

March 2011

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

My 'manifesto' at last year's AGM was 'club, cricket, fun, fundraising and modernity'. After a highly successful 60th Diamond Jubilee year I feel it is appropriate to summarise 2010/11 in 60 brief bullet points under these headings plus most importantly – 'people'.

CLUB

- We achieved outstanding income for the charity whilst maintaining the club ethos at many events/developments e.g.
- The Tarrant music quizzes in Guernsey, Dubai, Lord's and many regions.
- The development of a Golf Society led by Ken New & Marion Buckle with Ken expanding our club golf events.
- The expansion of our membership of like-minded individuals through a more pro-active approach and reduced entry costs.
- The pending establishment of a team led by Richard Groom to drive club non- fund-raising opportunities which will hopefully lead to the resurrection of Bromgrubb (maybe under a new name).
- The 'involvement' of the Regions, who have always been so important to us, has been augmented by the annual regional conference resulting in members appreciating how 'charity' and 'club' can be mutually beneficial.
- We said 'au revoir' this year to one of our great club ambassadors, the hard working Lady President and long driving Rachael Heyhoe-Flint as she was elevated to the House of Lords from little old Wolverhampton. A loss to the Tav's but a bonus to the House. Congratulations, Baroness!
- We continue to acknowledge our heritage through an annual ex Chairman's lunch receiving the wisdom and experience of the likes of eg. Brian Baldock, John Josling, Ken Lawrence and Durdurs of course,
- whilst listening to the views of the YLT generation who are increasingly represented on our excellent Commercial committee.

CRICKET

- Cricket is in our collective DNA and this is highlighted by
- the increasing enthusiasm and involvement of current and recently retired senior cricketers.
- Vince Wells' century at Windsor and Murray Goodwin's 'ton' in Dubai vs Emirates.
- The quality of our Founder's Day event on or off the field
- The success of our table cricket and 'Hit the top' programmes
- The continuing enthusiasm and involvement of our Cricket President Mike Gattling.
- The involvement of the likes of Chris Adams, Martyn Ball and Ian Salisbury on our cricket committee.
- The commitment of Toby Tarrant to compensate for his father's slower ball.
- The enthusiasm of the team in Sark to keep playing when some supporters were watching England's debacle v Germany in the World Cup football.
- Our continuing investment in youth cricket and the Trustees' desire to fund cricket-led projects that provide restricted income as in our disability fundraising.

FUN

You'll know what I mean if you attended -

- The rugby tribute dinner to Jason Leonard
- The joint venture with the Bobby Robson Foundation featuring Sir Alex Ferguson and Harry Redknapp.
- The Christmas lunch with Josh Daniels.
- The pre-season lunch with Michael Vaughan
- Chris Cowdrey trying to control Tommo and Rodney Hogg at the Aussie ODI dinner.
- The Diamond Jubilee cricket opportunity at Lord's on the main square alongside Sam Mendes.
- The DJ Carnaby Street concert with the Bootleg Beatles the Fabba Girls, Gatt & Tarrant.
- Cricket on Sark
- The DJ Ball with the Jersey Boys
- The Ladies at Westminster Abbey (or any ladies event!)
- 300 young people at Hurlingham for another successful Media vs Sales £125k cricket day.

FUNDRAISING

Despite the tough economic environment our fundraising held up admirably thanks to -

- The Diamond Jubilee committee who had 60+ lateral ideas of differing magnitude
- but where the Ball, the St James' Palace dinner and cricket at Lord's were highlights.
- The drive to encourage 'non-event income' through eg.
- Beneficiaries
- Trusts and foundations
- and; importantly long-term corporate relationships including Macquarie, BT & LV =
- Conducting a membership survey which should stimulate new opportunities and ideas
- A great idea like the Fast Bowlers dinner which will always be 'special' and supported by both 'patrons' and sponsors
- And finally Peter Kirvan's 'Comm Comm' and the team at HQ led by Emma on events and Shona on fundraising.

MODERNITY

- Over 100 Ladies took the opportunity to join the Lord's Taverners as voting members.
- An increasing number of Young Lord's Taverners of both genders also joined us as we no longer 'discriminate' by gender or age
- We retained the YLT ethos and culture by appointing a 'YLT events chairman' – Sarah Berman.
- We agreed to reduce Trustees to min 9 max 12 from 18
- We are setting up a Management Committee to replace the Exec representing key working committee Chairmen.
- We welcomed Karen Earl as our first new female Lord's Taverner, outside current Taverners members – a legendary contributor to cricket commercially over many years.
- We're expanding our use of email to membership albeit conscious of spamming issues.
- We've expanded our use of social media like Facebook and Twitter.
- We tried to run a mega concert at Twickenham but sadly failed to find appropriate artistes. However we still have music on our agenda and are beneficiaries of the 'Straits' relaunch shortly at the Royal Albert Hall.
- We're seeking to expand our relationship with recreational cricket through 'Cricket United'.

PEOPLE

- In conclusion I'd like to thank all the volunteers and the HQ team who pro-actively take the initiatives
- Led by Matthew Patten and his team at Buckingham Place supported by eg
- Our outstanding President Chris Tarrant who has worked tirelessly around the country
- Our retiring Trustee Roger Oakley and his cricket committee – on a roll with 3 successive victories over one of our biggest supporters, Emirates
- The legendary Brian Downing with another planned outstanding (Fast Bowlers) dinner next September, already sold out.
- All our Trustees, Regional Chairmen and committees for their drive and energy and in particular our other retiring Trustees. -
- Ex-President Richard Stilgoe, still a charismatic contributor at the piano
- Ex Chairmen Joe Rice, John Hooper and Denise Horne who've put so many hours into the club.
- Ex YLT chairman Simon Cleobury who's extended the dynasty.
- Cricket guru Anthon Wreford and one of our top stage performers ever, Bob the Cat Bevan who was simply outstanding across Australia
- and finally our Patron HRH, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh who hosted a DJ dinner at St James Palace, attended the Windsor cricket match and hosted the County Championship presentation at Buckingham Palace. We celebrate his 90th birthday in June – one of the great Taverner innings.

John Ayling OBE
Chairman of The Lord's Taverners