

DEVON  **CRICKET**
FOUNDATION

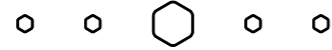
CLUB
AFFILIATION
CASE STUDIES



OUR VISION

To develop a fun and enabling environment in which more people in Devon play and are involved in cricket.

CASE STUDIES



The Devon Cricket Foundation has been supporting clubs across the county since its inception in 1997.

Over the last few years, we have been collating case studies of the great work clubs in Devon have been able to achieve with our support.

Over time, we will continue to add to the case studies included in this Affiliation Brochure and to our website. Most, but not all, will come

under the **Clubs in Focus** title, which has been the Devon Cricket Foundation's case study title since 2023.

For more case studies, search *Devon Cricket Clubs in Focus*.

If your club is currently implementing new sections, ideas or initiatives with the help of the Devon Cricket Foundation that would make a good case study, please contact media@devoncricket.co.uk.



**Tavistock CC's
New Girls'
Section**



**Whimble CC's
Winter Training
Programme**



**Cricket Returns
To Dawlish
Through Dynamos**

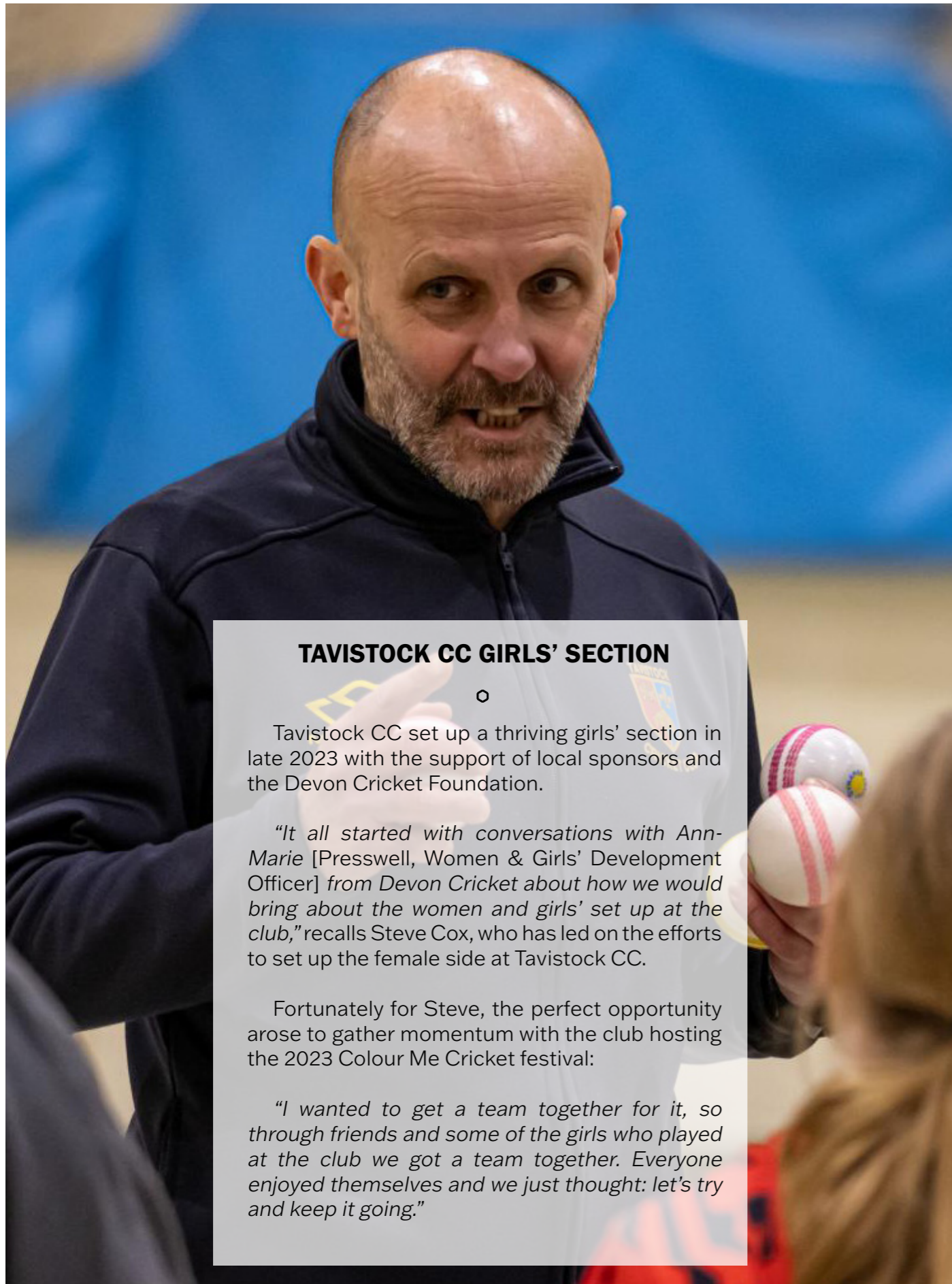


**Exwick CC
Welcome Afghan
Asylum Seekers**



**ECB County
Grants Fund
Case Studies**





TAVISTOCK CC GIRLS' SECTION

Tavistock CC set up a thriving girls' section in late 2023 with the support of local sponsors and the Devon Cricket Foundation.

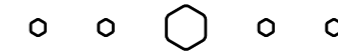
"It all started with conversations with Ann-Marie [Presswell, Women & Girls' Development Officer] from Devon Cricket about how we would bring about the women and girls' set up at the club," recalls Steve Cox, who has led on the efforts to set up the female side at Tavistock CC.

Fortunately for Steve, the perfect opportunity arose to gather momentum with the club hosting the 2023 Colour Me Cricket festival:

"I wanted to get a team together for it, so through friends and some of the girls who played at the club we got a team together. Everyone enjoyed themselves and we just thought: let's try and keep it going."



"Seeing girls' cricket in Tavistock from nothing to really quite a busy cricket scene is fantastic."



With only a handful of players committed, the club went all out on social media to promote free, 'give-it-a-go' winter camps for girls to look to grow the setup:

"We did a big social media campaign and advertisements on Facebook, and got 21 signups, with only seven or eight being players we already knew about. We now have about 16 regulars at our Sunday sessions, with others joining in occasionally when they're not doing other sports."

Helping lead the Sunday sessions is Sarah Field, who initially got involved at the club by helping at All Stars and Dynamos sessions: *"When Steve put on the winter camp he asked*

me if I would do my Foundation Course to be part of the girls' coaching team and it's fantastic."

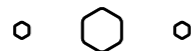
The next step for the girls' section at the club is to start entering competitions in 2024: *"We have an Under 11 team and an Under 13 team in the Devon Cricket Softball League," says Steve. "We're going to compete in the league and have fun, that's the ambition."*

Reflecting on the help received from the Devon Cricket Foundation, Steve was full of praise for Ann-Marie's help and guidance throughout the process:

"She's been fantastic in encouraging, supporting and guiding us to get this going. She's been really helpful and an integral part in us doing this."



The full story of Tavistock's new girls' section can be found at <http://www.devoncricket.co.uk/tavistock-girls-section-2024>





WHIMPLE CC WINTER TRAINING

Whimble CC saw a threefold increase in their 2023/24 winter training participants after committing to a 20-week off-season programme.

The move followed numerous years of working closely with the Devon Cricket Foundation's East Devon Club & Community Coach, Damian Price. During this time Damian held multiple Club Development Meetings with the club, as well as delivering numerous six-week schools programmes at local schools.

Club Development Meetings can be arranged with the Foundation's professional staff and can range from general club development planning to specific project support.

A major factor in the club's decision to run an extended winter programme were the positive results the previous winter's sessions had yielded.

"The difference between those who had participated in last year's winter training and those who didn't was quite noticeable," said Whimble CC's Junior Coordinator, Dan Williams. "The younger group play with so much confidence now and we want that across all age groups."

This increase in confidence hasn't gone unnoticed amongst parents, who were very supportive when Dan proposed an extended winter programme.

"Last year we did six weeks before Christmas and six weeks after. When I asked parents if they'd like us to organise a longer programme they were all up for it."

Extending the programme brought its challenges, with the club relying on a number of volunteers to ensure the sessions could go ahead.

"I'm constantly asking parents to help," explained Dan. "I can't do it all on my own. But we're lucky, we've got such a good thing going in the summer that, every



time I ask for help, someone will jump in and give me a hand."

Helping Dan run sessions was a group of 10 volunteer coaches, most of whom had kids playing at the club. *"Once they see how much the kids love it and how rewarding it is, they're keen to come on board."*


One such parent-coach was Tom who, after he stopped playing cricket at 19, has come back to the sport with his two sons joining the cricket club:

"I coach rugby too, so I enjoy getting involved. My eldest started playing and I didn't want to just sit and watch. From one season to another, you can see how much they've learned and developed. I don't mind giving up my time when I can see that."

Speaking on his recommendation to other clubs, Dan said preparing early was key:

"Book facilities early. We booked this place [Broadclyst Sports Centre] back in August and even then we only got a two-hour slot!"



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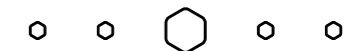
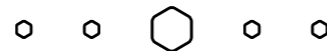
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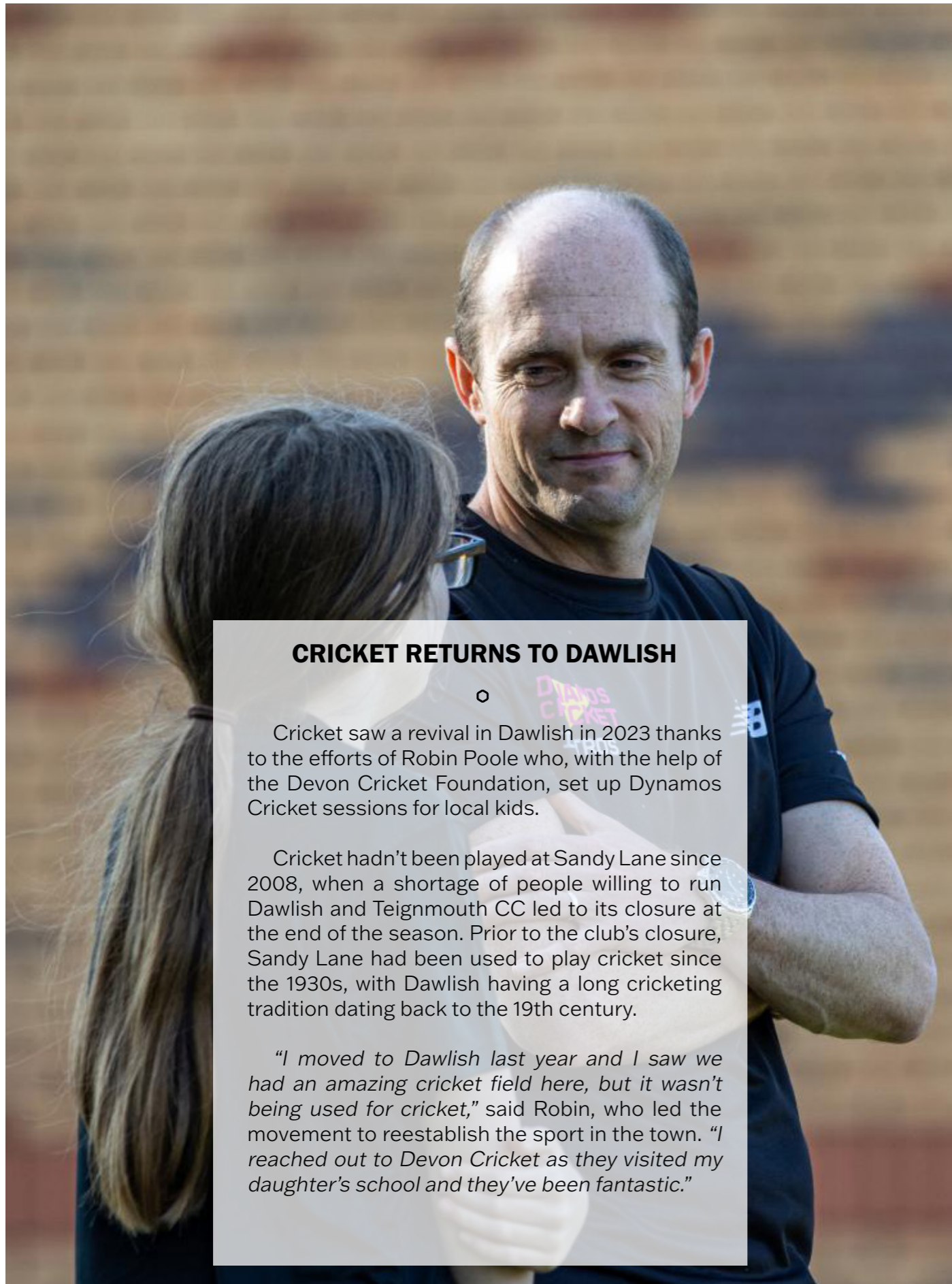
For the full story of Whimble's winter training: <https://www.devoncricket.co.uk/whimble-winter-training-2023>



The Devon Cricket Foundation's Club & Community Coaches are partly funded through the cricket charity Chance to Shine and spend the school year inspiring children through PE sessions, assemblies, festivals and competitions.

Children are then signposted to their local cricket club to carry on their cricketing journey.





CRICKET RETURNS TO DAWLISH

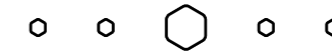
Cricket saw a revival in Dawlish in 2023 thanks to the efforts of Robin Poole who, with the help of the Devon Cricket Foundation, set up Dynamos Cricket sessions for local kids.

Cricket hadn't been played at Sandy Lane since 2008, when a shortage of people willing to run Dawlish and Teignmouth CC led to its closure at the end of the season. Prior to the club's closure, Sandy Lane had been used to play cricket since the 1930s, with Dawlish having a long cricketing tradition dating back to the 19th century.

"I moved to Dawlish last year and I saw we had an amazing cricket field here, but it wasn't being used for cricket," said Robin, who led the movement to reestablish the sport in the town. "I reached out to Devon Cricket as they visited my daughter's school and they've been fantastic."



"Through the Devon Cricket we were able to reach out to both Dawlish primary schools."



Originally, Robin reached out to the Devon Cricket Foundation to help set up a one-off cricket day at Sandy Lane but, thanks to funding from the England and Wales Cricket Board, in partnership with Sky Sports, this quickly changed into an eight-week Dynamos Cricket programme, supported by South Devon Club & Community Coach, Niall Leahy.

"Once Alex [Jopling] and Niall put that offer on the table I thought: we've got to take this! We've got to make this happen for the children of Dawlish because cricket is a great sport for getting different generations together."

This has turned out to be true not just for the players, but on the coaching side too, as Robin's

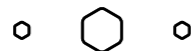
daughter, Audrey, has been helping him and Niall run the Dynamos sessions.

"Devon Cricket really lived their values by bringing cricket to an area of Devon that has not had any organised provision for a long time. Niall has been terrific with the youngsters, they really listen to him and have learnt a lot in a short space of time, many of them had not played cricket before at all and the improvement in just a few weeks is fantastic to see."

The sessions proved popular with kids and parents alike, and also helped build links with local schools, with students from both Westcliff Primary Academy and Gatehouse Primary Academy joining in.



The full story of the Dawlish Dynamos sessions can be found at <http://www.devoncricket.co.uk/dawlish-dynamos-2023>





EXWICK CC REWARDED NATIONALLY

Exwick CC were recognised by the ECB for going above and beyond to support communities as they were named one of three national winners in the 2023 Connecting Communities Cricket Collective Awards.

The club had been crowned county Connecting Communities winners in the summer as a result of the work the club did, led by Simon Hukku and Kate Le Maux, helping the Devon Cricket Foundation run winter sessions for individuals seeking asylum in Exeter and supporting a celebratory event on World Refugee Day.

“They were such good fun,” recalls Simon. “They’re such nice people that we just kept going back.”

“When Alex [Jopling, Club & Programmes Manager at the Devon Cricket Foundation] was arranging the sessions in January he said the sessions would be at Riverside. I said we’d be happy to come down and help out as it was local to us. It was three months’ worth of Monday nights, but it was brilliant and great fun.”

Once the sessions at the Riverside Leisure Centre ended, a number of the participants were keen to continue playing cricket and Exwick CC were more than happy to accommodate them:

“The boys came down to our indoor training sessions in March and they just slid right in. Even though they’re still learning English, they communicate through cricket and we can all have a laugh regardless of language.”

“All of the team have commented on how well they have integrated into the club. We have a couple who are first-team regulars and four or five who rotate between the second team and the Sunday team. We also get a lot of support from their friends at the hotel who come and watch the games, so we get to know them as well which is brilliant.”



Speaking at the time, Alex expressed his excitement about the success of the sessions:

“The sessions have been an instant success and it is great to be able to support these individuals through cricket. The smiles on faces and passion for the sport, as well as the desire to take part from those completely new to cricket, has been a pleasure to see. I look forward to seeing many of the participants involved at local cricket clubs this season!”

Simon hopes the national recognition will be beneficial both to the club and the asylum seekers themselves:

“To be recognised nationally is huge for Exwick. We came from very little, two years ago we were in danger of folding and now here we are winning a national award. It’s huge for us.”

“We hope we can use this to advance the asylum seekers’ causes, for their claims to be granted. We also want to generate more interest around the club to develop it into a thriving success in the area and the facilities to make that possible.”



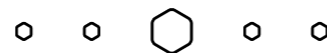
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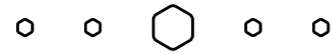
For the full story of Exwick’s national accolade: <http://www.devoncricket.co.uk/exwick-cricket-collective-2023>



The Devon Cricket Foundation are looking to increase cricket provision within the community and reach new groups of people, often in collaboration with clubs.

The professional staff can help advise on community engagement for your club and support with Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI).





BRIDESTOWE CC

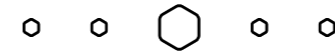
SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION

Bridestowe CC had managed for years without mains electricity at Millaton Ground.

The club had to rely on a petrol-driven, noisy generator to power the pavilion, as previous quotes for a grid connection had proven cost-prohibitive.

The club have since installed off-grid 5kW solar panels on the roof of their pavilion, complete with a 12kW storage battery to cater for their general electrical needs, significantly reducing their carbon footprint in the process.

Several other Devon clubs have now commissioned solar panel installations through ECB County Grants.



HOLSWORTHY CC

ARTIFICIAL PITCH INSTALLATION

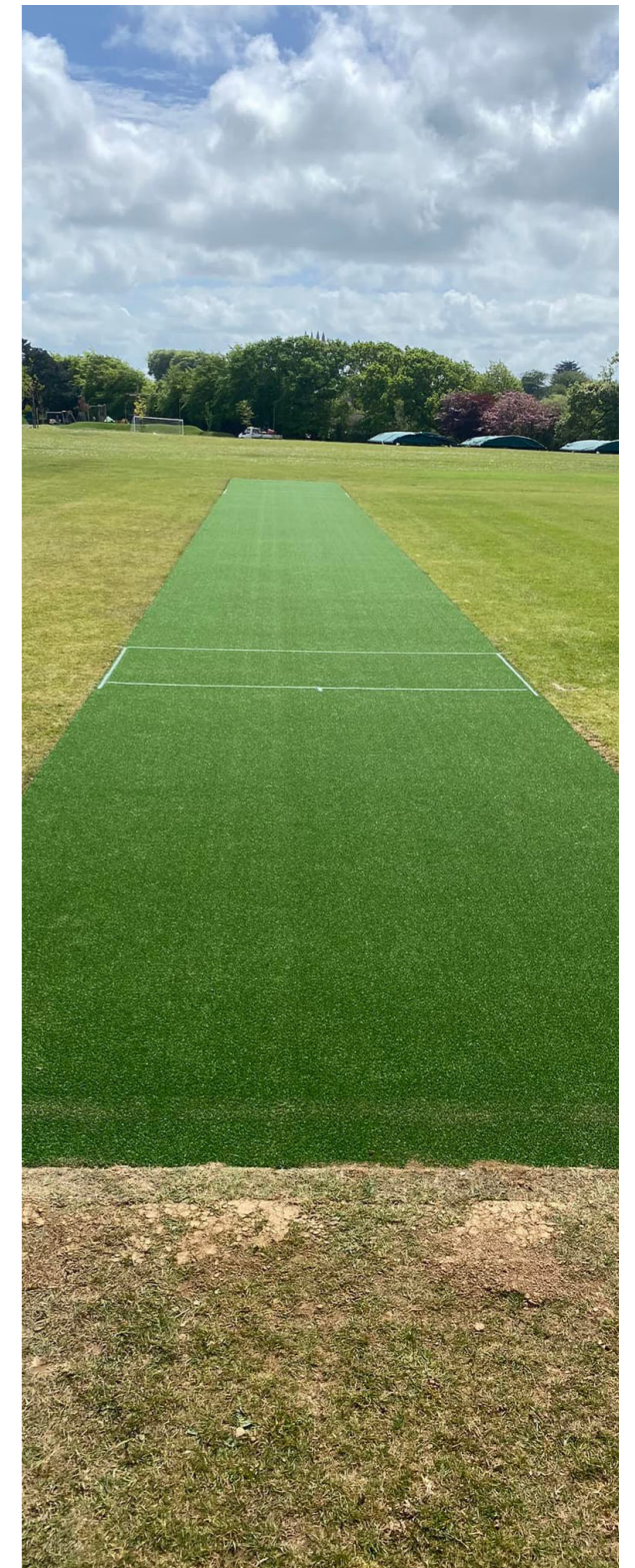
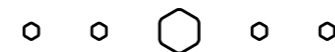
Holsworthy CC completed the installation of an artificial pitch in May 2022.

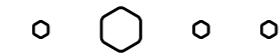
The strip will provide the club with excellent facilities for its youth setup, as well as its women's and men's teams. Alongside this, Holsworthy Community College are set to make use of the surface to host school matches.

The surface is also perfect for casual evening cricket for emerging cricketers as the club looks to provide a wide range of cricket opportunities for the local community.

The works formed part of a range of facility improvement works at Holsworthy Area Sports Pavilion, with monies raised at the venue being reinvested into improving sport and recreation facilities in the town.

The project was possible through the ongoing support of Holsworthy Town Council, and the Devon Cricket Foundation's, through the ECB's County Grant Funds, and The Balsdon Trust's financial contributions.





IPPLEPEN CC

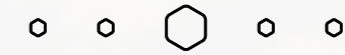
CREATING WELCOMING ENVIRONMENTS

With tremendous growth at their club, Ipplepen CC had outgrown their rather tired, 40-year-old pavilion.

The club canvassed its members and used ECB guidelines to help them determine a plan to convert their facility into a more welcoming environment. With support from an ECB County Grant, they were able to make internal alterations,

provide better disabled access and create a feeling of bringing the outdoors closer to the indoors, with the use of large bi-folding patio doors, which can be opened right out onto a covered veranda.

Extensive and modern redecoration together with a significant overhaul of the catering facilities completed the overall refurbishment, which has achieved all of its objectives.



ECB COUNTY GRANTS FUND SUPPORT

CREATING WELCOMING ENVIRONMENTS

The Devon Cricket Foundation's Funding & Facilities Manager, Nick Goodliffe, is in place to support all Devon affiliated cricket clubs every step of the way when it comes to County Grant applications.

If your club has an idea on a specific improvement, Nick is able to guide you on whether it fits the eligibility criteria and then, if a project is considered viable, provide application support and assistance through its lifecycle, right up to the ECB Case Officer appointment.

Whether its helping a club to save money on utility costs, provide essential services that could never be afforded previously, enhancing playing facilities to support the growth in women's, girls' or disability cricket, or creating a more welcoming environment for its members and visitors, it is extremely rewarding to visit clubs who have benefitted from a County Grant award.





For further information, please contact
info@devoncricket.co.uk