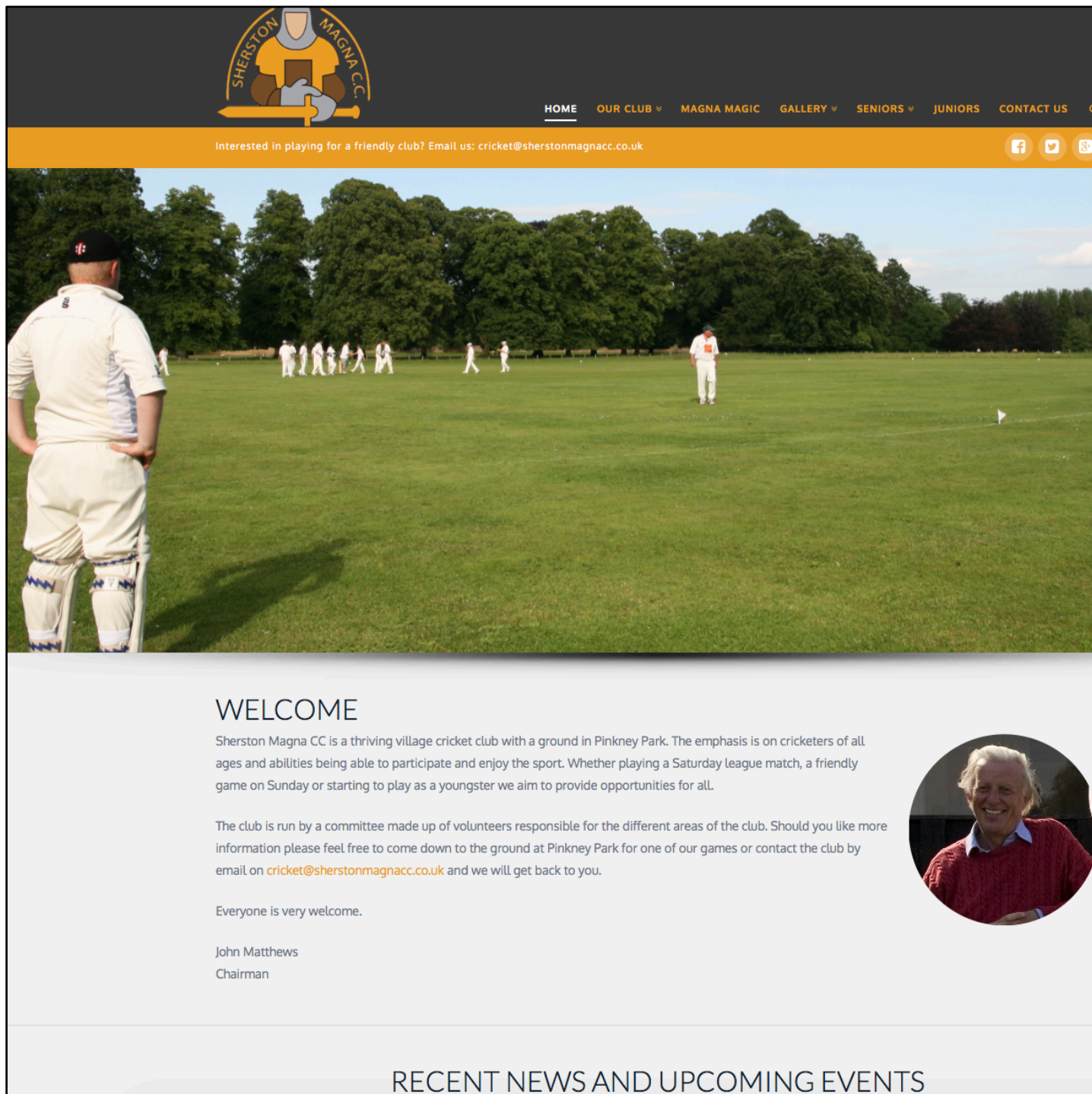


MAGNA MAGIC!

The crickety update for the players, friends and family of Sherston Magna Cricket Club

New Season, New Nets, New Web

Read all about the fantastic club developments inside. Pictured below - our new website homepage.



WELCOME

Sherston Magna CC is a thriving village cricket club with a ground in Pinkney Park. The emphasis is on cricketers of all ages and abilities being able to participate and enjoy the sport. Whether playing a Saturday League match, a friendly game on Sunday or starting to play as a youngster we aim to provide opportunities for all.

The club is run by a committee made up of volunteers responsible for the different areas of the club. Should you like more information please feel free to come down to the ground at Pinkney Park for one of our games or contact the club by email on cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk and we will get back to you.

Everyone is very welcome.

John Matthews
Chairman

RECENT NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

THE CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Announcing a new website, new practice facilities and in anticipation of a summer of cricket, pre-season drinks at Pinkney Park.

The days are getting longer and hopefully warmer, so attention is moving towards a new season.

The club's AGM was held in early February and for my sins I had the honour of being voted in as your chairman for another year. Many of the issues discussed will be reviewed in this publication but if you would like a copy of the minutes they are available via our very own shiny new website which has been constructed by Andy Pegg, for which huge thanks. The web address is www.sherstonmagnacc.co.uk.

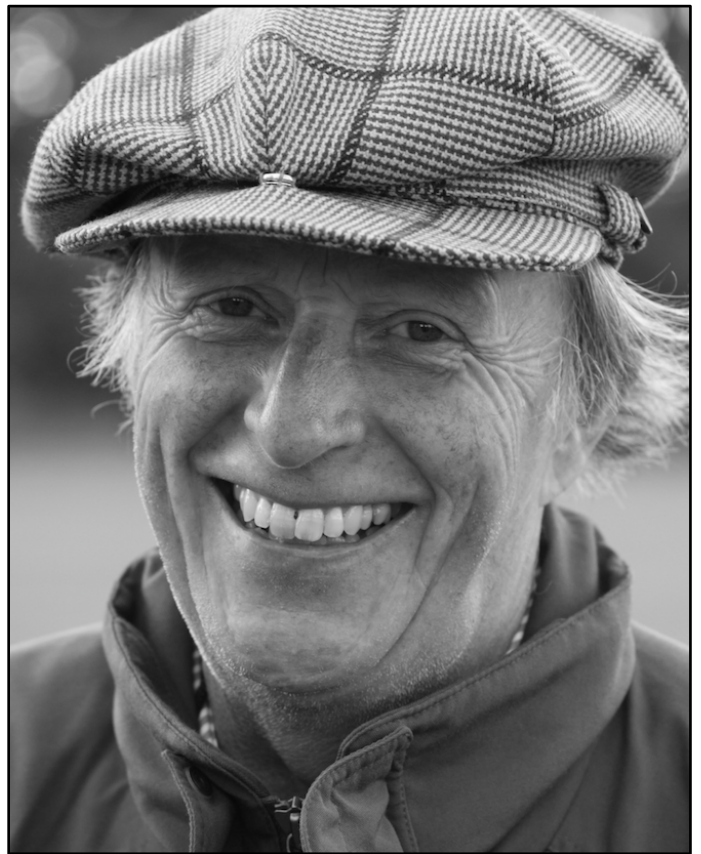
As I hope most of you are aware in the fading summer of last September our much anticipated new practice facilities were installed. This has been achieved by lots of hard work from many members of your club. We do hope all members take advantage of the high quality facilities but please treat them in such a manner that they will last for a long time.

The nets will be officially opened on the 17th May, the exact details of the day are yet to be finalised but we are hoping for all sections of the club to be involved in a fun day of cricket.

Matilda and I would like to invite all senior players, parents of juniors, prospective members, friends and supporters to a drinks party on the 11th April at Pinkney Park starting at 6.30pm

Finally I would like to wish all our teams from U9 to Saturday 1st team a very enjoyable and hopefully successful season.

John Matthews



Handy Andy gets his hammer out and builds a new website!

I am delighted to announce our very own website has launched! sherstonmagnacc.co.uk is our very own custom built website where you can keep up-to-date with all the latest news, Magna Magic articles, fixtures and results.

Please take a look as it will be updated regularly throughout the season with information about the whole club. It is fully responsive, so it will work on every mobile device so you can keep up-to-date wherever you are in the world.

If you have any opinions / suggestions / find any inaccuracies, please contact us on our new email cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk

HOW OUR NEW CLUB FACILITIES TOOK SHAPE



A CAPTAIN'S LOG

An excited captain looks forward to a new season of competitive cricket with a championship already in the bag before an outside ball has been bowled.

Happy New Year to those souls who I haven't managed to see since the exciting 2015 year began. I hope you all have wintered well, I think it's fair to say I have! However I am deep in pre-season training so you shouldn't worry – I will be back to peak fitness come 2nd May. I may have been imagining it but I could have sworn I have seen SMCC members pounding the streets in preparation to be ready to go against Williamstrip.....but maybe I had eaten something dodgy!

Which brings me nicely onto the SMCC pre-season? Obviously you couldn't have missed the avalanche of communications regarding indoor nets. Following the Easter Weekend and utilising the extra hour of light, we will be venturing outside if the weather is kind to us. Watch out for further communications.

I mentioned at the start of this column about 2015 being an exciting year, and especially so for the club. Anyone who has been down to the ground since September can't fail to have noticed that we have an impressive new structure, a two bay full length practice facility. I for one am pretty excited to use them in the coming months. This is thanks to some extremely hard work undertaken by some members of the club to obtain funding from various sources including the ECB. However without Smile Out Loud I don't think we would have got there. So thanks to Nick Burrige for this, a wonderful club evening and also for the fantastic club photo books.



The club has moved to the next level, we have impressive practice facilities, an emerging junior section, an amazing ground to play cricket on and a superb group of people who make this all happen. So a small plea, let's make this season one to remember, one where everyone chips in, everyone pays their sub and most of all everyone has fun!

So back to 2015, it has begun with an undefeated indoor campaign (Champions of the Chippenham Indoor League Division 2) so let's see if we can finish it with a CDCA championship!

Up the Magna!

Skipper

Sherston Sixes registration opens.

This event has now been going for long enough for it to be called the annual Sherston sixes. Those of you who were down at the ground for last year's event will hopefully agree it was another great day of exciting cricket, good food and a few cold drinks.

The date for this year's event has been set for 5th July so if you would like to enter a team please contact cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk visit us at www.sherstonmagnacc.co.uk or speak to James Kutchera.

The makeup of the day is at the committee stage but the day will defiantly include cricket, food and drink and is intended as a fun day for players and spectators.

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Membership fees for 2015 season due

Playing Member £70
Life Member £400
Colts (U16 – U21) £35
Juniors £50 including match fees
Friends £20

Club fees due by May 1st.

Match day fees

Full member £5
Colts £4
Juniors – included in membership

Please can you pay your subs as soon as possible as the club relies on these funds to operate. Thank you.

You can pay by cheque or direct to the cricket club's bank account - email us and we'll send the details.

THE JARVIS'S JUNIOR JOTTINGS

An exciting year in store for the juniors as Sherston Magna CC looks forward to the new season and improved facilities with the fantastic new nets.

Welcome to the Sherston Magna Juniors 2015 season. It is with great excitement we look forward to the development of Sherston Magna Cricket Club with the addition of the new practice facilities.

For the juniors, the committee has discussed the 2015 seasons activities and decided to enter three different age groups into league fixtures: -

- under 11
- under 13
- under 15

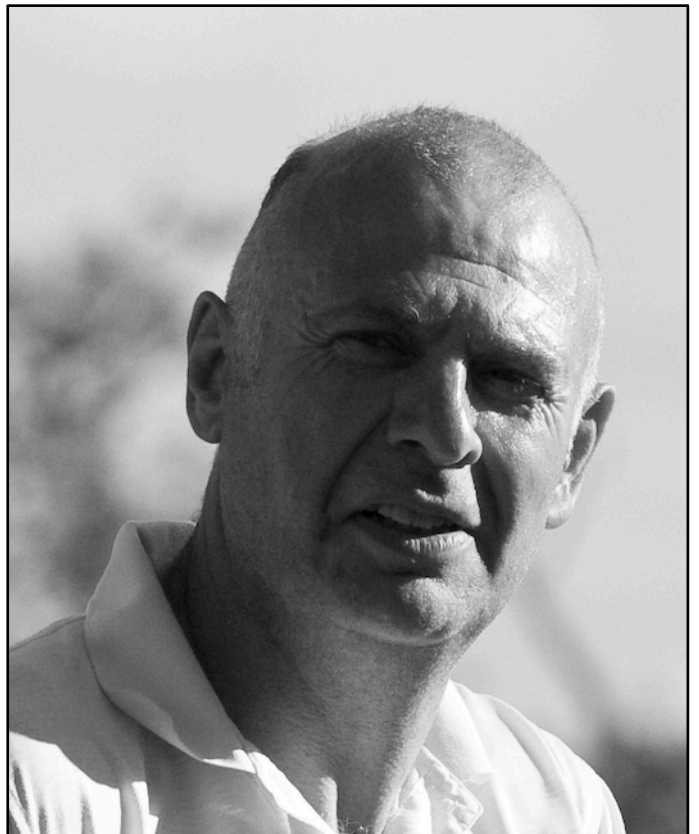
There will also be friendly fixtures organised for the under 9 age group.

The outdoor sessions start on the 13th April at 6.15pm, weather permitting, and will be run as ever by myself and my brother Paul.

While the coaching has been organised each age group needs a team manager, Suzie Power has kindly agreed to take the u11s but the other age groups need filling, if you would like to support the club please let us know by contacting us via cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk.

Looking forward to a great summer.

Andrew



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Groundforce day

Pre-season drinks at Pinkney Park

First Staurday league match

Junior training starts

Junior BBQ

Official Opening of the Nets,

The Sherston Sixes

10am morning of Saturday 11th April.

Saturday 11th April at 6:30pm.

Saturday 2nd May

Monday 13th April at 6:15pm.

Monday 11th May at Junior training.

Sunday 17th May.

Sunday 5th July.



THE SUNDAY CAPTAIN IS CAUGHT REMINISCING

After a successful season last year (regularly getting 11 players on the pitch and winning all but 3 games), it's time to build on what is hopefully now a stable playing platform. There are a number of goals for the Sunday side this year:

1) To build a regular playing Sunday squad good enough and stable enough to re-enter the Sunday League. This will provide competitive cricket for the seniors and expose our up and coming juniors to men's cricket.

2) Prepare our youngsters for playing in the Saturday 11 in their own right.

3) Keep the older guys 'in nick' should the Saturday side need subs and replacements.

4) Have fun, win and be the Sunday fixture that all clubs want on their fixture card every season.

Our ground gets better and better every year, and with the addition of our new nets, I believe we will attract enough players this year to achieve our Sunday goals.

I remember the day that I first got asked to play men's cricket. My mother was making a Sunday roast, my dad was behind the bar (we lived in a pub) and I was 'bottling up' in the yard. The phone rang around 12.45pm ish. I heard mum answer through the open kitchen window and after a brief exchange I heard her say, 'I bet he would love to' and 'what time will he be back?'. It was my old school master who played Sunday cricket. He had been called by Market Drayton's Sunday captain to see if he had any youths that could fill in at the last minute. I was 11 years old. Game on! I dropped what I was doing, ran upstairs, grabbed my white with blue trim Fred Perry shirt and homemade cricket trousers and stuffed them into my mother's hockey bag with some white gym pumps.

They picked me up 15 minutes later and we were off to play Wolverhampton CC, at their place. A Sunday friendly fixture. I couldn't believe it. I was so excited I could barely speak. I sat there in the back of the car listening to my schoolmaster and a couple of the other guys talking about how good the wicked was, would their Saturday 'quickie' be playing? and how to play off the back foot if he was! I remember the cigarette smoke making me feel car sick and pushing my face against the back opening rear windows of his orange VW Beetle. But I didn't complain, or care. The journey was only half an hour. It was a glorious July afternoon. Hot. We got out of the car, dumped our gear outside the pavilion and walked out onto the outfield heading to inspect the wicket. The ground was like Lords to me!. The outfield mowed to perfection, the wicket hard and flat. The pavilion old school wood and painted white. July 1977.

We won the toss and batted. Whilst waiting to bat, Alan Moon (the Sunday skipper) explained the rules of Sunday cricket and taught me the nuances of a declaration game. I remember him distinctly saying that even though it's a friendly we have to win! Something I never forgot ;). I was batting 11. Wolverhampton were a very strong team in those days, and I think they played in the Birmingham league. They quickly had us on the rack and I remember marching out to bat. I took my guard and got ready to face my first ball from their Saturday number one spinner, Asian guy – not sure if Pakistani or Indian?. I was expecting a gentle first ball as I was a kid and they were hammering us out of sight. But no - it was dead flat, viciously spinning, initially drifting away and then spitting back from outside off stump. I played forward, the ball gripped and fizzed past the outside of my front pad and disappeared down the leg side. Phew , I felt relief at facing my first 'grown up delivery' but then instantaneously heard the bails being removed and a large appeal from behind the sticks. I glanced at our square leg umpire and saw him raise the finger of death. Out, stumped. Funnily enough I wasn't that gutted, I was just happy to be there. I spoke with our umpire at tea and he said my back foot was in the air. I don't remember that, but what I do remember is that I learnt from that moment on that sport is competitive. Even on Sundays. I can't remember the exact total but I think we were all out for under a ton.

Having stuffed myself with tea (mainly cheese sandwiches, lemon squash and crisps) we took to the field. They easily chased our total down and beat us comprehensively. I don't remember fielding the ball at all? And I never bowled. But I do remember the early evening swallows skimming the pitch and 20 to 30 locals watching the game and applauding each boundary.

I enjoyed clapping them off the pitch and getting my hand shook by proper cricketers. We changed and headed to the bar. The guy who got me out bought me a coke. I told him you won't get me out like that next time. I remember him saying "we'll see!". The captain asked me if I enjoyed the game and apologised for the opposition being 'over competitive'. I told him that I will never get out like that again, I don't think I ever have to this day. He asked me to play the week after, which I did. I have played this great game at least once a week, every week in summer (apart from holidays) ever since.

30mins later we were back in the smokey old Beetle and driving back to Market Drayton. This time the conversation was not cricket but I didn't really care. The smoke still made me feel sick and I pressed my face to the back opening of the rear window. I was hooked!

Roll on the new season!

lggy.....



SHERSTON MAGNA CC



CLUB SHOP NOW OPEN!



ORDER

NOW - SUN 5th APRIL

DELIVERY

END OF APRIL / EARLY MAY

MON 6th APRIL - SUN 3rd MAY
DELIVERY

END OF MAY

**ALL ORDERS
PROCESSED FROM
CUT OFF DATE**

**ORDER PROMPTLY
IN TIME FOR
START OF SEASON**

DELIVERY AVAILABLE TO YOUR HOME OR CLUB

ALREADY CHAMPIONS IN 2015 BEFORE A BALL IS BOWLED OUTSIDE!

INDOOR SEASON REVIEW BY ANDREW PEGG

After being relegated from Division 1 of Chippenham's Indoor Cricket league last season, our main aim for the season was to get promoted straight back up.

I am pleased to announce that we not only managed to accomplish this but in some style as well. We were promoted with 2 games remaining winning the league with 1 game to spare. Also, we went the whole season unbeaten, winning 9 with the other game a tie!

Most of the wins were convincing, we only lost 2 wickets in the first 4 games! But we also faced some extremely competitive and close games, including a tie against Spye Park A.

The commitment shown by the players has been phenomenal. Most played at least 6 of the 10 games, with 3 players playing almost every game.

The fielding, batting and bowling has been brilliant throughout the season, we scored over 800 runs in total and only lost 23 wickets, while restricting the opposition teams to under 800 runs altogether and taking 47 wickets!

The last game of the season was a dead rubber against Spye Park A, we were both promoted, we had already won the league, it was just pride and our unbeaten streak to play for. It could have been a dull game, but it ended up being the most competitive game of the season.

We won the toss and put Spye Park A into bat, after some below par bowling performances Spye Park A ended up on 120-4 off their 10 overs.

In reply we started well, with Chris Lovell retiring on 25* after 4 overs, but then after some poor batting decisions we left ourselves needing 32 runs to win off of just 2 overs, with 4 wickets down.

Up stepped Richie Cartwright and Harry Stevens. They managed to get 14 off of the penultimate over leaving 18 to win off the last. They sensibly took 3 a ball for the first 4 balls, leaving 6 to win off of the last 2 balls, Richie went for 6, but was caught by a one handed catch on the boundary edge. So 1 ball remaining, 1 wicket left, 6 runs to win, Harry (playing his first cricket match in 9 months!) smacked a full toss for 6 to win, sparking wild celebrations!

I look forward to leading the team into Division 1 next year, and hopefully continuing our winning ways!

DIVISION 2	Played	Won	Tied	Pens.	Runs	Balls	Run Rate	Points
Sherston Magna	10	9	1		821	482	1.703	19
Spye Park A	10	6	1		924	537	1.721	13
Biddestone B	10	6			831	502	1.655	12
Christian Malford	10	5			856	533	1.606	10
Sutton Benger	10	5			728	499	1.459	10
Marshfield B	10	4			1050	584	1.798	8
Spye Park B	10	2			872	559	1.560	4
Golden Fleece	10	2			824	576	1.431	4

The lighter side with the

GLOVE BOX

Our man Matty has been looking into the future, and some may say, with remarkable accuracy...

By the time you are reading this, the Cricket World Cup will be won, and most likely England will be reflecting on what might have been, how that one extra catch or wicket at the right moment might have made all the difference, the fact that the loss to Nepal was probably the big mistake...

You see I am writing this on the eve of the tournament, and I can confirm for the record there is a lot of not-so-quiet optimism that perhaps England are peaking at the right moment, that we have been 'rope-a-doping' the rest of the cricketing world for the last few years, hiding our true talents behind the idea Alastair Cook is a dynamic one day opening batsman.

I'm trying to get excited, but I'm not really. I think I got in to the Big Bash every Saturday morning more than I am going to get in to the World Cup (Jack's team, the Sixers, woz robbed by the way). I think I'm World Cup fatigued. I didn't care about the recent football World Cup as much as I was supposed to according to the media, the rugby World Cup is happening soon but I'm not 100% sure when, there is probably a downhill skiing World Cup or a World Cup for indoor bowls around the corner and at the moment I haven't got my tickets.

I have decided I am going to prefer the fantastic sporting events that aren't World Cups. The Ryder Cup (can sit still for three days solid), a Lions Tour, an Ashes series (even the 0-5 ones).

To try and squeeze some fun out of the Cricket World Cup I thought I would make my predictions, as follows.. and the Editorial team (sic) can vouch for the fact these were written and submitted pre KO.



England won't win it. Australia will win it.

The West Indies will batter someone but otherwise will flatter to deceive with talent like Gayle, Samuels, Pollard and Russell. Pakistan will lose to someone they shouldn't and everyone will know how and why. AB De Villiers will prove he is from another planet. Warner will get involved in verbals with someone and will get admonished and told not to do it again.

Ben Stokes will be missed. Brendon McCullum will prove he is almost my equal as a destructive, world class Keeper / Batsman.

Yours,

Matty

LADIES SECTION: NEW PLAYERS WANTED

Sherston Magna CC are aiming to provide continual opportunities for Women's cricket during the 2015 season by developing the Women's and Girls section at the club.

To get the season started our coaching team will provide some taster sessions in April (dates to be confirmed) for those wishing to participate, and try something new and exciting.

The intention of these training sessions is to provide something for everyone: An opportunity to have fun, get fit, meet new people, and of course learn key cricket skills along the way!

Following these taster sessions we will be offering regular weekly coaching throughout the season, with the aim of establishing a Women's team at the club.

Put your name down, spread the word, and come and join-in one of the most successful, and fastest growing Women's sport in the UK.

If you would like to register your interest, find out more about Sherston Magna Cricket Club, contact us here: sherstonmagnacc.co.uk/contact-us or email us: cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk