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# NEWSLETTER HELMSFORD 1898

## Welcome

### Editors

This issue has been published a bit later than we would have liked, as there are only a few games left of the season (for most teams) but hopefully what lies within will be of interest to you.

The next issue (and our last as editors - any volunteers?) will be out just before the annual AGM, so sometime in early/mid June, following the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI season.

It has been a mixed season so far for the club as a whole. The Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> XI have exceeded the (very high) expectations that they seem to demand from themselves: they are just outside the outdoor play-off top 4 (but with high hopes), semi-finalists in the HA Cup, undefeated Indoor Champions (again) and provider of three Commonwealth Games athletes, as well as numerous other honours! The flip-side is that the Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI are struggling to stay in the top flight, they withdrew from the National Indoor League and have been knocked out of the EH Cup, albeit to Cannock in a very very tight match (see report later).

Whilst the Ladies' club sides are doing well (the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI are through to the semi-finals of the EH 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Cup), the Men's club sides are, on the whole, struggling following an excellent season last year. Off the pitch the club seems to be going through a general malaise (see Bar Burlblings), whether this is due to the lack of 1<sup>st</sup> XI games we'll only know next season.

Having said that the season isn't over yet. We are the host to a variety of events (see Secretary's Corner) which we hope to be successful and enjoyable, and



also there is the resumption of the Premier League - and a few very important make-or-break (for both XI's) games/weekends.

That's it from us, hopefully there is enough in here to keep you interested, and if either you or someone you know would like to edit the Newsletter next season then please get in contact.

## Chairman's Chatter

*Nigel King*

Bit of a cheat to use text from a previous 'Chairman's Chatter', but, things don't change much ! :

1. Don't treat your club like a public facility please. Some dedicated club members have to tidy up after us all so why not think about making their job easier ? Pick up the litter, empty the bins, leave the changing rooms tidy, help behind the bar etc etc etc – please don't wait to be asked again, it's all pretty obvious really.
2. Notices will be going up to advise the forthcoming social events. Please make note in your diaries and do your best to support whatever takes your fancy.
3. The Management Committee will be finalising the figures soon for the water based pitch and we shall know how much money still needs to be raised. I shall be bringing up to date the £20 pitch square appeal board in the next couple of weeks. This will then give you all a fairly close visual idea of how much money is still required.
4. Peter Woodward is still delighted to receive more membership applications for

the '500' Club.

5. Please all make an effort to use your clubhouse and the bar. Bar usage recently has been good and as a result various improvements to our facilities have been possible. Probably next on the hit list – new furniture – if we drink enough !!

Needs very few changes really but the message is still the same – it's your Club, so use and support it !

Have a look at the notice board and see all that is happening during the next few weeks. A lot of help is required – so, come on, sign up and your bit.

## Secretary's Corner

*Spencer Wilcox*

This season will be very different from others with the extension of the EHL games into May and a number of events that we are hosting beforehand. Please complete the "help" list in the clubhouse for those events you can assist with. These are

- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> April - National Police finals - a big event for us
- 9<sup>th</sup> April Men's 1s tournament
- 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> April - EHL N/S and DI play-offs and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Cup

and Trophy

- 29<sup>th</sup> April - Evergreens "Tonka Trophy" Tournament
- 30<sup>th</sup> April - Zevenbergen (youth section is running this)
- 6<sup>th</sup> May - Ladies' 1's Triangular Tournament
- 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> May - East Vets Tournament

We aim to continue the high standard of hosting for each of these events. but this is dependent on help from members. Even a couple of hours can make all the difference. Please let me know if you can assist, especially on 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> April which are weekdays but in the school holidays.

### *Men's Dinner*

Now sold out!

### *Summer league*

We will be running this again from April and extending it to include a ladies league - should be a challenge.

I seem to have been running this for a lifetime and would be happy to give this up to a willing volunteer. I'm quite happy to get the thing going, but would like someone to run the men's league through the summer. Jenny, Helen and others will look after the girls' league.

### *Captains*

I'm pretty conscious that you have shouldered more than your fair share of burdens this year and have done a great job - sometimes against the odds. The one gap I need your help with is with new members for whom I have received less new members forms



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than I'd expected. If you have any outstanding can you get them to me straight away please.

### **Club meeting**

This was quite well attended and I have already circulated the main points raised. You'll remember that we agreed to ban smoking in the club from 1<sup>st</sup> September. You need to be aware that the cricket club have decided to introduce the ban in their season from 2<sup>nd</sup> May. That effectively means that the clubhouse, and the extension, will be smoke free from that date. We know this will not be welcomed by all members and visitors who smoke, but we hope that you will help us introduce this as easily as possible.

Given the club meeting was so useful, if you think another one towards the end of the season would be helpful please let me know. The AGM remains planned for Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

## **Sponsorship and Marketing**

*David Lines & Helen McDonnell*

It has been a busy time for the Club, with substantial coverage in the local and regional media in the past few weeks. Much of it has been based around the Ladies success in the Indoor League and at the National Indoor Championships, but, more recently, the Commonwealth Games has been the focus of attention.

Ladies Captain, Lisa Wooding, was featured in March's edition of Essex Life, with a two-page spread covering her busy life, but

with a strong theme of hockey throughout. Whilst it was very much about Lisa, it was also tremendous coverage for the Club (as well as the game), and followed up on a similar feature last year.

There is a further planned shoot in a couple of months, this time with Chloe Rogers and Hayley Heggie as the subjects. For those wondering why we have featured the Ladies so much recently, there are other reasons apart from the obvious ones.

First, whilst these articles and news items are very much about the individuals or the teams (and their successes), a constant theme is Chelmsford Hockey Club, which helps to boost its profile in many valuable ways and ultimately benefits all sections of the Club. Therefore, on the basis that all publicity is good publicity for Chelmsford Hockey Club, we shall continue to do so.

Second, and more importantly, the Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team have fully 'bought in' to the concept of marketing, not only for their benefit, but also for the wider benefit mentioned above. Be aware that it means already busy people giving up time and putting in effort to make these things happen (it doesn't just magically take place – there is a terrific amount of organisation involved), but the rewards are there for all to see.

This keeps the Club very much in the headlines, which is a key factor in recruiting new players, attracting new sponsors (and fulfilling our agreements with current ones), as well as promoting the sport of hockey (in competition, as it is, with many

other sports, for young newcomers). So this type of publicity is open to any and all of the other areas of the Club, but requires a similar commitment (buying into marketing) from all involved to ensure it is equally as successful. We are certain there are regular equally newsworthy stories all around the Club, but we can only bring them to light with your help.

Returning to the coverage, apart from the TV exposure of the actual event by Sky TV, both BBC Look East and Anglia TV ran with news items on the Indoor Championships at peak hours during the following week, with an audience reach of around one million each. On radio, BBC Essex, Essex FM and Breeze FM followed the story, while the local papers across the county and the region gave excellent exposure. It was even featured in Park Life, a 15,000 household magazine distribution in North Chelmsford.

In mid-March, with the Commonwealth Games imminent, three Chelmsford players (Lisa, Hayley and Pixie) and Jo Ellis from Ipswich were the subject of a lengthy news article on BBC Look East, whilst Chloe took advantage of family connections to be interviewed separately by her brother, a journalist with the same organisation. Photos of that filming session, taken by Paul Robins, of club sponsor Shutterspark, will appear on the





website.

While on the topic of Paul, using his professional services as a sports and events photographer has been instrumental in getting a lot of these news items more coverage than otherwise might happen. The printed media all work on the principle of "one picture is worth a thousand words", making any article come alive, especially if the photo is an 'action' one (not the standard 'mug-shot' or team photo).

So, if you are planning an event, such as a wedding or a christening, and are thinking of hiring a photographer, think about rewarding Paul for all the hard work that he does on the Club's behalf and use his services. He has an on-line gallery at his website (which you'll find via ours) and I am sure will be happy to provide you with a quote.

Finally, I'd draw your attention to our website statistics which were published on the site, showing 30,000 hits in the month of February. No doubt, a lot of the interest arose from the Indoor success, but it is also something to build on. The website is something we can all be very proud of (and congratulations must continue to go to Tufty and his team of volunteers) – not only it is a fantastic community forum for the Club but it is a platform for marketing ourselves (and, once again, the sport).

In the Sponsorship section, there are now full details on a variety of sponsorship opportunities, along with down-loadable application forms. This gives every

member the ability to act as a salesperson for the Club, whether amongst family, friends, at work or with business acquaintances. There is a vast range of opportunities to suit every pocket, from £10 (for the Ladies European campaign) to £15,000 (to underwrite the Schools Initiative). All it needs is your determined and continuous commitment to do something about it.

## Bar Burlblings

*Ian Hunter & Nigel King*

Ian Hunter and myself have been given the bar accounts to the end of February along with the same period last season – we are well down on turnover !! We do not suggest every member should get paralytic every week, not at all. The bar does sell soft drinks, nibbles and sweets as well you

know .... Above all, though, is this point that is often made about members only using the Club as a sports facility and not taking part in the Club atmosphere. There are still a number of members who always go straight home after tea, some immediately after their game. What happened to hosting our visitors ? What about socialising with fellow Club members not only from your own team ? ..... And so on. This is our opinion, write to the Editor with your comments / suggestions.

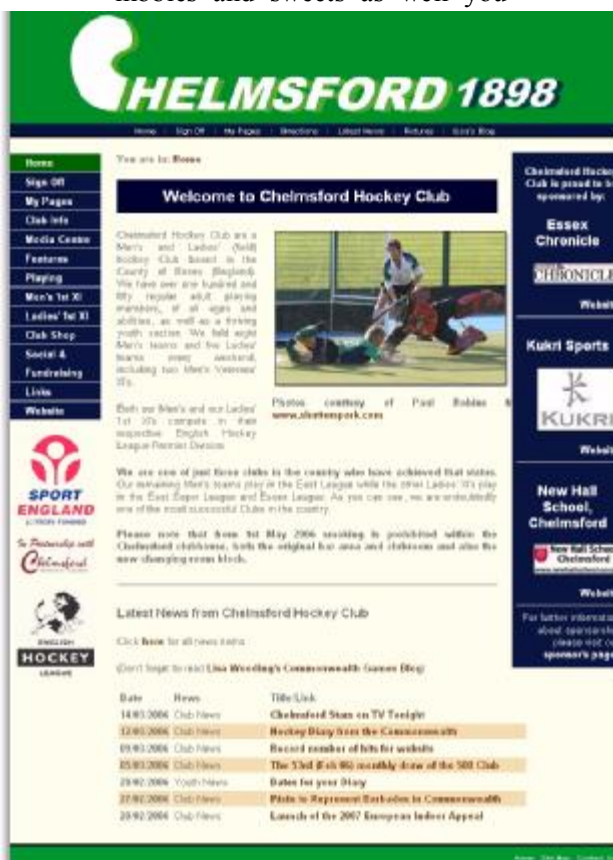
## Chelmsford Sports Club

*Nikki Tuff*

Just a few things to report from the sports club. As you will have noticed work has started on the "snug" area in front of the kitchen. The hope is to make this a comfy chill out place to lounge in with sofas etc. Keep an eye out for an e-mail coming shortly with details for comment.

A decision has been taken by the sports club, supported by both member clubs, to make the clubhouse and new build a No Smoking area from 1st May 2006. Please consider the wishes of the majority and adhere to this.

You may be aware that there has recently been a break in at the club and some money stolen from the bar. The sports club are purchasing additional CCTV cameras for the side and back of the building. Please do your part by being vigilant and



ensuring the security systems already in place are adhered to diligently.

Any comments on the use, appearance or upkeep of the clubhouse please do not hesitate to get in touch.

## EXCLUSIVE: Lisa's Blog

*Helen McDonnell*

Chelmsford Captain and England international Lisa Wooding is writing a regular Commonwealth diary over the next three weeks which can be found on the club website along with the very latest photographs from the Games Village.

[www.chelmsfordhc.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordhc.org.uk) – then click on Lisa's blog. The first three entries are on the website now.

The 26 year old who has amassed 38 caps for her country will be giving a personal insight into the intensive pre-Games training schedule in the Holding Camp, Commonwealth fitness regime, team preparations, match reviews and her thoughts and experiences out in Melbourne.

England Women's first match will be played on Friday 17th March against Canada. The match will be shown on the BBC.



## Kit News

*Peter Hollebon*

All Kukri kit has now been delivered and those people who have ordered items can come into the Clubhouse to collect.

You can call me on 01245-420862 to ascertain when I will be in the Clubhouse each weekend.

## Social

*Laura Cathro*

For those of you who don't know me I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, I'm Laura Cathro, the new Social Secretary. This was slightly thrown upon me at the meeting in February (probably because as usual I had faaaaaarr too much to say!!), but I'm really relishing the chance to get my teeth stuck into this new role.

Although there are obviously a number of social occasions, which already take place at CHC, such as the Whisky night and the quiz night, it was decided that we needed someone to oversee the full year and ensure that the socials were tailored to all members of the club.

As such, I will be sending out a short letter to all members in the next month to get your opinions on what social events would entice you along to the club. As well as a number of tick-box options there will be room for you to make suggestions of your own, any idea is welcome but I'm not making any promises (that

one's aimed at you Jimmy & Emu!). There will be a box at the club for you to put your returns into so no excuses about being unable to find a stamp!!

I plan to get all the social nights organised and included in the club fixtures book which all members receive at the start of the season. That way we can make sure that 2006/2007 is a bumper season for great socials and supporting our club!

## Evergreens Hit Portugal

*Peter Hollebon / Nigel King / Fred Matthews*

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2006 an advance party of Evergreens consisting of Nigel King, Fred Matthews and Chef D'Equipe Peter Hollebon met at Wetherspoons Stansted Airport at 6.00pm (via the Railway Tavern).

Just under 3 hours later, the



Evergreens were released into the arms of the people of Porto and the recce began.

The mini bus ride to the excellent Grande Hotel de Paris Porto gave us an opportunity to observe the huge amount of investment which is currently being undertaken to upgrade the transport infrastructure in and around Porto.

By 10.30pm the assembled party found themselves checking out the nearest hostelry. Given the advancing age of some of the

Evergreens and their “delicate stomachs” the Recce Party were charged with sampling as many different beers as possible. The rest of that evening’s activities are of course governed by “Tour Rules”

Saturday was a day of getting our bearings in the City centre and involved some bars, a restaurant, some bars, a boat trip, some bars, a Tea Shop (don’t ask Nigel), some bars, a Port Winery, some bars..... Does anyone detect a theme here???????

On Sunday we made contact with one of the Porto Hockey Clubs who have a Veterans side and who know another veterans team in the locality so tentative arrangements have been made for a return visit in 2007 to play both teams. As you would expect in Portugal the negotiations took place in a bar and were conducted in German (don’t ask?????). There then followed an amazing fish lunch at a recommended restaurant when euphoria ensued.

All too soon Sunday evening beckoned and it was time to say farewell to Porto at least for this year.

All Evergreens/Veterans wishing to tour to Porto next year, book your place in the tour party now. Spaces will be limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Don't miss this amazing opportunity.



## Commonwealth Games Schedule

### *England Ladies'*

- **Canada vs England** - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March  
Live coverage on BBC interactive (Stream 1) - 2.30am - 4.00am  
Summary coverage on BBC1 - 4.05am - 5.15am  
Repeat coverage on BBC interactive (Stream 3) - 1.00pm - 2.30pm
- **England vs Scotland** - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
Live coverage on BBC interactive (Stream 1) - 11.30pm - 1.00am (Friday night-Saturday morning)  
Summary coverage on BBC1 - 12.15am - 1.00am  
Repeat coverage on BBC interactive (Stream 4) - 1.00pm - 2.30pm
- **England vs Barbados** - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March  
Live coverage on BBC1 - 2.00am-4.00am and BBC interactive (Stream 3) - 2.30am - 4.00am  
Repeat coverage on BBC interactive (Stream 4) - 1.00pm - 2.30pm
- **England vs New Zealand** - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March  
Live coverage on BBC1 - 3.00am - 5.00am  
Repeat coverage on BBC interactive (Stream 4) - 5.00pm - 6.30pm

### *England Men*

- **New Zealand vs England** - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March  
9.30pm - 1.00am (Thursday night-Friday morning)
- **Scotland vs England** - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
7.30am - 11.00am
- **Australia vs England** - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March  
9.30pm - 1.00am (Monday night-Tuesday morning)
- **Canada vs England** - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
5.00am - 8.30am

## Zevenbergen 2006

### *Liz Nourse*

The Youth section is busy preparing for Zevenbergen HC's visit to Chelmer Park (**April 29 – May 1**), when six Youth teams (U14, U16 and U18 Girls and



Boys) from Holland will spend two days

renewing friendships, playing hockey and having fun with our own youth players.

We are expecting to entertain up to 200 people - 140 players aged 13 – 18, in addition to the coaches, managers, umpires and other helpers who all go to make the event possible: a lot of hard work but, from past experience, a fantastic weekend.

### *The plan so far:*

*Saturday 29 April*

\* Dutch arrive at Chelmer Park pm.

\* Welcome then go to set up camp at Danbury.



### Sunday 30 April

- \* Breakfast at CP from 8 a.m.
- \* Hockey all day (9.30 – 5.30) – competing for coveted International Trophy plus Volleyball Tournament
- \* Supper at CP
- \* Evening entertainment/ Disco at Sandon Lodge

### Monday 1 May

- \* Breakfast at CP from 8 a.m.
- \* Hockey all day – ‘friendly’ games, mixing girls, boys, ages and nationalities.
- \* Evening ‘Farewell Party’ at CP, including Hog Roast (tbc)

### Tuesday 2 May

- \* Dutch leave from Danbury Campsite a.m.

The price for such a fun packed weekend? Just £25 - which includes all hockey, volleyball, entertainment, 3 meals a day (Saturday and Sunday) and a tour T-shirt.

We already have 60 players signed up to take part, along with support and offers of help from parents, but there’s always room for more! If you are interested in taking part – in any capacity – please contact Liz Nourse, Bob Smith or Sally Speakman or speak to your age group Coach or Manager.

## Ladies First XI Report

Janet Sutton

For those who are regularly at the Club on a weekend, you probably think do the Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> XI exist? We last played at Chelmer on 12<sup>th</sup> December !

Since then we have been very busy (but not at HOME I’m afraid) Les Roberts (GK Katie’s dad) was in charge of the Indoor campaign , with Lisa and Bolly coaching both the U18 and Senior squad . The senior squad spent two weekends at the Royal Masonic School in Rickmansworth and retained their National League Indoor Title, with ease. This took them through to the Indoor Championship, which swapped venues this year. It has traditionally been a ‘sell-out’ on a Friday night at Crystal Palace, but was moved to a Sunday at NIA (National Indoor Arena) and on SKY TV. An ideal venue and thanks to all the club members and family/friends who joined us on the day. Unfortunately the U18 squad were playing on the same day in Worcester and were without their coaches – England planning?

Chelmsford played (annihilated) Ipswich in the Semi- final 12-6 and faced Canterbury in the Final. In front of a crowd of 3,000 (100+ from Chelmsford ) it was a close game and Commonwealth Games players (WHO ?) – scored both of Chelmsford goals to crown Chelmsford as Indoor



Champions.

This gives Chelmsford qualification in the European Indoor Tournament next February (we will be playing in the Eurohockey Cup (as opposed to the Trophy in Wettingen in 2004) It will be w/e 23/25 Feb 2007 Venue to be decided.



Congratulations to all the Indoor Squad. All Club members were invited to a Celebration at the Club on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February (thanks to Willmore, Hinge & Bracket) there was a ‘big screen viewing ‘of both the semi final and final and relived memories – of the CLUB SUCCESS

On an Outdoor front – we are in the Semi –Finals of the Cup on 19<sup>th</sup> March (away again! to Doncaster) - having won v. Sutton Coldfield (Away!) on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb and the Quarters Finals v. Horsham (Away !) on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Congratulations go to our Commonwealth Games stars – Lisa Wooding and Chloe Rogers are playing for England and Patrina Brathwaite (Pixie) is playing for Barbados (both in the same group) Also Karen is there as Asst Coach and Ash is there as Physio – Please watch the hockey – or

video it !

As well as the Commonwealth Games trio, 5 other members of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Squad have been busy training for their own International duties. Emer Harte will be representing Ireland Seniors, Hayley Heggie - England U21, Julia Butterworth & Loren Sherer - England U18. Helen Fagg is non-travelling reserve for England U18 when they play at Easter.

We are next back at Chelmer (our home) on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May – for a "pre-season" day between Chelmsford / Slough / Ipswich / Quinns (Cork).

*EHL League resumes –*

13/05/06 away Leicester (at Loughborough)  
14/05/06 HOME Canterbury  
20/05/06 HOME Clifton  
21/05/06 away Doncaster  
27/05/06 HOME Olton (final league game)

*Please come and support*

## Men's First XI Report

*David Hunter*

There hasn't been a lot of action on the Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI front since the last newsletter so below is the match report from their only game since Christmas - the cup



tie with Cannock.

### **Chelmsford 3 v 3 Cannock (aet)**

Cannock win 6 v 4 on penalty strokes

Chelmsford came within a whisker of a major upset in the English Hockey Cup as they narrowly lost out to double winners Cannock on penalty strokes on Sunday. A thrilling game saw Chelmsford come back from two goals down in the first half to give the holders a huge scare and nearly inflict their first defeat of the season.

Despite missing several international stars, Cannock started the game as overwhelming favourites. Chelmsford, though, refused to be overawed, and ignored their underdog status to take the game to the visitors. However, they failed to create any clear-cut chances and, halfway through the first period, appeared to be punished as Cannock scored twice in four minutes. Firstly, former GB international Andy West deflected home a short corner at the far post to give his side the advantage, before the same player doubled his side's lead when he latched onto a loose ball to lift the ball over Chelmsford goalkeeper Adrian Kimber.

Having suffered two crushing league defeats to Cannock already this season, Chelmsford could have been forgiven for fearing the worst. On previous occasions, Chelmsford's heads may have fallen, but this time they continued to drive forward as they tried to force their way back into the game. They were duly rewarded when an Adam Hunter penalty corner deflection a minute before the break sailed past the

Cannock defence to bring the home side back into contention.

The second half continued at the same pace as the first, as both sides looked to exert their authority on the game, but, despite several half chances at either end, neither side looked as if they would add to the score line. However, just as it seemed Cannock were coasting into the quarter-finals, the game burst into life. Luke Mephram brought Chelmsford back on to level terms with just seven minutes remaining when he steered a Dave de Prez pass into the roof of the net at a penalty corner. As Chelmsford looked to win the game in the dying minutes, they were left outnumbered at the back as Cannock broke down the flank and forced a short corner. Although Kimber saved the initial effort, another ex-GB player, Andy Humphrey, squeezed the rebound under the keeper's glove to regain the lead for Cannock.

Chelmsford, though, were not to be deterred and soon swarmed on the Cannock goal. To the elation of the home crowd, they were duly rewarded when the rejuvenated penalty corner team made light of the absence of Gareth Carr to lay the ball off for Jon Wilcox to sweep the ball home and send the game into extra time.

As the extra period was played out, fatigue crept into the legs of both sides, and chances became scarcer in front of both goals. The one real chance of extra time came at a Chelmsford penalty corner when de Prez's slip flew agonisingly past the outstretched stick of Mephram with the goal at his mercy.



The final whistle saw the prospect of penalty strokes, but in the end it was not to be Chelmsford's day as Hunter and Josh Mephams weak efforts were saved and Wilcox put his attempt against the post. Despite de Prez scoring Chelmsford's fourth stroke and two penalty saves by Kimber, Cannock held their nerve to advance to the last eight of the competition.

After the game, Chelmsford player coach Dave de Prez was pleased with his side's display.

"The guys can be rightly proud of their performance today against the top side in the country. If we can take this level of effort and determination into the remainder of the season then there is a real chance of avoiding relegation."

Chelmsford do not return to action until May when they look to overturn a run of results that sees them sitting at the bottom of the English Premier League.

## Men's Club Report

*Adrian Tuff*

It's been a difficult season for the Men's teams following a spate of promotions last season. You can see from the table below that the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> XI's are leading the way (league-wise) but even they can't manage the top half of the table....yet.

It's been a season, so far, of mixed fortunes. Firstly we had far too many goalkeepers, now we don't have enough, to start with we didn't have enough players, now we seem to be coping (on the whole) thanks to a few new

players appearing out of the woodwork.

Although the 1<sup>st</sup> XI have only played one competitive match since before Christmas what a match it was! A thrilling and narrow defeat, on penalty flicks, to all conquering Cannock - a world away from their league encounters. Congratulations and commiserations to the 1<sup>st</sup> team and we wish them all the best for their five remaining league games (details in forthcoming events).

The rest of the club sides have had mixed fortunes evident by their respective league placings. The details for all of the teams to date are as follows (league where applicable):-

Team	Pos	W	D	L	GF	GA
1 <sup>st</sup> XI	12 <sup>th</sup>	0	3	10	25	71
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	7 <sup>th</sup>	7	3	10	46	63
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	7 <sup>th</sup>	9	3	8	64	66
4 <sup>th</sup> XI	9 <sup>th</sup>	7	2	11	43	58
5 <sup>th</sup> XI	11 <sup>th</sup>	5	2	13	38	70
6 <sup>th</sup> XI	11 <sup>th</sup>	2	1	16	29	91
EG XI		7	1	11	36	65
Vets XI		5	4	10	33	46

A short report this time, but it just leaves me to say a big thanks to all of the Captains who have struggled on with an increasing workload and responsibility, especially to Derek whose responsibility now grows by one, a certain Misty Lulie was born only last week. Congratulations to Derek and Sophie.

With only a couple of (league) games left to play for the majority of the sides, five for the 1<sup>st</sup> XI and numerous friendlies and tournaments for the Vets and Evergreens, here's hoping that there are a last few notable results and that we end the season on a high.

## Biggest win of the year?

Congratulations to the Boys Under 16's who recently recorded the largest victory so far this year. A narrow 15v0 win over Harrow in the U16 Boys Mercian League.

Richard Nourse led the way in front of goal just missing out by one on a double hat-trick! David Bolton and James Beardwell both registered 4 a piece and Frankie Clough and Jack Moss also pitched in with a goal each.

Can your team lay claim to a larger victory this season?

## Men's Team Reports

### *Jimmy Smith (Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> XI)*

No report was received from the Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> XI.

### *Adrian Tuff (Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI)*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI have had a bit of a strange season, to start with (see previous Newsletter report) we struggled. We were conceding more goals in your average game than Sunderland and scoring about the same too. To work so hard for the past five years to get into Division 2S we weren't going to throw it all away.

Post Christmas saw a different 3<sup>rd</sup> XI, helpfully boosted by Phil



Goode, Will Stock (back from a self-imposed absence) and drag-flick king Vasana Veera. The goals, and results, soon started to come: a draw against struggling Maldon (who had beaten us previously), an excellent (but close) victory over Bishop's Stortford and a thumping win over second place Letchworth 1<sup>st</sup> XI started to progress us up the table and out of the relegation zone (bottom four).

The Letchworth 1<sup>st</sup> XI game provided undoubtedly the "quote of the season":

[After Phil Goode nutmegs the centre back, dribbles past the sweeper and narrowly puts the ball wide of the posts - oh and after already scoring two goals]

*Letchworth CB to Sweeper - Don't worry that's all they've got.*

*Letchworth Sweeper to CB - That may well be all they've got but it f\*#?%@g works!!.*

The result of the Letchworth game boosted the team's morale and following a disappointing draw to Bedford Town (who had comfortably beaten us at theirs) came the Berkhamsted game. At the time Berkhamsted were top of the table with an almost unassailable lead, some 11 points or so, and after two goals in the first two minutes the game seemed to be going the way of all of their others - a comfortable victory.

That may have been the case but for a period of play, until half

time, where Chelmsford thoroughly outplayed the top of the table team. The shots were being fired in, saves were being made, posts were being hit but the goals wouldn't come. Just as half time was approaching the duck was broken, a first then a quick second goal meant all was even at half time. The second half saw a rejuvenated team, Will and Phil peppering the goal, Vasana lobbing 50ft ariels into their 'd' and Chelmsford generally outclassing Berkhamsted. 6 goals to 1 later and with 5 minutes to go the score resembled a massacre, 8v3 versus top of the table!! As is the want of the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI two sloppy goals in the dying minutes gave some respectability to the score, but an 8v5 drubbing of Berkhamsted was the result of the season.

Another draw and a couple of muted wins puts us clear of the relegation zone but not yet completely safe, another win should ensure we play Division 2S hockey next season, failing that some games to go for us. Whatever the result we have provided that the step from 3SE to 2S isn't a step too far and if and when we compete in it next season we will know what to expect.

We have had a varied team this year, a bit more settled since Christmas but not entirely. Thanks to the players that don't really know where they are playing every week, 2's, 3's or 4's, namely Matt Nicks, Stephen Kalff, Stef Clough, Alistair Fergus,

Andy Fox,  
Rob Fordham  
and Rob Hartley.

Each has contributed to the team in their own way, and Steve even has a couple of goals!!

Which reminds me, the leading 3<sup>rd</sup> XI goalscorer is a close run thing, Phil has an impressive 14 (25 for the club) but a certain Neil Stanhope isn't far behind him with 13. The also-runs include Adrian Tuff with 8, Rob Fordham with 7, Matt Nicks and Derek Gould with 5 and even Andrew Simpson with 1!! (not a bad goal either!)

#### ***Richard Ross (Men's 4<sup>th</sup> XI)***

No report was received from the Men's 4<sup>th</sup> XI.

#### ***Phil Mumford (Men's 5<sup>th</sup> XI)***

No report was received from the Men's 5<sup>th</sup> XI.

#### ***Tim Burrows (Men's 6<sup>th</sup> XI)***

No report was received from the Men's 6<sup>th</sup> XI.

#### ***Peter Hollebon (Evergreens)***

As ever the morale of the side has been on the up and up. Following some excellent results of late, confidence is running high. Goals have been flowing from the sticks of Ed "I will get more goals than my son" de Mello and Ian "Let me tell you about my last hat-trick" Hunter.

The final run in of the season sees us finishing our travels all over the South East and playing our last few games at home. This will enable us to enjoy the facilities of

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Chelmer Park to the full. The season will finish on a high with our ever popular “Tonka Trophy” Tournament which we are hosting again this year.

A Tour to Holland in June is a possibility and arrangements are already in hand for our trip to Portugal next year.

On a sadder note, the Evergreens have to report that our stalwart Keeper and organiser Fred Matthews is currently in hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery and await the return of his sylph like frame between the sticks before too long.

### **David Carr (Vets)**

An average season on the pitch with five wins, four draws and nine losses to date, not helped by the considerable loss of captain Ralph Thomas with injury in mid October – we look forward to his return for next season.

On the plus side has been the excellent availability, as we have been able to raise an eleven plus provide an umpire each week out of a squad of fourteen. New regulars this season have been Toby Wheadon (from Tulse Hill) and David Young (from golf). Also, it has been good to see Alan Draper (club patron) on several occasions. All this seems to have had the effect of steering us towards the beer with greater regularity – two or three raids on the club’s beer festival, good attendance in the bar on the two Saturdays where we had no fixture and revisiting the scene of previous gatherings – the Scole Inn, after which we scored in the first minute at Harleston!

We are lucky with our fixture list, playing against strong sides such as Ipswich, Harleston, Tunbridge Wells and Canterbury (for those of you who do not venture beyond Essex, these places are only at most eighty minutes away, proving that hockey is not just about playing in your locality to get home as soon as possible, but about the quality of the game and sociability of the opposition). Milton Keynes is on the list and they provided an “interesting” water based astro – congealed algae, a bit like playing on a muddy grass pitch (and no showers after) – we should all appreciate our facilities more.

We are looking for younger recruits – mostly when we are beaten it is because we are older. The Thirds helped us out on one occasion by lending us two players, and this enabled us to compete on the day against younger and stronger opposition. Our player of the season, by some considerable distance, is Crawford McKee. A contender is Phil Hutley at sweeper, and David Gill is our leading goalscorer with twelve. We hope to enjoy the remainder of the season and will be busy in late spring with the East over 50 and over 55 elevens. Hope to see more of you in the clubhouse/bar.

## **Ladies Club Report**

*Jenny Stonebank*

It doesn’t seem possible that this season is drawing to a close.

*Thankyous*

As usual the success of the club relies on the hard work of various people who give up their time

freely to ensure it runs smoothly. Over the last few seasons it has been good to see more people getting involved in various ways.

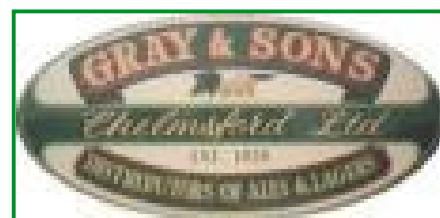
Our supporters, from ‘Team Chelm’ to the regular supporters we get right down through all the elevens, are much appreciated.

My job has been made so much easier thanks to the dedication of the team captains and managers and Anthea our fixture secretary.

Anyone who has ever captained a team will know the frustrations involved in getting an umpire. This season we have been very lucky to have a number of umpires who have committed to our teams every week. I would just like to say a big thank you to everyone who has been good enough to umpire for a ladies' XI this year.

### *Coaching*

Ladies coaching session have run on a Tuesday evening for the 1’s, 2’s and 3’s and on a Wednesday evening for the rest of the club and the U18 girls. We have been fortunate to have highly motivated and skilled coaches this season. Thanks to Phil and Gav for taking the 2’s and 3’s coaches each week and to Hil and Roger for keeping the rest of us inspired. It is a shame that more players cannot commit to coaching. We are lucky to have such a good coaching network within the club and the sessions are free!





## Team News

Congratulations to the 1<sup>st</sup> XI on winning the National indoor championships. It was great to have it televised on Sky too. A number of players and supporters enjoyed a rerun of the Sky recording at the club one Friday evening – we won again!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> XI's are both currently lying third in their leagues (East premier and Essex premier respectively). A fantastic achievement bearing in mind the standard they are playing at.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XI are currently lying 5<sup>th</sup> in their respective leagues. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI have had an extended break since Christmas and do not complete their season for a few more months yet. The 4<sup>th</sup> XI have fielded a fairly settled side this season with a good mix of youngsters and senior players. They have been unlucky to lose a number of games and probably deserve to be a couple of places higher in the league.

The 5<sup>th</sup> XI have also fielded a much more settled side this year and have regularly fielded some promising youngsters who deserve to start to move up through the teams. Their position of 10th in the league does not really reflect their achievements. They have beaten or drawn with two out of the three top teams and again have been unlucky to lose a number of their games.



The details for all of the teams to date are as follows:-

Team	Pos	W	D	L	GF	GA
1 <sup>st</sup> XI	5 <sup>th</sup>	7	2	4	34	27
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9	5	5	49	26
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	3 <sup>rd</sup>	13	2	3	75	30
4 <sup>th</sup> XI	5 <sup>th</sup>	12	1	6	59	21
5 <sup>th</sup> XI	10 <sup>th</sup>	4	4	8	18	40

It just remains for me to say that I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the season and will be back fighting fit in September.

## Ladies Team Reports

### Kat Letts (Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> XI)

P1 19 W 9 D 5 L 5 GF 49 GA 26

Since the last update Chelmsford have had some mixed results, although still sitting a very respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the league, life has been made more difficult than it needed to be!

With some good wins since November against Tunbridge Wells (2-0), Cambridge Uni (5-1) and Thurrock (4-0) the ladies have proved their class. Two very narrow losses against league-leaders Canterbury and Sevenoaks (both 1-2 down) were unfortunate with the team putting in some fine performances and deserving better. Against Gravesend, Chelmsford pulled out all the stops to produce their goal of the year leading them to a 2-1 victory. However, a few losses and too many draws in between have left it to the final few games to determine their final league position.

This season has caused many a difficulty over selection due to an enormous number of talented performances from everyone in the large squad. With 25 club members having represented the ladies 2s...life has not been easy.

With a depleted side due to indoor finals for the U18s, the team suffered a disappointing defeat against Bury St. Edmunds but on the plus side it gave an opportunity for youngsters Charlotte Roberts, Kate Maxey and Jess Sturgeon to show that they have the potential to compete at 2's level.

There have been very solid performances from the defensive unit of Sarah Wilcox (when she doesn't decide to play up front – from sweeper), Claire Penketh, Anna Smith, Caroline Avery and Lou Patterson (when she stops getting hit in the head/face) – the switch round the back is now working like a treat – except for when they get too carried away!

In goal we have been spoilt for choice between Anthea Hunter and Helen Fagg who have both put in some very fine match saving-performances - we are still marvelling how they have reached some of the saves!

In midfield, stalwarts Lisa Crane, Karen Cooper and Sarah Bolton have worked tirelessly and Lisa so nearly got her first league goal for the ladies! Sophie Maxey has earned her place in the squad with some fine performances in both defence and midfield, and Toni Speakman has recovered from her ankle injury with a renewed vigour – both to her game and her talking! Bex Alltree also made a starring appearance against Thurrock scoring a fine goal.

Up front there has been much movement between Julia Butterworth, Helena Roberts, Kat Letts, Gemma Taylor and George Speakman who have all given much trouble to the opposition's defence, missed various open goals but also shown some class finishing! Our top goal scoring tally sees Kat leading with 12 followed by Jules on 8 and Gemma on 7 – however with 3 games left to go it could all change. In particular, I would like to congratulate youngster Helena Roberts who has stepped up to the 2s and held her own giving many a defence trouble with her silky stick skills. Even the ex-Welsh international at Southampton was no match for her!

Vicky Hutley has (finally!) got a job as a physio so a big congratulations to her from the team. Sadly this means she is no longer playing for us but we'd like to wish her all the best in Middlesex – maybe see you back next year!?

Turning our attentions to the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI cup, the team put on a fine performance in the second round following a trek down to Southampton coming out 3 –0 winners only to be “rewarded” with another away draw this time to Bowdon Hightown for the quarter finals! Watch this space..!

Many thanks go to our coach Gav Spencer for his invaluable advice (as well as tantrums and choice words!) and also to our troupe of supporters for their commitment to the team in times of frustration and joy!

### ***Sarah 'Fish' Sturgeon (Ladies 3<sup>rd</sup> XI)***

We've had another great half to the season, with last half's old favourites still performing brilliantly, and a few new, even younger (!) faces, namely Abi Krone and Sarah Williams stepping in to help strengthen our defence. Since Christmas competition has been much fiercer and we have had a few very close matches. Our greatest triumphs were drawing with top of the league Waltham Forest in one of the best games of the season so far, it was such an awesome team effort and I was very proud of the gang, the second was beating O de F on the return match after narrowly losing to them 2 weeks before. Victory was indeed sweet, especially after they insulted our lovely new pitch! Still holding strong in third position with the possibility of promotion – go us!

### ***Jo Eager & Kerry Sutton (Ladies 4<sup>th</sup> XI)***

We are currently in 5<sup>th</sup> position in the league, and still going strong. with some great performances from all the players, which shows with our results!

Thank you to everyone that has played this season and we are sorry to see Denise finish the season early due to a knee injury.

### ***Helen Alexander (Ladies 5<sup>th</sup> XI)***

As many people will be aware, the Ladies 5<sup>th</sup> XI have had a tough couple of years. Having been the 7<sup>th</sup> of 7 to be promoted from Division 4 at the end of

2003-04, we struggled through Division 3 last season and were dubious about holding on to our 11<sup>th</sup> position at the end of 2004-05. This season got off to an equally rocky start and by Xmas we were beginning to wonder if we were ever going to stay off the bottom. However, with the determination and dedication of 15 players, we have had some great games over the last few months.

Although we have had a couple of horrendous losses to top of the division Colne and ECC, our teamwork and resolve is growing. The defence is getting stronger and we are now playing some fantastic hockey, beating 4<sup>th</sup> place Colchester 2-1 at The Garrison before Xmas and 2-0 at Chelmer Park a few weeks ago. Katie Roberts has come in and quickly established herself as a solid sweeper, supporting Catherine Hodge, Laura Appleby, Rosie Patterson and Tina Parrish. Both the midfield and forwards have suddenly become goal hungry, with Harriet Price, Angharad Knill and Olivia Stratton scoring some great goals, as well as Laura Cathro and Helen Alexander finally scoring their first goals ever! Jenny Stonebank and Gill Hickman have been brilliant in supporting us and keeping everyone's heads above the water when the going gets tough.

We have gelled amazingly well and it's thanks to the hardwork and positive outlook that we have tried to keep. It is hard losing



more often than not but we are beginning to surprise a few teams lately. Hopefully we can keep on surprising them!

## Youth Team Reports

### *Boys Under 13's*

*Ed de Mello*

The U13 Boys squad is relatively small with approximately 8-12 regular players who come to Sunday morning training. In spite of this, the players have worked well as a team and results in the all competitions have been reasonably good. With a little more luck in some of the games, we would have had an exceptional season.

Each player in the squad has improved their level of play and we have had two players (Matt Lewis and Ollie Lane) progress into the Essex county squads. Overall, all the boys have been a credit to the club and have shown a high level of commitment and effort during the season.

### *Boys Under 14's*

*Bob Smith*

The U14's are rapidly becoming the 'bus miles' champions of the club. Entered into the Mercian East U14 Development League we found that our nearest away match was at Beckenham, with

the others in Surrey and Wimbledon. Undeterred, a minibus was 'borrowed' from The Mission to Seafarers at Tilbury, giving parents a day off, and the boys have become regulars at the M25 Clackett Lane Services on Sunday afternoons.

We have had a successful season so far and expect it to continue for our remaining matches. The younger players from U13 and U11 who have helped us out when we were short (Simon Bird, Matt Lewis, Olly Lane, James Seager and Lucas Willsher) have all played well and three have been 'man of the match' for their efforts. Meredith Willsher guested for us in the first match at Wimbledon and was so influential that Lucas has become our regular goalkeeper. He is developing well, as are all of the boys thanks to Royce and Roger's coaching. New recruits, plus Ed Luke's return from injury, mean we now have 11 U14's (plus Lucas in goal) available for selection. All good news and encouraging for next season.

The boys have bonded well as a team, possibly due to the minibus experiences (tour rules apply) and also to the senior players providing encouragement and support to the newer players. Some of the hockey has been superb – glossing over the passes to the opposition – and increased movement off the ball has resulted in some fast attacking moves and excellent team play. There are a number of very strong candidates for the end of season

awards and the next few weeks will be critical in making the decisions.

County honours went to Elliot Ball, with Nick Horne and Scott Smith listed as reserves.

The 6<sup>th</sup> XI has benefited from having Scott and, more recently, Elliot in the team and both have also played for the U16's.

### *Results so far:*

16/10/05 (A) Wimbledon	3-0
30/10/05 (H) Purley Walcountians	4-1
13/11/05 (A) Oxted [postponed ? 26/03]	
27/11/05 (H) Bromley & Beckenham	5-4
04/12/05 (A) Cheam	2-2
18/12/05 (H) Reigate Priory [pp to 12/03]	
22/01/06 (H) Wimbledon [pp ? 26/03]	
05/02/06 (A) Purley Walcountians	1-1
26/02/06 (H) Oxted [postponed ? 26/03]	
05/03/06 (A) Bromley & Beckenham	2-1

### *Matches to play:*

12/03/06 (A) Reigate Priory	
meet 09:00	match 11:00
12/03/06 (A) Reigate Priory	
match 1230	home 17:00
19/03/06 (H) Cheam	
26/03/06 (A)(tbc – Oxted / Wimbledon)	
30/04/06 - 01/05/06 Zevenbergen	
Tournament	

### *Boys Under 16's*

*Liz Nourse*

Up to 15 boys train regularly on Wednesday evenings under Royce's expert tuition and most of these have had the opportunity to play in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XI's on Saturdays. As a result their ball skills and match play have improved over the season.

Competitively they have been involved in the U16 Mercian

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League with 5 matches since Christmas, resulting in 2 wins, 2 losses (inc. one walkover) and a draw. This put them in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the League.

#### *Goal Scorers:*

Richard Nourse 8, David Bolton 7, James Beardwell 4, Jack Moss 2, Richard Carter 1, Frank Clough 1, Ed Stanhope 1.

#### *County Honours:*

U16 - David Bolton, Richard Carter, Frank Clough, Richard Nourse

U15 - Adam Carter, Patrick Croot, Josh Maleary

Essex Academy: Richard Nourse

#### **Girls Under 11's**

##### *Trudy Speakman*

The Under 11 girls section has had a good season with more than 20 girls regularly turning up for Sunday training. Three girls were selected for the Essex U11/12 Development Squad – Adrienne Devonish, Beth Speakman and Madeline Newlyn. The team has been successful on the pitch, winning almost all their matches in the White Knights Tournament and winning the Essex Minis Tournament at Old Loughtonians in February. They are now training for the East of England Minis Championship to be held in Bedford on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **Girls Under 13's**

##### *Andy Roberts*

The Chelmsford U13 Girls squad has had a vibrant season. The

total squad now numbers over 30 and we have many County players. There has been much success on the pitch both outdoors and indoors.

In January, we won the inaugural Minis Indoor competition at the Brentwood Centre. In February, we came third in the annual Bishops Stortford College Indoor Challenge. With one round left to play in the White Knights League, we are sitting top of the table and this performance was mirrored on Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Essex mini Championships. From 19 teams entering the competition, we progressed to the final without conceding a goal. In the final we came up against Felsted and narrowly lost 2:1. However, coming runners up in the Minis was a great achievement for the team and they are justifiably proud.

#### **Girls Under 15's**

##### *Joy Thomas*

The Chelmsford under 15 girls' team have reached the quarter finals of the National Cup competition, and are due to travel to Chester for their next match on 19<sup>th</sup> March. They won their match against Havering in December 9-0 on a beautiful bright day. However the last 16 saw them drawn away against Harleston Magpies. Those of you familiar with the setting will know that this was never going to be an easy game, as it would also involve a battle with the elements! They were not disappointed - they arrived on a raw, windy and overcast Sunday in February.

In what would turn out to be a very tense, hard fought game,

Chelmsford started well, going into a 2-1 lead after just over 20 minutes, and then by half-time they were 3-2 up. In the second half Harleston fought back and after 60 minutes of play they were 4-3. Chelmsford took the bit between their teeth and Helena Roberts scored with a minute to spare! This meant the game would be decided on penalty flicks - which after 5 each resulted in a 3-3 draw - by which time the Chelmsford supporters were down to their final finger nail!! Again Helena saved the day by scoring the winner in the 'sudden death' flicks. For a more detailed match report see the article below.

Well done girls - and here's hoping that you will be winners again on the 19<sup>th</sup>!

In addition to the cup matches, we have also played a couple of friendly games against Old Loughtonians. The first game resulted in a 5-4 win, and the return game at Chelmsford gave us a 4-2 win. Thanks must go to Stephanie Carter (under 13 girls) who stepped in at the last minute as goalkeeper on both occasions.

##### *Rosie Maxey*

England Hockey Girls' Under 15 Cup - 4<sup>th</sup> round Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 2006.

Harleston Magpies v Chelmsford

A cold, grey and windy day dawned for our 4<sup>th</sup> round match away at Harleston – an early start for everyone to get to Norfolk in time for the pre-match psyche-up by coaches Rosie Maxey and Simon Price. Finely-honed and focussed, the girls took to the pitch knowing that a tough match was ahead of them.

Push-back, and Harleston came out quickly and efficiently; Chelmsford took a few minutes to settle, then Harleston took the lead with a well-worked field goal after 10 minutes, 1-0. We were working hard, with some great passing moves between the midfield trio of Poppy Church (RM), Kate Maxey (CM) and Angharad Knill (LM), and good marshalling by Sarah Williams (CD, capt). Helena Roberts (LF) made some brilliantly incisive runs down the left flank where she was untouchable, and we equalized with a fantastic through ball from Kate for Hannah Newton (CF) to convert with a perfectly connected first touch shot from the top of the D, 1-1. Another great passage of play saw Kate score again 5 minutes later with a clean shot, 2-1, but then Harleston equalized on 30 mins, 2-2. Abi Krone was having a great game as sweeper, and the defence of Claudia Sidoli (LD), Sarah Williams (CD) and Sophie Stock/Georgia Stevens (RD) were working hard under a lot of

pressure. George Bojarski switched in as CF and ran hard. Just before half time, Harriet Price (RF) fired over a great cross to the back post which Helena picked up and scored- 3-2.

Half-time, and Harleston regrouped, and came out well organized with a changed game plan. They ran us ragged for a lot of the second half with some excellent attacks and Meri Willsher (GK) kept some good shots out, but they took the lead with 10 minutes to go following 2 slipped penalty corners. Becky Thomas was supporting her team mates well too. A torrid last period ensued, with heavy pressure from Harleston resisted by strong and sometimes fortuitous defensive work by Chelmsford. All seemed lost, until in the last minute Helena picked up the ball beyond the half way line, cut into the middle and jinked through 3 or 4 Harleston players, reached the D and slotted it past the keeper !! 4-4 ! Simon's leap on the touch line would have cleared the pole vault bar in the

up-coming Commonwealth Games! 20 seconds later the final whistle blew. Penalty flicks.....

5 volunteers stepped forwards, and Meri took her place between the sticks. The see-saw contest continued, with both goalies making a couple of great saves, with the scores level at 3-3 after 5 flicks. Sudden death.....

The tension was palpable, the stress ball in Rosie's pocket almost squashed to a pulp.....Harleston first- saved with a great dive by Meri; cool as a cucumber, Helena stepped up, and slotted her flick home. Such excitement and relief!! Three cheers were called, hands shaken, umpires and coaches thanked.....Harleston were gracious in their disappointment, and welcomed us all back into the clubhouse for post-match refreshments – much needed after a freezing 2 hours stint outside.

Many thanks go to Rosie and Simon for all their input, expertise and encouragement; the



The Girls U18's National Indoor Squad and the members of the Ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> XI Cup Winning National Indoor Squad - NIA 2006

girls were great ambassadors for the club. Now for the Quarter-finals.....

### **Girls Under 18's**

*Sally Speakman*

The story so far.....

*Indoor* (see previous photo)

We won our east round and came 2<sup>nd</sup> to qualify for the indoor nationals at Worcester. Where we were 3<sup>rd</sup> in our pool many thanks to Lisa and Bolly and Hilary for all there hard efforts with the team even though we had early morning wake ups runs!

*Outdoor*

We have been lucky in the U18's cup as we have had two byes so far and then we played Brentwood which we beat 9-1, we then went on to play Harlston Magpies, This was a very tight game and the score at half time was one all in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half we scored two more goals.

This means that we now go on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March to Poyntn for the 4<sup>th</sup> round and if we make it we will be through to the final which are on the 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> of April. Just to reminder all U18 girls if they have not yet paid there monies for Zevenbergen could they please do so via myself or Liz.

## **Mixed Hockey**

*Rob Wallbank*

Since the last newsletter we have played two more games in the Essex mixed league. The team which played the first two games has changed a little due to injuries and HA Cup commitments.

Our last game of 2005 was versus Havering who beat us in both fixtures last season. So we were understandably a little apprehensive of the game. Once under way though, we took control of the game eventually winning 11-1 with just over half the squad scoring. A hat-trick (again) for Sarah Wilcox, 2 goals (again) for Kat with Claire, Gav and Jimmy getting their goal tally off to a start with 1 a-piece. A special mention must go to our newest striker, Jon Lambert, who after practicing 1-2s with the Old Loughts goal keeper a few weeks prior, managed to slot 2 past the Havering keeper!

The first game of 2006 against Redbridge & Ilford was a complete disaster (for me anyway), after getting a puncture and then locking my car keys in the boot, I gave up and let the others go off to Redbridge without me! And they did well! 4-0 up with 20 minutes to go until captain marvel turns up, (keys retrieved by the AA Man) with time still to play the last 15 minutes. With a few substitutions we managed to let in 2 goals in the last 10 minutes.....oh well a win is a win.....

Our first return match of the league was due to be against Old Loughts on 12<sup>th</sup> March. Unfortunately Loughts could not

get a full team so we were awarded the 3 points.

Our next game is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April versus Havering, which should be a fun game, especially as it's the morning after club day!

So with 15 points from 5 games and a goal tally of nearly 6 goals per game, plus the fact that we are bringing the Ladies and Men's club together as one, when do we pick up our award for team of the year?

## **Men's Club Indoor**

*Simon King*

Due to constraints put on players, Chelmsfords' participation in the Essex indoor league was not as fruitful as the team would have liked. The team was made up of mainly third team members with the odd rebel (Simon Krone) from the two's.

I would like to thank all those that turned out to play and support us on our lonely crusade, while at the same time very disappointed with the support from other XI's (mainly above).

We played 8 games over 4 evenings, winning 4 & losing 4. Disappointingly Witham won the league and then went on to do well in the East indoor finals.

If Chelmsford continue to participate in the Essex indoor league which I hope they do, then it requires more support from all of you who are members of this club.



## Forthcoming Events

<b>March</b>	<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>Men's Dinner @ Chelmer Park</b> (7pm for 8pm)
	<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>HA Cup Quarter Finals :</b> 15 Girls v Chester (Away) and U18 Girls v Poynton (Away)
	<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	- <b>Youth Section Management Committee Meeting</b> Last Youth Wednesday / Midweek Training + Youth Awards
	<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	- Last Men's and Ladies' Club Training Sessions
	<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	- <b>Ladies' Night and Ladies' Awards @ Chelmer Park</b> (7.30pm)
<b>April</b>	<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	- <b>Club Day and Men's Awards @ Chelmer Park</b> (12.30pm start) - See advert later in Newsletter
	<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	- Last Youth Sunday Training + Youth Awards
	<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> / Thursday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>National Police finals</b>
	<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI Tournament</b>
	<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> / Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	- <b>EHL N/S and DI play-offs and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Cup and Trophy</b>
	<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>Evergreens "Tonka Trophy" Tournament</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> to Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	- <b>Zevenbergen Weekend</b>
	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	- <b>Old Loughtonians' Bank Holiday Tournament (Minis)</b>
	<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>White Knights Minis' Finals at Old Loughtonians</b>
	<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>Ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> XI Triangular Tournament</b> - Ipswich, Slough and Chelmsford
	<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>East Vets Tournament</b>
	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	- <b>4<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Day @ Channels Golf Club, Little Waltham</b> (9am)
<b>June</b>	<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>Hockey Club Annual General Meeting</b> @ Chelmer Park, Tea Rooms (8pm)

## Remaining 1<sup>st</sup> XI Fixtures

<b>May</b>	<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	- Men's 1 <sup>st</sup> XI vs Hampstead and Westminster (away)
	<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI vs Canterbury</b> (home, 2pm water) Ladies' 1 <sup>st</sup> XI vs Fyffes Leicester (away at Loughborough)
	<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	- Men's 1 <sup>st</sup> XI vs Loughborough Students (away) <b>Ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> XI vs Canterbury</b> (home, 2pm water)
	<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	- <b>Ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> XI vs Clifton</b> (home, 2pm water)
	<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	- <b>Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI vs Guildford</b> (home, 2pm water) Ladies' 1 <sup>st</sup> XI vs Doncaster (away)
	<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	- Men's 1 <sup>st</sup> XI vs East Grinstead (away) <b>Ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> XI vs Olton &amp; West Warks</b> (home, 12pm water)

Please come and support the 1<sup>st</sup> XI whenever and wherever possible.

## 500 Club News

*Peter Woodward*

### Very Important Notice

At the moment we still have a pathetic 231 Members in the 500 Club.

However there are 113 Members who signed up for the THREE YEAR DEAL to raise funds for the Water Pitch which expires at 7 - 2 - 06 (for some 7-3-06).

PLEASE WILL YOU CONTACT YOUR BANK TO CANCEL THE STOP-ORDER, SO THAT YOU CONTINUE AS A MEMBER?

You will also be written to personally.

I REPEAT MY USUAL PLEA.

As we only have limited sponsorship, to help the club, fill in the form and send to me. If we had 500 members, the club would make £18,000 per annum.

Therefore, you wouldn't have to exert yourself, only lift up a pen, to do your bit! Not much, is it?

## Latest 500 Club Draw Results

*Peter Woodward*

January 2006		231 qualifying members	
Prize	%	Amount	"Winners"
1st Prize	12%	£138.60	Laura Stonebank
2nd Prize	8%	£92.40	Crawford McKee
3rd Prize	4%	£46.20	D. & P. Carter
4th Prize	2%	£23.10	
Ken Carr, P.T. Allan, Katy Roberts, Janet Sutton, Ros Marsh, Maria Merrigan			

February 2006		228 qualifying members	
Prize	%	Amount	"Winners"
1st Prize	12%	£138.60	Willy Williams
2nd Prize	8%	£92.40	Matthew Nicks
3rd Prize	4%	£46.20	Simon Mills
4th Prize	2%	£23.10	
Tracy Comber, Shelia Greenwood, David Wallbank, Liz Rogers, Roy England, P. & J. Mackay			
Quarterly Bonus	7%	£80.85	David Bolton

**There is a standing order mandate at the back of this newsletter.**

**JOIN UP NOW**



## Letters to the Editors

If you have any burning issues that you feel you want to convey to the rest of the club and/or management officials, but do not know the best way to do it, why not write a Letter to the Editors?

All letters will be treated with the utmost importance and in the strictest of confidence (if necessary!).

We are awaiting your input.

## Feedback

Along with any Letters to the Editors that you feel you may want to write, now that you've had a chance to read it through, do you have any ideas concerning the Newsletter? All feedback gratefully received.

## Sponsors Advert

**Business Development Lines**



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Fax: 01255 678888

# Sponsors of Chelmsford Hockey Club

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Plus much more



Golf Day Advert

# **Chelmsford Hockey Club**

## **4th Annual**



# **MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2006**

TO BE HELD AT  
CHANNELS GOLF CLUB  
LITTLE WALTHAM, CHELMSFORD

Cost. - £60 (same as the past three years) for the day that will include coffee on arrival, lunch and evening meal. Two rounds of golf over 27 holes. **All profits will go to the Club.**

To ensure your place or that of your team, would you please contact or submit an entry form which can be found in all issues of the Clubs Newsletter or behind the bar, to either Ben or Ursula without delay.

Ben Farmer, 6 Odin Lodge, Courtland Place,  
Maldon, Essex, CM9 6YE  
(H) 01621 842050 (M) 07977 539963  
e.mail: [ben.farmer@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ben.farmer@tiscali.co.uk)

Ursula Heelis, 18 Whitehouse Crescent,  
Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex  
CM2 7LP  
(H) 01245 351615 (M) 07909 994384  
e.mail: [ursula@uheelis.freemove.co.uk](mailto:ursula@uheelis.freemove.co.uk)

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## Golf Day Entry Form

# Chelmsford Hockey Club

## 4th Annual Golf Day - Monday 22nd May 2006

TO BE HELD AT

CHANNELS GOLF CLUB, LITTLE WALTHAM, CHELMSFORD

### Programme

Coffee on arrival 9.00am followed by - 9 Holes - *Belsteads Course* – Competition to be advised.

Lunch 12.30pm followed by -18 Holes – *Channels Course* – Stableford, Individual & Team Prize  
+ Longest Drive & Nearest the Pin.

Three Course Dinner (Gentlemen jacket & tie please) followed by an award ceremony and raffle.

Cost £60 pp. Sponsorship of prizes would be appreciated.

**Remember this is a fund raising event with all profits going to the Club.**

# Chelmsford Hockey Club

GOLF DAY – MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2006

CHANNELS GOLF CLUB, LITTLE WALTHAM, CHELMSFORD

## ENTRY FORM

The organisers need to know the number of competitors by the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2006. Please submit this form with your team or phone either Ben or Ursula

Name: .....Handicap: .....

Name: .....Handicap: .....

Name: .....Handicap: .....

Name: .....Handicap: .....

Please enter my name or team for the above Golf day.

Signed: .....

Ben Farmer, 6 Odin Lodge, Courtland Place,  
Maldon, Essex, CM9 6YE.  
(H) 01621 842050 (M) 07977 539963  
e-mail: [ben.farmer@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ben.farmer@tiscali.co.uk)

Ursula Heelis, 18 Whitehouse Crescent,  
Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 7LP  
(H) 01245 351615 (M) 07909 994384  
e-mail: [ursula@uheelis.freemove.co.uk](mailto:ursula@uheelis.freemove.co.uk)

A deposit of £20 per player with your entry form will be required by the end of March



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## 500 Club Standing Order Mandate

Please pay: -

**LLOYDS BANK PLC      CHELMSFORD BRANCH      SORT CODE 30-91-85**

**TO THE CREDIT OF: -**

CHELMSFORD HOCKEY CLUB ACCOUNT NO 0997023

The sum of £.....

Amount in words.....  
(Minimum £5-00 per month)

Commencing ..... And on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of every month

Account to be debited:-

Your name.....

Your Bank's Title.....

Your Bank code.....

Your account number.....

Your Banks Address.....

Signature (s).....

Date.....

Please return the form to: -

Peter D Woodward,  
Torc Cottage,  
3 Garden End,  
Stock,  
Ingatestone,  
Essex  
CM4 9LD.

You may copy this to pass on to other prospective members.

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# CLUB DAY 1st APRIL 2006

## TIMETABLE:

**12.30pm – MEET IN THE CLUBHOUSE FOR GAMES REGISTRATION**

**1.30 to 4.30pm – MIXED GAMES - PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM!!**

**5.30pm – CLUB DAY PRESENTATION AND MEN'S ANNUAL AWARDS**

**6.30pm – HOT DINNER**

**7.30pm to LATE – DISCO**

**9pm – LIVE MUSIC**

**RAFFLE (DONATIONS WELCOME – please let Laura know on 07813070741)**

## PRICES:

**HOCKEY - £10 ADULTS/£6 U18s**

**FOOD - £2**

**DISCO/LIVE MUSIC - £5**

**ALL OF THE ABOVE - £15 ADULTS/£11 U18s**

Please fill out the below slip and post it in the box in the clubhouse if you wish to attend club day.  
Please note that extra forms are available from your team captain.

# CLUB DAY 1st APRIL 2006

Please fill out this form and return it to the box provided if you wish to attend this season's club day.

Name:.....

Usual Club Team:.....

Please indicate what part of the day you will be attending.

Hockey (Adults £10/U18s £6) ☐

Food (£2) ☐

Entertainment (£5) ☐

All 3 Above (Adults £15/U18s £11) ☐