

Secretary's Report 2010

May I welcome you to the 2010 Annual General Meeting. This is my tenth and final report as Secretary of Forge Valley Cricket Club. I have spent a full decade in the role of Secretary but now feel the time is right for me to stand aside. My decision to stand down in the role was taken in the summer months and I informed the committee of my intentions giving them as much time possible to find a successor. There have been times where I have been close to changing my decision and perhaps continuing, but issues since the end of the season only confirmed to me that I was doing the right thing. Regrettably, constant areas of concern and niggles have remained over the course of a number of years and as most of you would accept, over an extended period of time, these escalate and frustrate any individual further. I wish the new Secretary the very best in taking this club forward and re-inventing itself.

The 2010 season has been a positive one all round for the club and performances on the field by all Saturday teams were to a good standard and competitive at all levels. Despite a much changed outfit at various times during the campaign the first team finished fourth in the Beckett Premier Division. The seconds narrowly missed out on an instant return to Division A but enjoyed a fine season. The third team squad finished mid table in a competitive top flight of the Derwent Valley League, whilst the fourths again impressed finishing fifth in the Derwent Valley League Division C. The evening league teams also enjoyed fine summers, with the A Team claiming the Hunter Cup in front of a well supported final at North Marine Road. This made up for a disappointing finish to the league season when they missed out on promotion in the final game of the season. Despite the A Team Hunter Cup triumph and an appearance for the fourths in the Murray Brown & Son Cup final, competition performances have been below par and I hope for an improvement in 2011.

One of the the major success of 2010 came in the form of the Juniors who won the Derwent Valley Junior League following a last gasp tie against Scarborough CC. I congratulate all players and coaches involved in the set up on their success

Off the field, I wish to thank the tea ladies and grounds-men at both our facilities and all the other volunteers that help make the club work. Volunteers who have given up their time ensuring the club meets the requirements set through league criteria. The work and efforts carried out by these people should never be taken for granted. During the past season, as the Treasurer's Report will confirm, the work of the fundraising committee in obtaining sponsorship and running entertainment evenings should be applauded and I hope this will continue in 2011.

I'd like to pay tribute to those who have served and contributed on the management committee over the past decade, along with all the captains who, in the main, I have enjoyed a healthy relationship. I have also been fortunate to work alongside a fine President in George Ireland, two superb Chairman, Dave Hartley and Derick Hall, and an excellent

committee member in Dave Long. I thank them for all their support during the last ten years. Derick is already an honorary life member of Forge Valley Cricket Club but in one of my last acts as Secretary, I wish to recommend to the meeting that George Ireland, Dave Hartley and Dave Long be offered honorary life membership for their outstanding contribution to the club over many, many years.

I would like to thank my family for their understanding and patience during my time as Secretary. It has been extremely difficult trying to combine various roles and their support has been essential.

As the curtain now falls on my time as Secretary, I look back with immense pride on what the club has achieved during the past decade and history will show it has been one of the more successful periods. The club has significantly progressed and is once again one of the leading clubs in the Scarborough area. I urge all to try and continue this throughout the next ten years.

I thank you all for attending and I wish you all a prosperous festive season and wish the club for the 2011 cricket season.

Regards

Simon