been declared as £3,400 but a decision was made to treat a legacy from the estate of our late patron, Lady Mary Herries, as a donation to the Harrison VP Fund.

He further noted:

- i. Last year's subscription income of £10,500 included a debtor of £2,745 which has been recovered in full. There are still a few overdue subs from previous years and work continues apace to collect any major amounts outstanding and to convert payments to Direct Debit to make future subscription changes easier to implement.
- ii. Although it appears there has been a reduction in collection of match fees this is in fact more than matched by a reduction in expenses but there is still a deficit in playing activities.
- iii. A further saving of nearly £300 was achieved in the printing and distribution of the newsletter and fixture card.
- iv. The Harrison Vice Presidents Fund was not used this year and the action in last year's minutes to re-instate the £1,205 used to part-finance the 2017 Dublin Tour has been implemented along with Lady Mary's legacy being transferred to the Fund. At 31 December the Fund stood at £6,510 and I am pleased to report that further donations of £535 have already been received this year. Stuart will report shortly on the future operation of the Fund.
- v. As agreed at last year's AGM we suspended our donation to the Sussex Cricket Foundation and will do so again in 2020 but will continue to review the decision each year as we believe that support of the SCF is in line with the Martlets ethos.
- vi. Passing now to the balance sheet, I mention 2 items, namely the Premium Bonds and the Prepayments. It has proved impossible to recover the investment made many years ago in the Bonds and therefore it has been agreed to write them off. The prepayments were for a table at the Old Hurstjohnian's Centenary Dinner at Lords in February which was paid for in 2019 and this amount has been recovered

in full.

The accounts were approved.

b. Subscriptions and match fees

There are no proposals to alter these items in 2020 but there has been a minor rationalisation over 40's fixture match fees and a clarification of who constitutes a non-playing member.

c. 2020 Forecast

The forecast was approved by the Committee before we had hardly heard of coronavirus and we cannot therefore predict at this stage what effect recent and future events will have on cricket in 2020 and subsequently on our budget.

We now believe we have a more accurate breakdown of our membership and have used this to forecast the subs income.

We believe the member who provided the generous sponsorship last year will do so again in 2020 but this is separate to the plans which Stuart will soon be informing you of in writing, which we hope will at least match the figure shown.

Costs of staging cricket, especially at Arundel, continue to rise and we are monitoring whether we need to review the number of matches and the contribution of opponents towards these costs.

6. Report on the Harrison Vice Presidents Fund

The Chairman reported:

“The President has reported twice to the Vice Presidents this year on the state of the Fund. In summary:

The Club's accounts have been published. The balance at 1 January 2019 stood at £3,055, one donation of £250 was received and there was a transfer of £3,205 from the Club's General Fund comprising £1,205 to replenish the amount used from the Fund in respect of the Tour to Dublin in 2017 and £2,000 comprising the legacy left to the Club in the Will of Lady Herries, better known to us all as Lady Mary Mumford. This results in the Fund having a balance of 31 December 2019 of £6,510.

The Fund continues to be administered by the President and Chairman of The Sussex Martlets and one other Vice President who is not a member of the Committee, who is presently Chris Snell, who are collectively known as the Fund Managers.

The current proposals for the current year are as follows:

- a) £500 towards the cost of the Martlets v Juniors Martlets match at Arundel Castle (this year being held on Friday 14 August);
- b) Cost of caps for the Junior Martlets, so all members of the team can wear identical headgear of the Club, such expenditure not expected to exceed £200; and
- c) Bench in memory of Lady Mary Mumford to be placed at Arundel Castle cricket ground, such expenditure expected to be around £500.

At the present time, there are no other proposals to use the Fund in the forthcoming season but there is a further meeting of the Committee in April and if there are any further suggestions from Vice Presidents as to how the Fund should be used in the forthcoming season, please would you write or telephone the President with your suggestions”.

There was a discussion regarding the future use of the Fund and in particular it was confirmed by the Chairman the use the Fund was put to this year did not set a precedent for the future, which could be determined each year depending on the proposals brought forward and if they met with the approval of the Fund Managers.

7. To note the Management Document of the Committee (revised February 2020)

The Chairman noted that within the papers for the meeting was the revised Management Document as updated in February 2020 by the Committee together with a briefing document prepared by himself summarising the changes made.

As these papers have been tabled ahead of the meeting, and considered carefully by the committee, the chairman did not propose taking the meeting through the changes other than to note:

- i) It is recognised the Club is now an incorporated entity
- ii) The procedures for the appointment of our Patron are included
- iii) The procedures for the appointment of our Vice Presidents are included
- iv) The rules relating to the Harrison Vice Presidents Fund are now included
- v) The special relationship with Arundel Castle is given due prominence
- vi) There is now a minimum reserves policy in that the Club should hold not less than £10,000 in General Reserves.

The revised Management Document (revised February 2020) was duly noted.

8. To receive a report on the Members’ Survey

Mark Jeffries reported:

“At the October committee meeting last year I suggested to my fellow committee members that we carry out a survey to gain an understanding of how our members, our most valuable asset, feel about the club. We wanted to gain an understanding of their views about the club in general and ask what is working, what are you happy with, and areas where there could be room for improvement.

The survey was sent out in November to all of our members and 27% of you gave your valuable time to complete the task. The data tells us that a further 22% took the time to look at the survey but didn’t quite get around to completing it. Maybe next time!!

The responses gave us a good insight to your thoughts, views and suggestions. We have summarised the responses for you all to take a quick peek through at your leisure.....

Fixtures: The general view is that we are playing a good standard of fixtures across our sporting offering. This is great to hear. There is also an indication that we could do more to encourage more people to play, suggestions being to play more cricket matches in East Sussex, look at more of the Over 40’s fixtures start at 2pm and look to have a wider variety of golfing fixtures.

Membership, Supporters and Volunteers: A vast majority of members think the membership fees represent good value for money. There are of course one or two detractors', so we'll work on trying to improve our offering and win them round!

With regard to support for our fixtures, a third of the membership that completed the questionnaire stated that they attended fixtures to support our teams, on an average of 3 times a season.

We had quite a positive response on the subject of volunteering. A number of members showed interest in becoming match managers, umpires or scorers so, if you were one of those members can you please make yourself known! However, there was less of an appetite to volunteers for social events.

Annual Dinner: This split our membership with two thirds of the responses thinking the annual dinner was an important part of the season and a third thinking otherwise. Various comments were made on how we could look to improve the event such as a change of location, moving it to a lunch, engaging a renowned speaker. We accept that we need to promote the dinner better throughout the season and we need to encourage some of younger members to pull a table together and celebrate the season. The committee will be reviewing the suggestions to see what is possible for future dinners.

Communications: The general view is that the levels of communication are sufficient with The Martlet newsletter and the website being the most acknowledged forms. The committee have been working hard on communications and we want to raise from "sufficient" to "excellent"! We are also working on a new website with a view to attracting sponsors to help elevate and promote our club to wider audiences.

Financial: On the financial side we are looking how to increase our funds by looking at sponsorship, donations, a raffle at the annual dinner. Additional suggestions received from you were to seek contributions from the schools and the MCC for Arundel matches or to play less at Arundel. The committee continue to work through options as to how we best tackle this. A suggestion of a "three man think tank" is a good idea!

VP Day: We all appreciate the importance of VP Day. A day much enjoyed by many of you over the years in its current format, but wouldn't it be great to make more of a day of it for all? We note that we need to promote this day more and more throughout the summer leading up to the event. The suggestion of a BBQ towards the end of the day was well supported and from early engagement with Arundel this is not out of the question. If we can make this a day for families to come along to and enjoy some of the cricket on offer and a BBQ and a drink as play nears its conclusion, we have a chance to create a great atmosphere. The bar doesn't have to close at 7pm sharp!

General Comments: The overall view is that the club is generally being run quite well. Yes, there are areas for additional focus and the committee firmly believe that we have that in hand. The club is considered to be more socially inclusive than it once was, and we need to keep building on that. We'll get some fresh eyes on this and chat to you all throughout the season to see out what floats your boats. We'd like to propose offerings that are suggested to us rather than just the committee coming up with some ideas!

Thanks again to those who completed the survey and thanks to those of you who took the time to read the findings".

9. To note the retirement of Adrian White from the Committee

The Chairman reported Adrian White completes his current three year term and retires from the committee at this Annual General Meeting and he had our grateful thanks for his contribution to the committee. He noted Adrian was proposed as a Vice President and would speak more on this point later.

10. To elect Officers and other Committee Members for 2019

The Chairman said he would record in the minutes of the meeting the current term of the Club's officers for future record before dealing with the appointments listed on the meeting agenda.

a. Chairman

The Chairman is starting year two of a three year term. There is therefore no election for this position, and it was noted his plan was to stand down at the 2021 AGM.

b. Secretary

Alan Newman as Hon Secretary was starting year three of a three year term. There was therefore no election for this position.

c. Treasurer

Mike Charman as Hon Treasurer was starting year two of a three year term. There was therefore no election for this position, and it was noted his plan to stand down at the 2021 AGM.

d. Fixtures Secretary

Alan Newman fulfils this role in addition to being Hon. Secretary. There is therefore no election for this position.

e. Co-Chairman of Cricket sub-committee

Mark Trubshaw and Darryl Rebbetts are starting year two of a three year term. There is therefore no election for this position.

f. Junior Martlets Manager

As noted on the agenda, John Bettridge completes his current three year term as Junior Martlets Manager and offered himself for re-election for a further year.

Proposed by Brian O'Gorman and seconded by Stuart Ritchie, the appointment was agreed.

g. Martlets Over 40's Manager

As noted on the agenda, Phil Savage offered himself for election for a three year term as Martlets Over 40's Manager.

Proposed by Alan Newman and seconded by Stuart Ritchie, the appointment was agreed.

h. Secretary of Golfing Society

As noted on the agenda, Robert Forster offered himself for election for a three year term as Martlets Golfing Society Secretary.

Proposed by Adrian White and seconded by Stuart Ritchie, the appointment was agreed.

11. To Elect Vice-Presidents

The Chairman reported there were two nominations from the Committee this year for Vice President as follows:

John Goodacre
Adrian White

He reported that John would be well known to many in the Club, as a long standing player, tourist, member of the committee and for taking on the Over 40's cricket with increased success.

He also reported that Adrian would also be well known to many in the Club most recently for completing nine years as Golfing Secretary and previously having played cricket for the Martlets as a young adult.

Both are proposed by the committee and are considered to be well deserving of the appointment as Vice President.

All were in favour of appointing John Goodacre and Adrian White as Vice Presidents of the Club and the Chairman would write to each of them accordingly.

12. To Elect Honorary Members

The Chairman reported there were three nominations from the Committee for Honorary Membership this year as follows:

- a) Willie Bicket
- b) John Guess
- c) David Morgan

Willie was a legendary cricketer of the Club. John was a long standing cricketer and golfer of the Club. Likewise David was a long standing cricketer and golfer of the Club.

All were in favour of appointing Willie Bicket, John Guess and David Morgan as Honorary Members of the Club and the Chairman would write to each of them accordingly.

13. To consider any other business without formal resolution

- a) There was no other business without formal resolution.

The meeting closed at 8.56pm, whereafter supper was taken in the Long Room by the members remaining.

Signed:

Stuart Ritchie
Chairman