

Editor – Liz Hornby

NEWSLETTER

February 2004

WAMDSAD PUTS THE FUN BACK INTO FUNDRAISING

2003 was a bumper fundraising year as far as the club was concerned. We raised just over £99,000 which is an incredible amount in just one year.

Principally the money came from two major fundraisers, the Wheelchair Push in July and the Grand Charity Ball in November. The Push raised just over £12,000 and the Ball raised £45,000 enabling us to make a donation to the British Paralympic Association of £15,000 which, they tell us, will be able to send 3 paralympic athletes to Athens this year.

Other fundraisers included two golf days, a Timberland sale, a fantastic evening of Chinese food, and not forgetting various fairs we attended during the year.

These funds make up about 40% of the year's income, and bearing in mind the fundraising target was £30,000

(including the Push) I think that the club should congratulate those that have put in very hard work to make the events so profitable and such fun! The fundraising committee is always on the lookout for new recruits so if you fancy helping them out, please get in touch with John Jenkins.

Some fundraisers to look forward to this year are a Skittles 'n Spuds evening (more details later), a Treasure Hunt to be held on 23rd May, (further details in the next newsletter), a Summer event at the end of June, and not forgetting the usual street collections (again, details later) for which, as always, we shall need a lot of help - please! We shall be raising money and awareness at various fêtes and fairs this year as well.



Braywick Update

We have been advised by the RBWM that re-development of Stafferton Lodge and the surrounding roads and car parks has now been agreed with the Whitbread Group, with work due to start in mid-February.

The conversion of the old Lodge into a 180 seater restaurant/pub to operate under the Brewers Fayre label, is part of their £2.3m development of the site which includes work to car parks, back and front of the Lodge, new access roads, signage and garages. The main contractor is Bell Frampton of Essex who are proposing a 32 week programme, with opening in the in the autumn of this year.

All visitors to WAMDSAD should be aware that significant work is to be carried out in widening the entrance from the Braywick Road; completely rebuilding the large car park in front of the Lodge adjacent to the Golf Range; and re-aligning the access roads from the Braywick Road up to the Lodge. Some of this work will involve traffic control of vehicles entering and leaving, and there will be considerable movement of heavy construction plant. A 6-day week is planned.

Work to our own garage extension has been delayed as we found there was a main sewer pipe just where we wanted to put the foundations! Hence, a re-design

has been necessary for the floor slab to have a piled foundation, and we hope now that work will start in February. The Maidenhead builders Farr & Roberts have been appointed to carry out the work.

Car parking remains a major problem and what with rebuilding the main entrance car park and the increased traffic from the Astroturf, the next few months may be a nightmare! Please remember - WAMDSAD do not own their car park, the RBWM do. Always park in a marked bay. Do not park on double yellow lines anywhere, and please take great care during all these building works, particularly when entering or leaving Braywick Sports Ground.

Flag Days

From the Calendar of Events you will see we have two dates set for street collections this year -

Saturday 15 May in Windsor

Saturday 25 September in Maidenhead

BUT, we also have an Ascot day this year! Having lost out in the draw for the last two years, we have been shortlisted for this! Eric attended the Mayor's Parlour a day or so ago and we have secured Tuesday 15 June.

John Jenkins is of course absolutely delighted and urges you to call him and get your name on the list of lucky people who will be going there to collect. What a day out that will be! But the Windsor

and Maidenhead Flag Days are just as important, so help support these as well!

200 Club



The lucky recipients from the December draw are -

- 1st Ken Timberlake
- 2nd David Esling
- 3rd Karen Cooper
- 4th John Jenkins
- 5th Grace Thrower
- 6th Jesse Johal

- still lots of room for more to join and win prizes up to £250. Phone the office or JJ for details.

Christmas Children In Need Appeal

Youngsters at the Friday Fun Club had a sponsored silence and raised £260.20 for this worthwhile appeal. Well done everybody - I wonder if it works at Board Meetings? (MD)
(See report later).

Memberships - Reminder

If you have already paid your membership for 2004 - a big thank you! If you haven't please could you do so by 1st March. If you participate in any sport until you have renewed we cannot allow you to play as you will not be covered by insurance. Card checks are

being carried out in the club every day so keep your card with you at all times. If you haven't renewed by March then your records will be deleted from the database.

Dates For Your Diary

Some dates for you to put in your diary -

Friday 27 February - Quiz Night in the hall, starting at 8:00pm

Friday 19 March - Rendezvous appearing in the bar from 7:30pm

Friday 9 April - Easter Bonnet Parade and Karaoke evening, starting at 7.30pm

Maidenhead Carnival

Trevor has secured a lorry for WAMDSAD to enter into the Maidenhead Carnival this year. He would like each section represented on or walking beside the float. If you are interested, please contact your section leader or Trevor.

Skittles 'n Spuds - 5 March

Just a quick reminder that our Skittles 'n Spuds evening is on Friday 5th March at the Seven Stars pub in Knowl Hill. The fun starts at 7:00pm and costs just £10.00 per person. Old fashioned skittles with a supper of baked potatoes

and a selection of fillings and pudding of cheesecake. How could you miss such a fun evening? If you would like to come, please contact the office as soon as possible. Space is limited on this occasion, so first come first served.

Golf

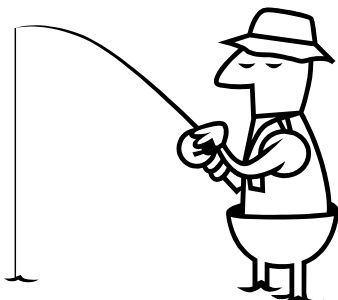


The Baric Golf Day Challenge is once again being held this year. It will be at Mill Ride Golf Club in Ascot on Tuesday 18th May. Format is a four ball Stableford competition with the best three out of four scores to count.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Liz in the office who has all the details and application forms.

Fishing

It was brought to our attention very recently that at the Old Windsor Angling Club they have recently installed a purpose built disabled platform at Ronney lock and is wide enough for 3 fishermen. There are two big channels of the main river out in front of the platform for feeder fishing. Parking for disabled is by prior arrangement with the boat yard, details of which we have in the office. If anyone is interested, please get in contact with the office or by emailing Mark@Bowellm.co.uk direct.



Giles Wallage

It was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden death of Giles Wallage on the evening of Saturday 24 January.

Giles was one of the nicest and most decent people that any of us could hope to meet. He had a heart as big as the man he was. His two main loves in life outside of his family were rugby and WAMDSAD. He was a life-long supporter of Wasps and also a fanatical England supporter. He brought his love of rugby into our club and galvanized others of us who also shared this passion into an unofficial but dedicated "rugby section" of WAMDSAD.

Giles took great delight in doing things for others. He got so much pleasure in organising trips to the rugby, forging close links between WAMDSAD and Wasps, being an inspirational influence on new members of our club, making sure that they felt welcome and a part of our community. His unselfish and tireless efforts to do things for WAMDSAD were rewarded recently when, without exception, the Board of the club invited Giles to be a Director of WAMDSAD - a role that he accepted proudly and one that he would have carried out with great enthusiasm and pride. Needless to say we will all miss Giles greatly but will always remember him with great fondness for all he did for others, his generosity, his tremendous (and sometimes wicked!) sense of humour, his dedication to and love of WAMDSAD but most especially because he was such a great guy.

SPORTS REPORTS

Friday Fun

Sponsored Silence held on Friday 21 November for Children In Need

Around 16 children helped raise funds for the BBC Children In Need Appeal by entering into 3 different sponsored silence sessions. One was linked to a wine gum chew (Lauren won this), one involved colouring a picture of Pudsey Bear (George won this) and one was to watch, IN PERFECT SILENCE, the BBC Children In Need programme. The overall winner for the evening was Simon.

Great fun was had by all and the adults in the building were most impressed with the silence that was coming from the games hall when normally the noise is of laughter and play which emits on Friday evenings and this can be quite loud on occasions!

To date the children have raised **£255.00** and more sponsor money has yet to be collected, so a GREAT effort by the children from WAMDSAD who have helped other children by their efforts, WELL DONE!

Any child who has a physical or sensorial is very welcome to join in at the Friday Fun sessions which are held at the WAMDSAD clubhouse. Please contact the main office on 01628 627690 for more details.

Swimming

Attendance at the swimming section has been good apart from a couple of weeks where we had very poor weather conditions. We have yet another new volunteer who is the brother of an existing helper. Regular training is ongoing. Val is back attending swimming, but not doing any physical changing work yet.

The Maidenhead Swimathon on Saturday 10th January was a great success with 2 teams of mixed ability swimming.

Archery

The WAMDSAD Archery section had quite an eventful 2003.

As you are all aware Ray Fields was out of action for most of the year and it is great to see him back. He was welcome as an able bodied friend but we don't believe he needed to go to such lengths to join us!

For 2 years Chris Christopherson has been popping in and out of archery, following his first passion Motor Cycle Racing. Unfortunately after having a couple of bad spills, (the last one at over 100mph at Brands Hatch) he has decided to rejoin the gentle sport of archery, where you do not break a leg if you or someone else makes a mistake. Welcome back Chris and get well soon

As a section we are always looking for ways of promoting WAMDSAD and Archery into the community and as such we attend a lot of Have a Goes. It can be hard work sometimes but it can also be very rewarding not only in the money we raise for WAMDSAD (contributing over £2000 last year) but in the joy of the people when they hit the target. Our thanks go to Kevin Ross who organises and runs these events for us.

The archery section ran the Disabled Sport England National Championships here at Braywick and it was so successful we are doing it again this year. The dates are mid August so come along and watch or get involved.

We as a section are committed to fundraising for WAMDSAD and handed over nearly £4000 last year. Thanks go to everyone in the section you all work hard.

This year is Paralympic Year in Athens. Kathy Smith has already qualified and Rob Anderson hopes to in March. We are sure you will join us in wishing them Good Luck.

Rob Anderson

Ray Fields

As many of you may already know, Ray is back and ready to take on his role as Director of Sport (which he was going to do before running away and hiding out at Stoke Mandeville for most of last year!). Over the next few months Ray will be talking to all the section leaders of each sport and also coming along to see each section operating. He's really looking forward to getting his teeth into the role and to meeting everyone in due course.

AND FINALLY

DON'T FORGET - the AGM on Friday 2nd April is for everyone who is a member of WAMDSAD to come along and find out what this great club has been up to over the past year, and to hear what we're going to be doing over the coming year.

You will also find in your envelope a letter from Phil Jones inviting you to the Annual Awards Dinner on Saturday 17th April. If you are planning on attending, please fill in the form at the bottom of the letter and also fill in what choices you would like for dessert and send them back to the office - with your remittance - as soon as possible.

Look forward to seeing you there!