

# **HENFIELD CRICKET CLUB**

## **FINANCIAL REPORT 2023 – 2024**

It has been a solid financial year although there are always challenges, with constantly rising costs, in keeping the good ship Henfield C.C. afloat.

Income was up with subs and match fees showing a welcome increase and the bar earning £2500 more this year. Many thanks to Sam who is retiring from managing the bar so effectively and to her team of volunteers. Although it is very weather dependent a total of £10,000 from the bar is a good target to aim for. The 200 Club did not run this year but will be re-instated in 2025 as it is a very good source of income. One area where the club needs to up its game is in fund raising and social events because if we invest in the future of the club with better facilities we need considerably more funds. One welcome new income stream were the sponsors whose banners hang on the perimeter fence and with scope for adding more this year.

Expenditure was well down on last year when we paid for the new nets. However, two major and ongoing cost increases were on grounds maintenance and the £2000 per annum ECB loan replacement. Utilities were up, primarily because of the cost of Calor gas but overall admin and general expenses were on a par with last year. As mentioned earlier grounds costs were higher, and our fairly ancient inventory of grounds equipment needs a lot of attention. Looking ahead to next year the committee has approved replacing the worn carpet tiles in the pavilion which, with the new lighting, will greatly enhance the room, especially for external lettings. The other big investment is for new dome covers to replace the heavy and worn-out current ones. I am hoping that all funds raised by the 200 Club next year will go towards the cost of the covers.

It is only right and proper that I pay tribute to our late President Conway Thorns's huge contribution to the club's finances by running the 200 Club for many years and organising the Grand National draw at the coffee mornings which was always a great money spinner. If there was a particularly recalcitrant non-payer of subs/match fees I would ask Conway to have a word and the culprit would usually pay up the next day!!!

It is my intention to retire from being Treasurer, after a long stint, at the end of the financial year in September 2025 so a willing volunteer is now needed to step up as it will take a while to make the transfer. Please let me know asap if you are interested.

Nicholas Blake

Treasurer