

ICC EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Welcome to Issue 32 of the European Development Programme newsletter. Please continue to send us press releases, reports on events or details of forthcoming events for the diary at any time - we look forward to receiving your information soon!

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News

European Presidents' Day

50 guests enjoyed an extremely pleasant day of cricket and hospitality at Lord's on Saturday 24 May as part of the European Presidents' Day initiative for which MCC generously provides tickets each year. Guests came from 12 member countries and a



number of companies and organizations which work closely with the European Development Program. They were joined by EDP ambassadors Mike Gatting and Jimmy Adams, as well as Doug Insole (Chairman, ECC), Tim Lamb (CEO, ECB), David Richardson (General Manager -

Cricket, ICC) and Tony Dodemaide (Head of Cricket, MCC), and a number of EDP coaches and umpires. The EDP took the opportunity to launch its new 16-page promotional brochure and the ICC's new

textless resource produced by coach Richard O'Sullivan, both of which will be distributed to



countries shortly. The forecast rain stayed away, giving guests the opportunity to see a full day's play at the Test, and, indeed, the end of the match, as England took an incredible 19 wickets to bowl the hapless Zimbabweans out twice in one day.

For a full report on the day from Ralph Dellor, [click here](#)

European Youngsters Excel at Lord's

The sun and the European talent shone at Lord's on 7 May, as Maurits van Nierop (Netherlands), Daan



van Bunge (Netherlands) and Frederik Klokker (Denmark) helped the MCC Young Cricketers secure

victory over a senior MCC side. Maurits, opening the batting for the Young Cricketers, made a slow and cautious start in the face of some tight MCC bowling. Having lost his opening partner with the score on just 15, he was joined by Daan, and the two of them kept the scoreboard ticking over until Daan was bowled on 47 just before lunch. Maurits reached his half-century in the first over after lunch, but finally nicked the ball onto his stumps on 82. Several wickets later, Freddie, batting at no 7, stepped up to the crease and made 22 valuable runs for the Young Cricketers before the declaration came at 233. The MCC batsmen made a strong start in reply, and an MCC victory looked to be on the cards until Daan took an impressive catch which prompted a sudden collapse. None of the MCC's remaining batsmen

made it into double figures, and they were eventually bowled out 13 runs short of the Young

Mike Gatting in Denmark

On a gloriously sunny morning on 9 May, European Development Program Ambassador Mike Gatting



joined over 150 excited Danish children at Herningsholm School as part of a weeklong travelling roadshow forming Denmark's Spirit of Cricket Weekend initiative. The DCF

are to be congratulated on organising such an effective initiative, which covered schools and clubs throughout Jutland over a ten-day period and

Cricketers' total.

reached over 1000 youngsters in total. The DCF



invited Mike Flockhart, who, together with Bruce Smuts, launched the 2003 'Imagination' Roadshow in Denmark during the Indoor Championships in

February, to return to Jutland. Assistance was provided in the shape of 'local lad' and former DJ Bobby Slater, who accompanied Mike around the various areas of Jutland as translator and soundman.

For the full story and photos, [click here](#)

Coaching & Umpiring

Bulgaria Gets Set to Put Cricket on The Map

Walking down the corridors of the National Sports Academy in Sofia, the chances are you will bump into a former Olympic wrestling gold-medallist or pole-vault World Champion. Such is the illustrious history of the place, these are ex-students who have returned to the Academy to shape the champions of the future. It may be some years before Bulgaria's answer to Sachin Tendulkar is seen striding down the halls or lecturing in one of the theatres, but the Academy has already taken the first steps towards

putting itself on the cricketing map. ICC European Development Program coach Tim Dellor and Project Officer Alison Smith went to see how things were progressing.



For the full story and photos, [click here](#)

European Development Officer in Portugal

Adam Cole visited Portugal on a Regional Coach



Placement Initiative trip during the week of 19-23 May to run a two-day introductory coaching course for 25 teachers from 11 schools - an impressive turnout. St Peter's School near Lisbon hosted the

course, and the head teacher has already requested

that cricket be added to the curriculum. All participants were given videos and coaching manuals to help with development. On the second day a class of children took part in some coaching drills run by the Portuguese teachers.



For the full story and photos, [click here](#)

Roland Lefebvre in Israel

Former Dutch captain and EDP RCPI coach Roland Lefebvre recently visited Israel for a 3-day coaching visit. His trip included a coaching clinic for players

from two Tel Aviv schools, two days of intensive coaching at the Hadar Yosef nets with the National Academy players, and a visit to both Be'er Sheva and Dimona, where he was amazed at the talent that has been discovered since his last visit a few months ago. Once again Lefebvre showed his dedication for Israel



cricket, taking a personal interest in almost every

young player he came across.

Denis Burns in Corfu

When a late request for an Introductory Course came from the Hellenic Cricket Federation, the European Development Program responded immediately by sending Denis Burns to Corfu. The visual PowerPoint format developed by Graham Cooper was a greatly appreciated resource. Most of the participants spoke some English but written English can be a problem for course members who use a completely different alphabet. The combination of practical demonstration, visual presentation and expert simultaneous translation by George

Poulimenos made for a demanding and enjoyable three days. *For the full story, [click here](#)*



Events from the Region

Slovakians in Austria

The driving force behind development in Prospective Member Country Slovakia is Vladimir Chudacik, who played for Frampton CC (Gloucestershire) while staying in the UK. Upon returning home, Vladimir discovered that there was no cricket played in Slovakia, and, inspired by a tour to Mallorca with Frampton CC in 1999, he started playing cricket on a football ground, using a single bat, with players from the football club in his home village of Hajske. There are now over twenty players involved, many of whom are children. Contact was established with Vienna CC and Prague CC at the Vienna Wintercup, and Slovakia has played against the Czechs in a fixture which is becoming a regular affair. This season they will be

playing in Ljubljana in a six-a-side tournament, and on Saturday 24th May they played their second



international one-day game in Vienna against Concordia CC Juniors. *For the full story, [click here](#)*

Slovenia vs Czech Republic

Prague CC's Paul Myers reports

It was Saturday, the day of our much anticipated game had arrived. By ten o'clock, following a short taxi ride, we were enjoying the beautiful scenery which compliments Slovenia's ground. The two distinctive churches together with the Alps dominating 270 degrees of the horizon make Ljubljana simply the most attractive place I have played cricket. Under the 25°C sun, I think to a man we were all grateful Honza won the toss and elected

to bat. The job was entrusted to Colin and Paul as they strode to the wicket to open the first innings. Such faith was rewarded, as in the face of some hostile yet accurate bowling on a bouncy track, accompanied by some hearty sledging, our openers put on 79 for the first wicket. Paul fell shortly after the drinks break for a stubborn, if not fluent 40, bowled by Brad. *For the full story, [click here](#)*

Cricket Officially Up and Running in Yugoslavia

At their annual meeting on 13 May, the Red Star Sports Society accepted a Cricket Club into their ranks. Full registration will take another month. In addition Red Star CC has been offered priority use of the FK Heroj football grounds in which Red Star is investing, and although they will not be able to lay their pitch permanently and the surface requires some work to make it acceptable for football or

cricket, it will provide a permanent secure base and the chance, with time and investment, to put up nets. The club is delighted to have the chance to be involved from the beginning to influence the development of the facilities. In time, the club will look to form a Serbian Cricket Association and encourage the formation of further clubs.

French Monsoon Hits Luxembourg

A new-look French side, featuring four debutants and five changes from the team that registered a 3-0 series win in Morocco earlier in the month, made short work of Luxembourg on 26 April at a wet, windy Walferdange ground on the picturesque banks of the River Alzette. In an international one-day game reduced to 45 overs because of the

weather, France ran out 119-run winners, coasting to 243-7 before restricting the hosts to 124-7. After six weeks with hardly a cloud in the Grand Duchy sky, the first international, scheduled for the previous day, had been washed out.

For the full story, [click here](#)

Kwik Cricket in Leinster

Over 100 children from ten schools in the North County Dublin area enjoyed a great days cricketing activities when competing in the annual Fingal Schools Kwik Cricket tournament held once again at Rush Cricket Club on Wednesday May 28th. St Brendans National School from Loughshinny follow

in the steps of St Catherine's, Scoil Realt na Mara, Milverton (x 2) to win the trophy sponsored by the Doolan family in Rush. Many thanks to Reinhardt Strydom (Old Belvedere), Stephen Groblaar, Kevin & Shane Plant (North County) for their help in umpiring games during the day.

Special Features

Development in Slovenia

Alasdair Green reports on progress

2003 has been and will continue to be the most exciting year in the history of cricket in Slovenia. As those who have been lucky enough to play at Valburga will testify, it is a stunning site and easily one of the most picturesque grounds in Europe.



Having said that, it is, however, simply too far (15km) from central Ljubljana to be practical. We have been aware for some time that development

work is being held back quite significantly by the absence of proper facilities within easy reach of any centre of population. Therefore, a search for a new ground was started. With close support from our friends at Ljubljana City Council and other public bodies, we have secured a new permanent venue to replace our existing ground at Valburga. It is at Studenec, in the west of the city, and it is an excellent choice. It belongs to the city psychiatric hospital, which is appropriate, as Ljubljana Cricket Club is probably the second largest psychiatric institution, apart from our new landlords, in Slovenia.

For the full story, [click here](#)

News in Brief

- Scotland are currently lying second in the National Cricket League's second division, following victories over Durham, Somerset and Lancashire. Rahul Dravid's debut for Scotland, in their most recent fixture against Hampshire, marked what is hopefully a temporary turnaround in fortunes, however, as Hampshire inflicted a 6-wicket defeat on the Scots.

Administration

New Resources

The new **European Development Program brochure** is finally ready for distribution. The 16-page brochure explains the European Development Program's links with the ICC, ECB and MCC, and provides a comprehensive guide to how the programme functions and the work it does. Also hot off the press is Richard O'Sullivan's new **textless resource**, a pocket-sized picture book which explains the game without requiring any translation. The ICC has produced thousands of these booklets for

distribution around the world, and the Europe Office will be sending them to all member and prospective member countries shortly. Most member countries should now have received their allocation of **European Development Program t-shirts**. We hope that these will be a useful addition to your resources, and that you will find plenty of opportunities to use them over the course of the next year or so. Distribution was made considerably more difficult in a number of cases by the failure of recipients to

instruct us at the appropriate time on the information required to avoid unnecessary payment of taxes and duties. A limited number of t-shirts will be held in stock at Lord's, so those countries that

were not included on the original distribution list may request them for any events they may be running.

Diary of Events

- 18 June:** ECC AGM, 1pm, Lord's Cricket Ground, London
11-13 July: U17-1st Division Championships, Nykøbing Mors, Denmark
18-20 July: U13-1st Division Championships, Copenhagen, Denmark
24 July - 1 Aug: ICC European U19 World Cup Qualifier, Netherlands

Coaching & Umpiring

- 5-7 June:** Pre-ECC Notts Sport® Trophy umpire training, Austria - Graham Cooper
13-15 June: Elite coach visit, Austria - Gary Palmer
17-20 June: RCPI visit, Vienna, Austria - Dave Gelling

For further information about European development initiatives, please see www.ecc.cricket.org.

For information about the ICC Development Program as a whole, see www.icc.cricket.org.