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2009 sees green shoots of recovery for Farmers' Cricket team

FARMERS-Caesareans Premier League first team finished runner-up in the inaugural NatWest Channel Islands Club Championship this year, a dramatic turnaround in fortunes after finishing bottom of the Jersey league in 2008.

Finishing on 297 points, 8 clear of the third place; they played 9, won 6 and lost 2 (1 match abandoned due to weather).

Captain Peter German said that it was a fine performance from the team: 'I think everyone at the club is really pleased with our performance this year. I've been particularly pleased with the contributions across the board and how we improved over the course of the season. The change in our structure has also been a benefit; the merger between Farmers and Caesareans has put us in a strong position. Our new sponsorship deal with Carey Olsen has also brought a new momentum to the club.'

Mr German said that the Farmers-Caesareans' new-found strength has been partially down to the development of young and second XI players who have made the transition to first team cricket. 'Some have been in the first team for a while now, but young players Andrew Rabet, Charles Perchard, James Faudemer, Ben Stevens and Tom Coward all played crucial roles for us during the season. We also have good balance with experienced players in both the batting and bowling departments. We've had a good season, enjoyed our cricket, and hope to surprise a few more people next year.'

At the Jersey Cricket Board 2009 awards ceremony held last Friday evening at the Pomme d'Or Hotel, England's most capped player Alec Stewart handed out prizes to two Farmers-Caesareans players: Charles (Chuggy) Perchard won the JEP Young Cricketer of the Year award, with three other players from the club also being nominated for the same award. Hannes Botha won the NatWest Premier League Bowler of the Year award,

topping the wicket-taking statistics, as well as the NatWest Evening League Player of the Year title. Botha and Perchard also claimed 2nd and 4th places (respectively) in the Rathbones handicap race for 2009.

The Farmers-Caesareans 2nd XI also came runners-up in the First Division, showing the strength in depth at the club.

Issued by Chris Chilton, Orchard PR, Tel. 01481 240600

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Carey Olsen entered into a three sponsorship deal with Farmers-Caesareans in 2009.



Farmers club president Rob Perchard gets in some catching practice, helped by captain Peter German and John Kelleher chairman of club sponsor Carey Olsen.

About Carey Olsen: Carey Olsen is the largest law firm in the Channel Islands and acts for a number of institutional clients in large, multi-jurisdictional transactions, as well as for governments and corporates, professional firms and high-net-worth individuals. With more than 130 lawyers Carey Olsen offers a full range of legal services, including corporate and commercial, funds, banking and finance, trusts and fiduciary, commercial and residential property, employment, restructuring, litigation and dispute resolution. Carey Olsen's position as a top tier provider of legal services is recognised by Chambers UK, Legal 500 and other independent market commentators and reflected by the quality of the transactions and cases they advise on. **Carey Olsen is the Acquisition Finance Offshore Law Firm of the Year 2008 and 2009 and was the highest ranking Channel Islands law firm in The Lawyer Awards 2008. In 2009 Carey Olsen was the highest ranking law firm across the Channel Islands in Legal 500.**

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About Farmers-Caesareans: Farmers-Caesareans is the name of the Premier division and First Division teams for Farmers Cricket Club. Farmers CC began in 2005 when a group of enthusiastic families turned a potato field into the picturesque Farmers Field cricket ground in St. Martin. In January 2009 the club merged with Caesareans CC, a club with a long history in the Island. Farmers CC's social cricket tradition has therefore been successfully merged with competitive teams from Caesareans CC in the two top competitions in the Island, the premier league side also competing in the Channel Islands Championship.