

Summer 2004  
Issue 16

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# Chelmsford HC

## NEWSLETTER

### Welcome

#### Editors

Although the league fixtures are over, hockey still continues with summer hockey and other events.

The Club's performance this season has been exceptional, and these achievements will, I'm sure, be mentioned by several other columnists in this issue, so although the Editors would like to make reference, we shall leave it to others. All we will say is, very well done to all concerned.

By the time you get this Newsletter, we will have hosted the Under-21 County Championship competition as well as the Senior County Championships, Women's Vase and Trophy Finals over the weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup> / 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

The next important item for members to record in their diaries is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June which is the AGM.

From the editors, have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you next season.

### Chairman's Chatter

#### *Nigel King*

So that's the end of another season – I don't think even the younger members will be able to better the story in their lifetime of what happened at Chelmsford

Hockey Club in the season 2003/04!

- The realisation of a water based synthetic pitch, which also makes us into a Club with two artificial pitches – on site.
- Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> XI that achieved Runner Up in the National Premier League and therefore a place in European competition.
- Ladies Indoor Squad – National Champions and



therefore in European Competition.

- Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI gaining promotion to the National Premier League.

(This is all I shall mention at this time, the successes of other teams and the Youth Section will be in the Chairman's Report at the AGM)

- The largest gross take behind the bar for the hockey season !! Well, it is a record.

Not bad eh ?? So, now come along to the AGM and take part in organising the future of YOUR club.

## Secretary's Corner

*Spencer Wilcox*

What an incredible season! Ladies in Europe twice over; men promoted to EHL premier; ladies 2s back in East premier; opening of the new pitch and clubhouse extension, hosting our first international, a fabulous Youth Section hosting of Zevenbergen to name but a few highlights.

*Didn't we do well!*

None of this has been achieved without a fantastic amount of hard work on and off the field. Many thanks to you all for your contributions. It's much appreciated.

### Annual General Meeting

Meanwhile, business as usual must continue and elsewhere in this newsletter you will find details of the AGM which is being held in the clubhouse on Friday 25 June at 8pm. Please make every effort to attend - it's important that you take the chance to get the detail of what's been happening through the year, check out the finances, elect your officers and let them know what you want from the club next season and beyond. To provide a little incentive, if we get more than 50 attendees we will have a draw and the winner will get a free membership for next season. Can you resist such temptation?

You will see that there are a number of posts at the AGM which do not yet have candidates. If you're interested please let me know - new faces are more than welcome. And there are loads of ways in which

you can help if you don't want to do a formal job.

### Contacts

It's a never ending job to keep the club address list up to date. If yours, or your telephone numbers, have or are about to change please let me know. And if you receive this newsletter through the post, have you an email address? If so please tell me at [spencer@wilcox51.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:spencer@wilcox51.fsnet.co.uk).

### New members

I hope those of you new to Chelmsford have enjoyed your first season with us. We have plenty of scope for new players - both men's and ladies, young and old. If you know of anyone who is interested give them my email address. I think we can safely say that we offer unbeatable facilities. The youth section are also always on the look out for new members. Details can be had from Youth Chair, Judith Krone, on [jk@felsted.org](mailto:jk@felsted.org).

### Development

Well you've seen for yourself! Just about there now with CCTV and water re-cycling to be added. More details will be given at the AGM together with the current position on fund raising.

### Wanted: Club Health and Safety Officer

If you know something about health and safety and could help with advising the club, drawing up a policy, helping us do a risk assessment and providing

guidance through the year please contact Spencer Wilcox. With our new facilities which we are responsible for managing plus a growing list of outside lets, it's important that we get these things right. So if you have the know how and can spare a little time it would be much appreciated.

*See you at the AGM*

## Treasurer's Report

*Claire Penketh*

This season has been the first season with the new facilities up and running. As such the running costs of the club have now increased, but this season has seen an increase in the revenue raised by club events and sponsorship. We are also starting to gain income from renting out the pitch and match fees have been up on previous seasons as less people have been playing twice on a Saturday. We have had about 370 members this year which have all contributed to the income of the club.

The numbers are still being finalised for the 03/04 season but it looks like the club is making a small profit for the season. Next season proves to be another challenging season financially as

the Ladies 1XI have qualified to play in Europe for both the Indoor and the Outdoor. Club members will not be directly asked to fund these trips but if/when the Ladies organise fund raising events to help them raise some money to go



to Europe, please give generously!

I would like to thank all the club members who have made donations to the club for both the pitch and general running of the club. The club would not be in the position it is without your contributions and they are greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank Treasury Consulting Lines for their generous sponsorship of the club this season and would also like to thank Peninsular Mining Consultants S.A. for their continued support.

## Sponsorship News

*David Lines*

This report is to give every member of Chelmsford Hockey Club an idea of how the sponsorship programme is going. This long-term project is aimed at all levels of potential sponsorship, from individuals and small businesses to the largest corporate sponsor, and hopefully will provoke some ideas and perhaps sources of possible financial support from most, if not all of you.

Our first requirement was to provide an updated brochure for interested sponsors, giving a short history of the Club, a description of its magnificent facilities and several sections devoted to the success achieved at all levels of the Club, from the 1<sup>st</sup> XI's through to the Junior Section. This has been produced with plenty of full colour photographs and now becomes a 'living document', able to be updated at

any time. I should mention here that, for the brochure to be of the highest quality, I am always looking for editorial and good photographic copy so it can constantly be improved. Your help there will be vital, although I cannot guarantee including anything but the best material.

Following on from the production of the main brochure, a mini-version (without photos) has also been published and copies are available to all Club members should they want them to give to a potential sponsor. You can even (or shortly will be able to) download a copy from the Website. If real interest is expressed, then a full colour brochure can be sent as well, along with a tariff providing the costs of the various types of sponsorship.

In terms of new sponsors, I have already been given a list of likely targets and have been in communication with many of them. However, no-one should doubt that it is a hard task, with so many organisations being asked for so many different types of support. Nor should anyone be in doubt that they themselves are a vital link between the Club and potential sponsors – the wider we spread our net, the more successful we are likely to be. We have all the attributes now, as a sports organisation, to attract sponsorship – it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that the word is spread.

Of course, you may ask, why do we need sponsorship? Well, in the first place, the running of two teams at the highest levels of national hockey is an expensive business, but also ensures that the quality of hockey at Chelmsford

is potentially of the highest standard, which benefits everyone. The second important reason is that, although we now enjoy some of the best playing and social facilities in the nation, these are expensive assets to maintain and, eventually, replace. If you like, the Club has moved into a new era, where it has to run itself more like a small business.

So you will clearly see that we have to create a stable, balanced and growing flow of revenues from all sources, not only to handle current expenses, but also to save for future capital expenditure. This is very much in the interests of every member of the Club, and you will be acting in your own interests, as well as that of your team mates, if you give your full support to this sponsorship drive in the coming years. For further information, e-mail [sponsorship@chelmsfordhc.org.uk](mailto:sponsorship@chelmsfordhc.org.uk) or phone me on 01255 677177 (you can leave a message) or buy Woody and/or me a beer in the bar.

## Players Committee Report

*Jon Lambert*

The new facilities are now all up and running and I hope that everyone has enjoyed using them. The feedback has all been positive and we've had surprisingly few teething problems.

The kitchens have now been upgraded thanks to the significant efforts of Crawford McKee and David Wallbank with Brian Poole and John Newman from CCC.

We intend move the teas through to the tea-rooms next season to give everyone more space.

The new kit has been a success and is now available for all players in all senior teams. Please see Peter Holleborn who now holds the stock and can place orders for Shirts, Shorts, Skirts, Socks and Tracksuits. Everyone should now be playing in the new shirts, blue shorts/skirts and green socks.

Pitch times for training and matches next season are currently under discussion. Demand is high and we will endeavour to make sure that everyone continues to get good usage of the new pitch, whilst remembering that costs dictate that we need to make use of our 'free' time on what is a new and very good sand-based pitch.

Finally, the Management and Playing Committees are working hard to improve things at the club on your behalf. If you have any suggestions or dislike (or like!) decisions being made then please let us know. Every captain sits on the Playing Committee, so they can pass on any comments!

## Pitch Bookings

*Crawford McKee*

### *Hire of Water and Sand Artificial Pitches*

In the event of members (Internal Club) or others (External) wishing to reserve either of the artificial pitches, would you please note the following:

For *All Internal Club* reservations of water and/or sand pitches - all

bookings must be directed and confirmed through **Crawford McKee**.

Tel: (01245) 442163  
Mobile: 07968 122425 or  
e-mail:  
[crawfordmckee@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:crawfordmckee@blueyonder.co.uk)

*Youth Internal* reservations of water and/or sand pitches – first through **Philippa Feldman** who will review and then pass through Crawford.

For *All External* rentals of water and or sand pitches - all bookings through **Dick Goode**.  
Tel: (01245) 601419

**Members must not book the sand pitch direct with Chelmsford Borough Council or any other pitch locations on behalf of Chelmsford Hockey Club.**

## Youth Report

*Judith Krone*

The 2003/04 season has been another a successful season for the youth section with notable successes including the girls under 11 and under 13 teams being runners up in the Essex Mini Championships, playing in East of England Championships with the under 11's being runners; the under 15 girls reaching the semi finals of the National Hockey Cup Plate competition and the under 18 girl's team reaching the national indoor finals. Many of the youngsters have represented Essex in their age groups, a number have gone on to be selected for East and Julia Butterworth has been selected for England U16. A significant number are also playing in the

senior club teams with some of the girls joining in the ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team squad.

The youth section is divided into two main sections. The under 7's, under 9's, under 11 boys and girls and under 13 boys and girls train on Sunday mornings. Many of the coaches are parents and we are grateful that a number of the older boys also come down and help. These children learn basic skills, participate in the White Knights league and are put forward to county trials. We are particularly grateful to Andy Roberts who has been one of the main co-ordinators of the White Knights league and enabled the club to gain the reputation of being one of the best organised – we put on a mean tournament!

There have been over 90 children involved in this section and we are one of the largest groups in the county.

The under 14 to under 19 girls have been training on a Wednesday evening while the boys in the same age group have been training on the Tuesday evening. Both groups have had opportunities to join in indoor training. The boys have played in the Mercian regional U14 and U16 leagues. They have not been able to fulfil their undoubtedly potential because they have been unable to field consistent teams and we need to concentrate our efforts in providing appropriate training sessions. The girls have played the National Hockey Cup competition and the under 19 league.

The season concluded with a spectacular weekend of hockey in the form of hosting our friends for Zevernbergen and running the

White Knights Final play offs. Both occasions were blessed with good weather and the standard of hockey was great. Both events showed what youth hockey is all about!

The closing of the season has meant saying good bye to Roger Prowting, as youth treasurer. Philippa Feldman as tour co-ordinator and Hilary Malicka as chairman. Hilary's enthusiasm to the club is hugely contagious, her ability to promote the youth sections views is tenacious and she will be sorely missed.

In the new season we are looking to continue to develop the high standard of hockey played; to provide the very best coaching possible; to specifically develop boys hockey by increasing the numbers of boys playing and raising the level of their game and we are looking to integrate our players into the senior club – having spent 5 or 6 years training with them we don't want to see them leave the game because of lack of opportunity in the club. We are very dependent upon the support from all members and if you are able willing to be involved please shout.

## Free Kit for Clubs

Please don't forget about the Kingsmill Bread Kit for Club programme that the youth section have registered with! So, please can all members and families save their 'Free Kit for Clubs' tokens from Kingsmill products. There is a collection box in the clubhouse, underneath the whiteboard.

<http://www.kingsmillkitforclubs.co.uk>

## Bar Burblings

*Ian Hunter / Nigel King*

A record season for the bar! For those of you who don't know, all bar profits go towards the running of the clubhouse, and the purchase of new equipment and furnishings.

Last season it seemed to the bar stewards that teams were not fulfilling their bar duties. This coming season we will try a different approach. Each team playing at home, regardless of whether they are on water or sand, will be responsible for manning the bar for one and a half hour after their match. Therefore there will be two people on duty at any one time.

There are reasons for having the bar manned properly.

1. Efficient service.
2. The bar is kept clean and tidy.
3. Visiting teams feel more welcome, there is nothing worse than going into a club and finding the bar closed.
4. Improved profits.
5. Improved turnover.

The bar is the heart of the club. Next season it will be even more important for the bar to be buzzing, with both 1st teams in their respective premier leagues. Captains are going to have to take a more pro-active role in making sure their team-mates do their duty!!

Next season we are planning to run more socials. Are we doing it right? Do you want a more varied social calendar? Let us know!! The last three socials of the season contributed a third of the turnover for the season, which

proves the value of having them. Club members can also "hire" the clubhouse for parties, anniversaries etc.. Speak to us, we're not mind readers.

Finally, we are Bar Stewards, not barmen! We will not be behind the bar as much next season, so please help us out by taking regular turns behind the bar.

## Chelmsford Sports Club

*David Wallbank*

What Sports Club I hear you say. Well, the Sports Club and its Committee of 12 who have the responsibility of running, maintaining and improving the Clubhouse facilities for you the members. The only two clubs affiliated are Chelmsford Cricket Club and Chelmsford Hockey Club, and six members from each club make up the committee.

For the past season the committee has been the following:

**Chairman:** David Wallbank  
CHC

**Vice-Chairman:** Gill Hickman  
CHC

**Treasurer:** Brian Poole CCC

**Secretary:** Max Gibson CCC

**Clubhouse Bookings:** Rosie Prowting CCC

**Committee Members:**  
Jackie Hefford CHC  
Nigel King CHC  
Mike Smith CCC  
Jon Lambert CHC  
Shirley Bailey CCC

The Clubhouse over the past 12 months has seen many improvements. Notably the installation of the remaining PVC

windows; these now seal the two exposed sides of the Clubhouse and make these sides of the building fully secure and weather proofed. These improvements should see a reduction in heating and decorating costs.

Continuing on from last year we have also undertaken, both within and outside, several electrical improvements which again have secured the building and brought it up to an acceptable standard.

The park has been generally improved by the planting of over 70 trees, this move was initiated by CCC, and has given the park a softer look that has improved its standing in the community.

Your committee has extended a welcome to the Galleywood Village Design Statement committee to use the Clubhouse over the past year, which has again helped to put CCC and CHC in view of those responsible for seeing that Galleywood is and remains an acceptable environment for players and visitors to play their sports. Whilst on the matter of the park, we should not forget the work undertaken by the two ground staff and to thank them for their excellent cooperation.

The bar takings this fiscal year have improved significantly and your committee applauds the two clubs bar stewards for their efforts. These additional funds have not only enabled us to complete the refurbishment of the kitchen, to a very high standard, but has given impetus to further projects such as the Bar, Clubhouse furniture and other needed improvements which are all under separate reviews.

## Opening Weekend Report

*Spencer Wilcox*

Opening of Chelmer Park Hockey Centre.

A lot of hard work came together when our new hockey centre was opened on 17/18 April. Blessed with good weather (except the ceremony itself!!) we were delighted to have Zevenbergen and Channel Islands men's vets over for the weekend, to see so many members taking part in the mixed games and of course the two exhibition games on the Sunday. Fittingly the Mayor of Chelmsford, John Hunnable, opened the new pitch and clubhouse facilities, but we were pleased to have with us the EH President Ian Forster, and representatives from Sport England, East and Essex together with a large number of old friends.

All in all it was a great weekend. And it allowed the "events team" to hone their skills in organising carparking, bar, refreshments, changing rooms, pitches etc etc and all the other myriad things that go to make a successful weekend of hockey. Many thanks to everyone who contributed.



## County Championships Report

*Crawford McKee*

As you may know Chelmsford were selected by English Hockey to host another prestigious tournament at Chelmer Park within the English hockey calendar. On the weekend of 22nd & 23rd May some 350 players and more than 400 spectators attended to play out the Ladies Vase and Trophy finals and the Men's County Championship A & B Division finals, as well as the Men's U21 County Championship finals played as a round-robin tournament. Both pitches were fully utilised.

There was some local interest provided by Brentwood who lost the Vase final to Bolton who had superb support with them and seemed to fully enjoy the Chelmsford hospitality. Both Essex senior & U21 sides were respectively involved in the 2 county championship events, the seniors running out as Champions for the first time ever. We provided after match meals for both the ladies finals on Saturday for about 80 people in the tea-room, which required an organised plan for serving & clearing, delicately working with the cricket club who had 3 match teas as well. Well done & thanks to all who assisted.

The organising group from the club concluded the various tasks superbly and we were congratulated on our organisation from both English hockey and

various visiting teams and dignitaries.

Thanks must go to our intrepid workers who assisted over a 2 day weekend and a Friday of preparations. We had teams involved with providing car parking, pitch organisation and PA, Clubhouse & facilities, Programmes and Ticketing preparation & sales and catering. The teams enthusiasm turned the weekend into a significant benefit to the club. We took about £2000 in 2 days on catering, programme & ticket sales and the bar take was around £3000. With expenses to be deducted we will certainly enjoy a significant profit for the weekend and fully pay for a new PA system which was bought for the event and will be available for future use.

We are assured of future events from English Hockey, and in order to maximise the benefits to CHC we will need some additional helpers to assist in the various tasks and spread the load. Please keep it in mind. It all goes to fund the hockey we enjoy, and is a much more desirable alternative to funding than our annual subscriptions.

## Men's First XI Report

*David Kitchiner*

Well, it was a roller-coaster ride but we finally made it. After coming close on a couple of occasions in recent years the 1st XI finally achieved their goal of promotion to the EHL Premier Division. The achievement elevates us to a select group of only two clubs in the country with

both their men's and women's teams in the EHL Premier Division - the other one, of course, being Canterbury. What a way to celebrate the top class facilities we now have at Chelmer Park. The challenge now is to maintain our position and even to move on to greater things. How about being the first club to represent England in the men's and women's European Club Championship in the same season?

While I could harp on (and frequently do according to some!) in minute detail about every match we've played this season, I'd prefer to focus on some of the significant events and performances that have moulded this season. If you remember, at the time of the last newsletter, we were sitting in fifth place at the mid-season break, only three points from top spot, and also in the last eight of the EH Cup. The first half of the season will be remembered for some spectacular goalscoring feats from Dave "Doppers" De Prez, some memorable cup victories over Premier Division opposition and some inconsistent league form, but we were all looking forward to the challenge that lay ahead.

However, I don't think anybody could have imagined a worse start to the second half of the season, especially our inspirational England goalkeeper David "Carts" Carter. While I have no desire to make light of Cart's horrific car crash, and I am sure he will take this in the spirit in which it is intended, his long-term absence was an eventuality that the 1st XI Management team had not considered and there was now a considerable void to be filled between our posts before the cup

quarter-final clash with the mighty Cannock thirty-six hours later!

Still, as the saying goes, "cometh the hour, cometh the man", and nobody epitomises that more than our first (more of that later) reserve goalkeeper James "Jamo" Davis, who stepped into the breach and performed heroically against Cannock but could not prevent a 8-1 defeat. He was, however, fully rewarded the following weekend when the league programme resumed with a tricky away encounter at promotion rivals Belper, who had scored fourteen unanswered goals in their previous two league outings...against Firebrands and Bowdon! Our 4-1 win, with Jamo in frighteningly defiant form - which he maintained for the remainder of the campaign - was perhaps the most significant result of the whole season, and one that appeared to instil a new sense of self-belief in the whole squad.

Doncaster were swept aside 5-0 at Chelmer Park before we travelled to Stourport for a rare game on a sand-based pitch, but confident of another three points. In the end, we were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw, and had captain fantastic Andrew "Spesh" Kennedy to thank for that as he miraculously picked off two Imran Yousaf penalty corners from above his head and calmly played them to safety. Yousaf's response of "well played skipper" seemed strangely inadequate at the time and even more so now when looking at our final points tally. Incidentally, Spesh's goal-line clearances were a recurring theme this season. They will surely be missed next year as he heads for



retirement (again, more of that later).

We then entered a sequence of four crucial games against fellow promotion chasers, the first two without player/coach Craig “Ned” Fulton, who was busy qualifying for the Athens Olympics via a 5-0 defeat to Great Britain in Madrid, a sudden-death penalty shoot-out against Belgium and a Court of Arbitration of Sport ruling in Lausanne!

Beeston were the latest team to feel the wrath of Doppers’ reverse stick shooting. After battering the Chelmsford defence for the first thirty-five minutes, the Midlanders were visibly miffed by the Chelmsford marksman’s second-half hat-trick. However, the elation within the squad at that result was nothing compared to the utter dejection felt after a limp display and 2-1 defeat at Bournville. In mitigation, our preparation for that match was not the best. The start time of the game having to be delayed by half an hour due to motorway gridlock around Birmingham caused by hordes of dog-lovers descending upon Crufts at the NEC.

League leaders Firebrands’ visit to Chelmer Park was eagerly awaited by all, but we were given a harsh lesson in the art of finishing that virtually guaranteed them promotion and left us relying on others to do us a favour. As such, it was a slightly anxious and uncertain squad that made the eight-hour journey North to Bowdon. Yes, you did read that correctly. Despite leaving plenty of time to get to Bowdon for a Saturday evening training session on their notoriously bouncy pitch, the Management Team’s best laid plans were once more undone by unfavourable road conditions. This time, high winds caused the complete closure of the M1 and then the M6.

Another factor in the squad’s uncertainty was a rib injury to Jamo that handed Dan “Badger” Tilley his first EHL appearance for over three years. Why we worried I do not know. Our second reserve goalkeeper turned in a more than acceptable performance to lay the platform for a thrilling 5-1 victory. Badger’s grin became even wider after the game when news filtered

through that second-placed Bournville had dropped points to allow us to leap back into second place. The equation was now simple. Win our last two games and we were up.

While the equation was simple, the reality was anything but. Recent contests against our next opponents, Southgate, have tended to be bad-tempered, closely fought, scrappy affairs. They had also run into some form since Christmas following the arrival of Australian hired gun, and former Olympian, Baeden Choppy. It was always going to be a tough examination of our promotion credentials and, with the score delicately poised at 3-3 at half-time and the rejuvenated Badger having saved a penalty, I suspect that our strong travelling support were not quite a confident as they sounded!

We need not have worried, for four unanswered second half goals (including our international centre-forward’s first of the season!) gave the supporters something to really shout about...and swiftly silenced the rather plummier tones of one or two Southgate stalwarts. That result set everything up nicely for the final game of the season at home, on Club Day, to Nottingham. A 9-0 win was a little harsh on the visitors (they’re a very pleasant bunch), but just reward for a confident and uncompromising performance from Chelmsford.

Special mention must be made of our player of the year, Ben “Forrest” Farmer, for his tireless running and the most consistent season in his career. The majority of the votes were split between him and Doppers, who

received the “consolation prize” of being awarded the EHL Division One Player of the Year by our opponents, most of whom had been on the receiving end of at least one of his twenty-four league goals (thirty-two including cup). His tally of twenty-two open play goals was the highest in any of the men’s or women’s EHL Divisions and I would be surprised if there was a more explosive or spectacular finisher in any division.

At the risk of blowing my own trumpet (“that’s never stopped you in the past”, I hear you say), the Management Team of Peter “Woody” Woodward, Peter “Buzz” Carter and yours truly should also receive some recognition. There were some who expressed doubts earlier in the season that a Management trio could work effectively. I cannot admit that it has worked perfectly, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating. We have all gone about our specific duties in our own way and there have been confrontations and disagreements, but none of us have felt too stretched (with the probable exception of Buzz in the aftermath of David’s accident) and we have been able to dedicate more effort to those individual tasks than has ever been possible with just one or two people at the helm. I believe it has made a difference this season.

Ned must also be thanked for his dedicated approach to coaching the squad and his sheer bloody-minded motivational speeches. The words “give” and “up” are just not in his vocabulary...which surprises many who are forced to endure his monosyllabic monologues on a regular basis

(somebody please explain that one to Forrest and Luke).

One new addition to the support staff this season was Steve “Fizz” Morley who warmed them up, warmed them down, managed and treated the many injuries that befell the squad, including the stomach-wrenching task of massaging Phil “Pins” Pineo’s groin prior to every game. He was even called upon for tactical advice at particularly tense moments in games! A squad physiotherapist’s contribution is frequently undervalued, but I hope Fizz recognised the huge roar of approval that greeted his arrival on the right-wing during the pitch-opening celebration match. It was not because the crowd mistook him for some South African goal-scoring prima donna, but because they recognised a valuable, dedicated, popular and often overlooked member of the team.

Alan “Drapes” Draper and David “Linesey” Lines have played their part too. They have offered valuable support from the sidelines, in management discussions and in raising finance, and few will ever forget Drapes dancing semi-naked on a table after clinching promotion!

I would love to mention every one of the players who has played a vital part in this season’s success, but it is simply not possible. Instead, I shall end with Spesh. In his seven years in the squad, the past six as captain, he has been a colossus. His ball distribution, strong tackling, willingness to put his body on the line in the team cause have all been features of his own game. Add to that, his leadership, dedication, good sense and sense

of humour and you have a formidable asset to any squad (it’s just a pity that he can’t drink!). He will undoubtedly be missed next season, as he prepares to umpire in the EHL. He will go with the thanks, respect and good wishes of all involved with the squad in recent years.

## Ladies First XI Report

*Janet Sutton*

The Ladies 1st XI have had their most successful season in history. Winning the Indoor Premier League, Indoor European Play Offs - qualifying for Europe Indoor Trophy, and finishing second in the Outdoor Premier League, Runners-up in the Premiership Play-Offs and qualifying for the European Cup Winners Cup.

Ex GB Player, Karen Brown is in her fourth season as Coach, and has brought the team on from promotion, from Division 1 to a place in Europe.

The season started with four away matches, just in case the new waterbased pitch was behind schedule or had teething problems, but travelling away was no problem and by the Christmas break, they were riding high top of the League. The break for Indoor saw Chelmsford, coached by players, Lisa Wooding and Lynn Bollington see the U19 girls, as National Runners-Up and the Senior side, undefeated, progressing to Europe in February 2005.



Returning to Outdoor, at the beginning of February, Chelmsford were in with a chance of winning the League, but Hightown had got their act together and top league goal scorer, Tina Cullen, was causing problems to their opposition. The match in March, on their sand based pitch became the League decider, and Chelmsford could not overtake them to become League Winners.

However, as League Runners-up, it gave them an advantage in the Premiership Play-Offs. This was a close fought contest between Hightown, Canterbury and ourselves. Chelmsford lost 2-1 to Hightown, in Match 1 and Canterbury came through the Play-Off rounds to meet Chelmsford at Chelmer.

This went close to the wire, and it went to penalties, with Katy Roberts outclassing Hilary Rose in goal and Chelmsford went on for a re-match v. Hightown, at Old Loughtonians. Chelmsford, by now, were assured one of the two coveted, European Competitions. This match also, was a highly fought contest. As underdogs, Chelmsford though that they were there, with a two

goal margin, only to see Hightown claw one back and another with 20 seconds left on the clock. Hightown scored 'a golden goal' and Chelmsford knew that they would be in the Cup Winners Cup over Easter 2005.

In between playing National League, several squad members were on International duty:- Goalkeeper Katy Roberts was part of the GB training squad and was in the running for an Olympic place Cath Gilliat-Smith, Lisa Wooding and Chloe Rogers played for England and all took part in the Test series v. Japan.

Becky Alltree was called into the England side for the recent series in the Netherlands.

Julia Butterworth is playing England U16.

Hayley Heggie did not choose to play for Scotland U18 this season and will be eligible to play for England next season.

Manager's quote - The new facilities at Chelmer Park are an asset to the Club and we, as a team, are grateful to all the hard work put in by Club members and this can be seen by our results this season. The Ladies 1st XI have also been a credit to the Club, the

squad ranges in age from 40+ to U16 and all have contributed, by way of experience, knowledge, or stamina, to make it the most successful season ever. Some players have travelled overnight to away matches and stayed on the bench. Without this support and commitment from the Team Management, Coach, Captain and Players we could not have achieved a Double in Europe for 2005. Look forward to 2005!

## Men's Club Report

*Alistair Fergus*

### Club Awards

Those awarded at Club Day were

1<sup>st</sup> XI Ben Farmer  
 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Elliott Seleska  
 3<sup>rd</sup> XI Duncan Feldman  
 4<sup>th</sup> XI Gavin Spencer  
 5<sup>th</sup> XI Andy Smith  
 6<sup>th</sup> XI Phil Hunt  
 Vets Andy Neave  
 Evergreens Mike Southwell  
 Top Scorer - Trevor Waspe  
 Young player Josh Mepham  
 Clubman Crawford McKee  
 Team - 1<sup>st</sup> XI

## Men's Team Reports

### *Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> XI*

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

### *Simon King (Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI)*

No report was received from the Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI.

**Charlie Hingston (Men's 4<sup>th</sup> XI)**

We did it!!! After a slightly nervous last 2 weeks of the season where only a point was required from 2 games it came down to the last game of the season with a rearranged match away to Romford. Our preparation was not ideal as it was the morning after club day that we set off knowing that a draw would guarantee promotion, a win would give us 2nd and defeat well that was just not worth thinking about.

Maybe it was the inspiration of watching the 1st XI the day before but we got the win we deserved following a season of ups and downs that we achieved our goal of promotion to Div 5SE. Particular mentions must be made for Trevor Waspe for his outstanding 46 goals, (I understand it would have been 60 if it wasn't for the cross bar), Andy Nourse who helped set up a good many of these and scored 17 on his own merit and Gavin Spencer (4 XI player of the season) who also had a good season. But it was a team effort, and well done all!!

**Jon Lambert (Men's 5<sup>th</sup> XI)**

Christmas saw a change of fortune for the 5XI. Victories in two friendlies against the Mens 4XI and Ladies 2XI giving us the confidence to bounce back with 5 wins in 6 matches and move clear of the bottom of the table.

The remainder of the season went fairly flat, with the bottom three teams relegated well before the end and the top teams clear, the 5s headed for mid-table obscurity vying with Brentwood and

Maldon & Little Baddow for 7th spot, achieved with a final day 5-1 victory against Brentwood. At the time, we didn't appreciate the significance, but with the East League electing in May to relegate five instead of the normal three, every team below us gone down.

So the 5XI stay in Div 7SE for another season to be joined by 8 new teams. Now we just need to find a captain...

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

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

**Peter Hollebon / Fred Matthews (Evergreens)**

The season was extremely enjoyable and played in the spirit the Evergreens wish to play their Hockey. Playing to win but also in good humour and with an eye to the fact that all our fixtures are friendlies.

The decision to come out of the London League and only play our peers as friendlies was vindicated in the season's statistics:

P23 W10 D1 L12 F70 A72

All members of the squad made contributions whilst not wanting to single out players our player of the year Martin Southwell in only his second full season played better as the season went on. The stalwarts of Evergreens Hockey made their usual telling contributions in David Lines, Peter Hollebon, Ian Hunter, Brian Heelis, Danny Dempsey, Bert Clarke and Nigel King.

The EHA in changing the short corner rules contributed to our success in making Ian Hunter quite deadly from this set play. Our two "ancient ones" in Keith Leppard and David Simms both scored goals more frequently than in the previous season and are still enjoying their hockey. With keeping duties again shared between Bruce Simpson and Fred Matthews the defence had to keep adjusting between their contrasting styles of keeping, which they did admirably. Gerald Wilkinson joined us from the Vets during the season and contributed to our success as did Martin Matthews after his knee ops whilst Alan Draper flew in on several occasions for guest appearances. We would also like to thank those other players who made appearances and the Evergreens hope to see more of them next season. Peter Woodward umpired for us on several occasions (when he was not already booked to umpire every match at Chelmer Park at the same time.) and our thanks to him also.

The Vets Festival during the opening weekend was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all those Vets and Evergreens who took part.

In managing to mention every Evergreen somewhere within this report We hope the overriding quality of Evergreens Hockey as a team of players of "a certain age" who enjoy their hockey but also enjoy the company of each other and that of their opponents is apparent.

As a parting shot can we mention that in July the Evergreens will be touring to Zevenbergen and under tour rules any further mention of

this tour will appear only in Interpol bulletins.

### **Ralph Thomas (Vets)**

With 5 consecutive league wins around the turn of the year we were in contention to win the league but we fell away in the run-in and finished third with 30 points. Having just 12 in the squad we were badly affected by player unavailability such that in the final month when Dave Woods and Chris Randall suffered long term injuries we were obliged to travel with just 10 players and with up to 3 willing recruits from other XI's.

Andy Neave was voted our player of the season, making countless tackles and close-downs in centre midfield; David Gill scored 6 goals from left wing against Cambridge South and ended up second top scorer, while Dave Woods and Phil Hutley showed their versatility and character by playing in various positions to accommodate others.

Special thanks to our umpires, particularly Norman Kerridge who took 6 matches.

We are hopeful that next season we will be in a new East East Veterans League which will also enable us to continue with some established friendly fixtures.

## **Ladies Club Report**

*Jenny Stonebank*

We have been very fortunate this season to see the dream of a water-base at Chelmer Park become a reality and to make use

of the splendid new changing facilities.

This season has been incredibly successful for the Ladies and in particular the Ladies 1s who finished a long hard season 2nd in the top flight National league, gained a place in the European Cup outdoor and qualified for Europe indoor too. A wealth of memorable moments will have made up their season, none more for me than the final penalty flick save by Katy Roberts in a qualifying match against Canterbury which was held over the Zvenbergen weekend.

The Ladies 2's have also had an excellent season gaining promotion straight back into the East premiership. The 3s and 5s maintained their position in their respective leagues and although the 4th XI were relegated from Essex Div.1 (the same league as the 3s) many of their games were only lost by the odd goal. Despite their disappointing season they maintained a positive approach to their games and demonstrated a tremendous team spirit.

The season culminated in our Ladies dinner and awards. Our guest speaker Dawn Henning entertained us with various anecdotes during her time as an umpire. A raffle was held during the evening from which we were pleased to be able to donate 50% of the proceeds to a charity of one of our guest's choice. This year Mrs L chose the Stroke Association. Congratulations to everyone who won awards and many thanks to everyone who contributed to making this season such a success.

### **Club Awards**

Club Member - Nikki Tuff  
 1<sup>st</sup> XI - Chloe Rogers  
 2<sup>nd</sup> XI - Sally Johnston  
 3<sup>rd</sup> XI - Antonia Speakman  
 4<sup>th</sup> XI - Charlotte Roberts  
 5<sup>th</sup> XI - Kerry Sutton  
 Indoor - Lisa Wooding  
 Top Goalscorer - Jo Eager  
 Most promising Junior - Julia Butterworth.

## **Ladies Team Reports**

*Claire Penketh (Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> XI)*

We started this season positively with a new coach and a number of new players and all was looking hopeful for a promotion position. We then hit a run of bad luck in the last games before Christmas. It was suddenly looking a difficult proposition to pull ourselves back into a promotion position (top 3) at the mid season break.

After Christmas we pulled ourselves together and with the help of new Aussie recruit Jane Clarkson we started scoring goals again. This led to a run of good results and a renewed desire to work ourselves back into a promotion position. By the end of the season we had managed to pull ourselves back into the third promotion place, although this went down to the wire as it was not confirmed until Maidstone had played their last game against Thurrock and beaten them.

A larger squad has helped us field a consistent team this year and team spirit has always been good, so good that I think our coach

(David Coombes) sometimes despaired and wondered what he was going to do with 15 screeching women. Thanks go to David who has helped us achieve the promotion we wanted this year – I don't think he knew quite what to expect when he agreed to take on 15 girls with mood swings and tantrums – he knows now! Oh the delights of coaching ladies hockey!

We also had a good run in the 2XI cup, reaching the semi finals. Many thanks go to all those people who played in the semi final at short notice due to the severe lack of regular 2XI players available.

Congratulations to Sally Johnston who was our player of the season and Jane Clarkson who finished top of the fantasy league table for the ladies having only played half a season at Chelmsford! She was closely followed by Emma Cockerill in the fantasy points. I'd also like to congratulate another one of our players, Julia Butterworth, for getting a place in the England U16 squad.

We're now looking forward to next season having returned to the East Premier Division to develop and build on the good season we have just had.

#### *Sally Symes (Ladies 3<sup>rd</sup> XI)*

The ladies 3s had a pretty shaky start to the 03/04 season. Not content with being a bit unfit and out of practice we made our first 4/5 games that little bit more challenging by letting the opposition score once or twice before we really started to play. This often resulted in good performances towards the end of

the game when unfortunately it was just too late.

By about November however we began to improve and we had a great couple of games that gave us the confidence to make them into a winning streak. The result was that at Christmas we were sitting proudly in 3rd place, having also beaten 2nd place Harlow.

Unfortunately a loss of form post the Christmas break meant we were unable to hold our position here for long. An inconsistent side each week meant we no longer gelled as a team and lost confidence as a result. The end of the season saw us hovering in the lower ranks of the table.

I have no doubt however we can regain our form next season when we will have renewed enthusiasm after the summer break.

Having said that training starts in earnest in a couple of months!

#### *Nikki Tuff (Ladies 4<sup>th</sup> XI)*

It's been a bit of a mixed season for the Ladies 4's, with the results not reflective of the great team spirit and unfaltering determination shown by all.

Our unwanted promotion to the first division left us a bit out of our depth and has resulted in immediate relegation back to Essex Division Two.

There have been some outstanding performances, in particular from our two young goalkeepers Sarah Vigrass and Helen Fagg. This season's Player of the Year Charlotte Roberts has shown maturity beyond her years

in continuing to give her all despite the scorelines.

A big thank-you to Denise Hayes, Karen Gibson, Lesley Stenhouse and Chris Cunningham, who have assisted in the organisation of the team this year and to all those who have umpired.

#### *Jenny Stonebank (Ladies 5<sup>th</sup> XI)*

Again this season the Ladies 5's have continued to encourage the younger members of the club supported by a few more senior players!

Up until Christmas they were looking like possible contenders for promotion with some good results against some of the stronger teams in the league. However, a poor run after Christmas saw the team slowly slip down the league finishing mid table by the season end.

Top goalscorer for the 5<sup>th</sup> XI was Jo Eager who also received the Essex Division 3 overall top goalscorer award. Sweeper Kerry Sutton received the 5<sup>th</sup> XI player of the season narrowly beating goalkeeper Gill Hickman.

## **Indoor Hockey**

*Adrian Tuff & Claire Penketh*

#### **Men's Club Indoor**

With so much talk nowadays of indoor hockey and how it improves your outfield game, the Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI attempted to grab that extra edge against their outdoor opponents by registering with the Essex Indoor League. Placed in Division 2 with the

familiar names of Brentwood, Witham, Southend etc. we set out to prove our worth.

Much to everyone's surprise we did rather well. Under the guidance of veteran indoor player Simon King we got off to a fantastic start by beating Brentwood and East London quite considerably. It already seemed that Phil Goode would be our main source of goals, with Adrian Tuff and Sam Gibson providing able back-up. In fact the Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI took to indoor like a duck to, well if not exactly water, maybe oil or something.

Phil's eye for goal, Sam and Ben Rew's penalty corner routines, outstanding keeping by Tim Briggs and stout defending by Sam, Simon and Rob Fordham ensured that the next 4 were won with considerable ease and a healthy goal difference.

Next came the two big crunch matches, Old Southendians and Havering. A couple of wins would have ensured that we topped Division 2 with a game in hand. A (very tense) draw and a win respectively ensured that we were champions (by goal difference) in all but name before we even played our final game.

Our final game was against a lacklustre Southend team who quickly succumbed to the Goode/Gibson routine and went down 7-0 without much of a fight.

Due to the dropping out of one of the teams, mainly to fill up the pitch bookings, a premiership type play-off was held, although it didn't affect the league standings at all. We were pitched against 4<sup>th</sup> place Upminster in the semi-final. With a minute to go

Sam decided that we really did want to win (rather than having an early night) and slotted in a late goal to edge the game 8-7, but Upminster scored off the final penalty corner and touch of the match to level at 8-8. With everyone thinking that an early exit would be better than hanging around for another hour or so we went into the penalty flick competition with mixed hopes.

Successful conversion from Sam and Ben Rew drew the score at 2-2. After deciding that we didn't really care if we played the final or not, Phil Goode was forced aside to be replaced by 'keeper Tim Briggs, who's effort was (let's give credit here) pants. We lost 3-2.

Still, a sour(ish) end to a very successful initial indoor campaign. Silverware and everything. Here's to division 1 next season.

### Ladies Club Indoor

The Ladies entered the Essex Indoor League at Brentwood this year for the first time in a while, as much enthusiasm was shown at the beginning of the season by people wanting to play. We had a number of games against mixed opposition, some very good and some very bad. We had not played indoor together before and so most evenings saw us slow to start but improving as the competition went on! We won some, drew some and lost some and finished mid table, and much fun was had as there was no pressure to avoid relegation as there is only one ladies league! We have entered again for next season and if we can remember how to play indoor by the time

the games come around we might do a bit better this time!

## Mixed Hockey

*Adrian Tuff*

For a first season we didn't do too badly. Over the year we played 4 friendlies, 1 cup game and 2 plate matches as well as in our own mixed tournament, and we will be rounding off with a summer trip to the Southgate Horniment... All that excitement, I'd better fill you in on the games.

A phone round some uni friends ensured a few friendly matches, the first of which was against Bury, a 4v2 loss, not the ideal start to the mixed season but good fun nonetheless. The second game was a reversal of the previous score with Chelmsford recording a 4v2 victory over Hounslow & Ealing, so far 6 goals and 5 different scorers!!

The third friendly was against a Trevor Waspe side (can't remember who they were!!), a close 4v3 (including a Tom Dalton brace) result ensured Chelmsford went into the bar on an upbeat note.

Then the cup run (or lack of it) started, we were pitched away against a spirited Saffron Walden team in the 1<sup>st</sup> round. Slightly unprepared for the level of the game and with no designated centre back or centre half we were always going to be up against it. Toni Speakman excelled in defence outshining the majority of players on the pitch that day. Unfortunately for us we conceded 3 goals in almost no time at all. At half time a few

positional changes were made and we won the second half 1v0 thanks to a Rob Dyer goal, but it was no where near enough, so we went to the pub, drunk their beer, ate their sandwiches and contemplated a Timpson Plate run instead!!

The most satisfying mixed game of the season was the first round home plate match against Broxbourne. 2v1 down with 10 minutes to go, what do you do? Put the fat guy up front!! Trev duly complied and along with Phil Goode (every fat man has to have a thin sidekick!!) two goals in the dying minutes brought an exciting climax to the match and a great result. Tom Key was outstanding at the back, even injuring himself in the line of duty!! Broxbourne to their credit hung around and enjoyed the bar, well, that is what mixed hockey is mostly about!!

Our final friendly was against a Mutineers Tour XI, mostly made up of Chelmsford players but also featuring some ex-University of East Anglia players. Emma Cockerill (next year's captain) took charge of the Chelmsford team in what was a very close and tight match. A Mia Goosen goal shortly before the end made the final score 3v2 in favour of Chelmsford.

These games were a perfect warm-up for the Opening Weekend, a 6 team mixed tournament was the order of the day: 2 Chelmsford teams (originally called 'A' and 'B'), Mutineers, Hounslow & Ealing, Bury and Southgate.

Many thanks to the Essex and East umpires who officiated all

day long for 15 games, and didn't send Felly off once!!

After 5 round robin games, Andy Nourse's Chelmsford 'B' were in top spot with Hounslow & Ealing in second, Southgate in 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mutineers in 4<sup>th</sup>, Emma Cockerill's 'A' team in 5<sup>th</sup> and Bury in 6<sup>th</sup>. The final between Chelmsford 'B' and Hounslow & ealing provided a repeat win for the Chelmsford side.

Congratulations Andy, bit rude to win your own tournament though!

The final game of the season was the third round of the plate, we had a bye in the second round as Camberly and Farnborough couldn't get a team out. This match was a way against Halstead Imps, recent finalists and winners of the mixed plate, no small order then.

In the end it was a class too far, despite the efforts of Ben Wallace Nikki Tuff, Jon Lambert and Claire Penketh at the back, four goals were leaked before half time. However, that wasn't the whole picture of the second half, with Halstead not adding to their score and Chelmsford going mighty close on a couple of occasions (you know who you are!!), we were unlucky not to get a few "consolation" goals. However it was not to be and the match ended 4v0, just enough time to enjoy the teas and get back to our clubhouse for the Zvenbergen weekend!

Many many many thanks go to Chris Denman for diligently umpiring the vast majority of our games. Thanks also go to the Speakman family, firstly George and Toni for always being available and willing to play (and playing well) wherever or

whenever the games were, and secondly to Richard and Sally for providing support at the side of the pitch!

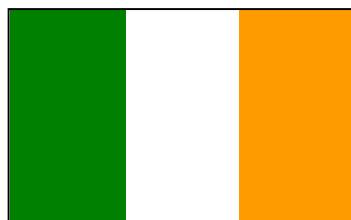
Lastly thanks go to all of the players who have had a run out in the mixed this year, some 35 in all, so I can't name them all but you know who you are.

Best of luck to Emma for next season, she has a willing bunch of players and let's hope that with some better organisation on pitch she can improve on the results from this season.

If you are interested in playing then email the mixed captain at [mixed@chelmsfordhc.org.uk](mailto:mixed@chelmsfordhc.org.uk).

## David's Dublin Diary

### David Lines



### (or the story of Triple D+)

#### November 2003

Invited to join 1<sup>st</sup> XI on Dublin Tour. Accept with some trepidation, but soon realise that it's my £250 cheque Spesh wants, rather than any contribution on the playing field. The unasked question – do I take my kit with me ?

#### January 2004

Summon up the courage to tell the Memsaib that I am thinking, just thinking of going away over Easter. No problem, as she has made other arrangements already.

Just have to negotiate a lift to/from Stansted.

### March 2004

Find out that I do have to take my kit..... even sticks. Embark on an intense training schedule which involves late nights, drinking heavily and running round like an idiot in the mornings.

### Easter Weekend – Day 1

Arrive at Stansted by taxi, having picked up two hitchhikers on the A120. Turns out they are the team captain and the w(h)ine waiter. Tour shirts are distributed (very fetching.... or is it retching?) and the first batch of kitty money is extracted. 24 hours later, I am slowly trying to work out how 200 euros can disappear so quickly. Thank God it's only funny money and not worth that much.

Arrive at Dublin airport and a full quota counted on to the bus (this becomes a more important routine as the weekend progresses). The Captain immediately enforces tour rules and alcoholic forfeits for things such as not remembering tour names. While I enjoy copious amounts of alcohol at any time, I prefer to stretch the pleasure out over a matter of hours, as opposed to minutes – I therefore take an opt-out based on my age and the fact that I am bigger than anyone else. Not so elsewhere. One of the more colourful members of the party manages to reach near-oblivion by the end of the 45 minute bus ride. This is also the first (of many) occasions that I hear that ancient, if plaintive African war-cry of "shet ep, men!"

### Day 2 – Match 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> minute

Old Money is standing behind the opposition goalkeeper, who is

doing vigorous callisthenics at a long corner. OM's lip comes a poor second to the goalie's stick and he goes off in search of the patron saint of all hypochondriacs, St John. There is such a groundswell of sympathy from the squad that surgical tape on the upper lip is the requisite fashion item for everyone that evening. Chelmsford wins, despite the set-back.

### Day 2 – Match 2

The second match ends in a win for Chelmsford, despite heavy consumption of Purple Nasties the previous evening and during the lunch break. I can only assume the opposition's consumption has been greater. The first score of the evening against a well-padded goal-keeper is recorded.

### Day 2 – Evening

Back to the main ground and marquee for the weekend's main social event. The highlight of the evening was a series of cartwheels by a well-proportioned young lady wearing a bright red thong. If there is a better way of focussing the attention of 2 - 3 hundred pairs of drink-hazed male eyes (and possibly half as many female ones), I cannot think of it.

### Day 3 – Morning

Having chosen to have an early night, I am able to enjoy the sight of the trail of late-night combatants at breakfast. I have seen better sights at the bottom of a cesspool.

### Day 3 - Match 3

To my amazement, another Chelmsford win. The talent of this team is extraordinary, even on the field. I can only put the success down to the presence of

the more mature, experienced and relatively sober members of the squad. After all, it is sobering to think that our three ages, added together and divided by 12, exceed the average mental age of the rest of the team.

### Day 3 – Lunch

By my record, the team is consuming its 100<sup>th</sup> gallon of Purple Nasties. Still no sign of the first chunder. Lots had been drawn for "Chunder Chums" (i.e. who has to clear up the other's vomit), but no registered takers, as yet.

During the long break, strange games are played in the marquee, involving a lot of cowboy expressions, pointing, standing up, sitting down and even running around (although I understand this was an Irish version of the rules). It confirms, for me, the generation gap – in my day, we confined ourselves to more intellectual pursuits like Liar's Poker, Spoof, Late Entrant's at the Clock-makers Ball, and generally falling over.

### Day 3 – Match 4

Yet another Chelmsford win, ensuring our place in tomorrow's final. Highlight of the match is a Jackanory penalty flick, where, by the time the ball hit the backboard, the goalkeeper had fallen asleep and fallen the wrong way.

In the warm-up, I am instructed in the art of the drag-flick by the Club's expert. However, this is not an exercise to be undertaken when you are trying to tie your shoe-laces up at the same time. A change of shorts is required for half the team as I go 'a-over-t' at the first attempt. The lesson

drawn is to tie your laces up or drag-flick, not both. Subsequent matches see me confined to shoelace tying.

During the frequent bus journeys to/from matches, when the string of appalling jokes runs out, I am surprised how much the conversation turns to different types of sport, such as golf, racing and tennis. Considering how much time these lads are immersed in hockey, you'd think that they'd have no time for other sports. Take football, almost the antithesis of hockey. The Premier Division drew, from the younger players, the expected enthusiasm for the likes of Arsenal, Liverpool and Chelsea, but, with the season coming to a climax, there was even a hard core of support for Manchester United (who are making a late surge, but are likely to come second, at best). No one even talks about my team, Spurs, except in expectorant terms.

### Day 3 – Evening

Time to hit the town, as the party divides into two. The more senior go for a very civilised dinner, but meet up with the garage, shed or (is it?) greenhouse music-goers (I am not sure of the modern idioms) at a mid-town bar later

on. This part of the evening fades a little from memory, but seems to comprise extensive consumption of the local black brew and waiting in a Dublin taxi rank in the early hours of the morning. Only two matches to go and everyone hates Chelmsford, the only 100% winning side left...but we don't care.

### Day 4

We care.....about a lot... but too late to do anything about any of them. Early bus embarkation, team tactics based on the opposition being out later than our boys. I wonder if this is possible.

### Day 4 – Match 1

This is getting boring - another win. The team plays well, with one or two notable exceptions, who had gone to bed about 8.00 the previous evening. Faeces at room temperature would be an adequate description of their appearance. We are definitely in the final, but things are going rapidly downhill (as still are the PN's). It is rumoured that we face a combined Hampstead/Surbiton team, most of whom belong to a religious order noted for its abstinence. Old Money is worried and starts looking round for

recruits – unfortunately, he can't find his wallet and therefore we have to meet our fate unaided.

### Day 4 – Match 2

What we were we worried about?  
– astute substitutions (especially when the pitch is in danger of being marked by gastric acid) leads to a well-earned victory. Six matches played, six wins concludes a very successful tour. The prize-giving entails receiving a small glass tea plate and six plastic bottles, a telling tribute to the esteem our hosts and opponents held us in.

Then it's time for a quick change and off to the airport by bus. The atmosphere on the bus and, subsequently, the plane is somewhat subdued as all reflect on what might have been (e.g. an Easter weekend without three successive hangovers). Nevertheless, we take cheer from the fact that our livers have 12 months to recover and that tour rules draw a discreet veil over what really happened. However, winning six out of six matches, scoring over 20 goals and conceding very few was true and a credit to all the squad. Bring on 2005!

## Forthcoming Events

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June** - Chelmsford Hockey Club AGM, Chelmer Park @ 8pm

**Euro 2004 Matches** - All 7.45pm Matches will be shown live in the Clubhouse

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September** - Cricket Club Golf Day (Channels Golf Club) sponsored by Woodford Jaguar

**Start time:** 12 noon (from 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> tees)

**Format:** 18 holes, 30 teams of three, nearest the pin, longest drive, auction, raffle

**Players:** Golfers to include Durham CC and Essex CC players

**Cost:** £55 per player, inc golf and three course evening meal, coffee on arrival (£20 evening meal only)

**Contact:** David Carr (home) 01245 248694 (mobile) 07977 537971 (fax) 01245 248741  
(e-mail) [david@carr4387.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:david@carr4387.freeserve.co.uk)

## Fundraising - 500 Club

*Peter Woodward*

We already have in existence a “200 Club” with a £5 per month ticket organised by Peter Woodward. By increasing the “200 Club” to a “500 Club” or even a “1,000 Club” the major part of the fund-raising effort could be satisfied immediately.

This enlarged “500 Club” will be finite. The proposed monthly draw will take place on or about the last Saturday of every month commencing March 2003, and ending with the draw in February 2006.

The prize fund calculations are based as follows:

**Monthly Prize Draw:**

1<sup>st</sup> 12% of Monthly subscriptions  
2<sup>nd</sup> 8%  
3<sup>rd</sup> 4%  
4<sup>th</sup> 2% x 6 winners

**Quarterly Prize Draw:**

May 7% of quarter's subscriptions  
Aug 7%  
Nov 10%  
Feb 7%

If therefore, all members with say 3 or 4 friends contributed £5 per month each, you would be making a very valuable contribution to our fund-raising effort, and at the same time give yourself the chance to win a **handsome monthly and / or quarterly cash prize**. You can clearly conclude how successful this venture will be in raising the capital sum required and giving our Club a cash flow advantage for the duration.

PLEASE RETURN THE ATTACHED FORM TO **PETER WOODWARD** BY POST AT HIS ADDRESS AS SHOWN ON THE APPLICATION FORM. THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR URGENT SUPPORT IN THIS VENTURE.

## Latest 500 Club Draw Results –

*Peter Woodward*

Currently we hover around the 190 mark of members of the 500 CLUB. After an enormous amount of work, especially by Nigel King, sending out 4 copies of the Standing Order Mandate to each member to sell to friends and relations,. We only gained another 90 Members from 1200 forms! We had about 90 beforehand.

We still need to find £35,000, so fill in the form, return it to me, and you will be doing your bit for the club. Then, go out and sell some more!

| Prize            | %   | March 2004 | 195 qualifying members   | April 2004 | 194 qualifying members   |
|------------------|-----|------------|--|------------|--|
| <b>1st Prize</b> | 12% | £117.00    | Phillipa Feldman   | £116.40    | D.K. & J. Thomson  |
| <b>2nd Prize</b> | 8%  | £78.00     | Rob & Sue Dewar  | £77.60     | Ken Carr   |
| <b>3rd Prize</b> | 4%  | £39.00     | Laura Stonebank  | £38.80     | Sarah Heelis   |
| <b>4th Prize</b> | 2%  | £19.50     | W. R. Hodge, Ann Lines,<br>A Fergus, C. W. McFadzean,<br>D. A. Wallbank,<br>Jacqueline Thorogood | £19.40     | C.D. Chalk, John Green,<br>Sarah Heelis, Cathy Tyler,<br>J.A. Kennedy, I.H. Hollebon |

# Fundraising - Fantasy Hockey

Adrian Tuff

Another season over, another fantasy hockey league finished, another top goalscorer tankard for Trevor Waspe!! Some things never change.

The final tables are below:

## Men's Players

| Position | Player Name      | Team          | Fantasy Score |
|----------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1        | Waspe, Trevor    | Fifth XI      | 205           |
| 2        | Goode, Phil      | Second XI     | 151           |
| 3        | Nourse, Andy     | Fourth XI     | 115           |
| 4        | de Prez, Dave    | First XI      | 110           |
| 5        | Tuff, Adrian     | Third XI      | 103           |
| 6        | Gibson, Sam      | Second XI     | 102           |
| 7        | Hunter, Ian      | Evergreens XI | 96            |
| 8        | Fergus, Alistair | Third XI      | 95            |
| 9        | Gemmill, Roy     | Fifth XI      | 89            |
| 10       | Burrows, Tom     | Sixth XI      | 86            |

The result from this league was never in doubt, Trevor (now playing for the 4's) has consistently scored more points (and goals!) than anyone and everyone else. Phil Goode (mainly in the 3's) showed good form to finish a clear second (with a score that would have won it last year) but was not in danger of catching Trev. The battle for third was closer with Andy Nourse just pipping Dave De Prez, Adrian Tuff (scoring the same as last season, at least I'm consistent) and Sam Gibson in the final three weeks.

## Ladies Players

| Position | Player Name         | Team      | Fantasy Score |
|----------|---------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1        | Clarkson, Jane      | Second XI | 77            |
| 2        | Cockerill, Emma     | Second XI | 75            |
| 3        | Eager, Joanne       | Fifth XI  | 72            |
| 4        | Gilliat-Smith, Cath | First XI  | 68            |
| 5        | Wooding, Lisa       | First XI  | 66            |
| 6        | Cooper, Karen       | Second XI | 52            |
| 7        | Willmore, Tracy     | First XI  | 51            |
| 7        | Maxey, Hannah       | Second XI | 51            |
| 7        | Johnston, Sally     | Second XI | 51            |
| 10       | Smith, Kirsty       | First XI  | 50            |
| 10       | Rogers, Chloe       | First XI  | 50            |
| 10       | Bone, Amy           | Second XI | 50            |
| 10       | Bollington, Lynn    | First XI  | 50            |

A complete turnaround from the previous season with none of the top three featuring this season. Jane although only being here for a third of the season stormed her way to the top of the table, passing the inform forwards, 5<sup>th</sup> XI Jo Eager and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Emma Cockerill. Two 1<sup>st</sup> XI players in the top 5 (and 6 in the

top 13!) shows testament to their performance this season. With one game of the season to go, Jane lying in first place and Emma in second, Emma had the chance to leap to the top of the table and claim the tankard for herself, alas things were not to be and the tankard goes to Jane Clarkson in absentia!!

## Men's Teams

| Pos | Team Name                      | Manager         | Fantasy Score |
|-----|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1   | Tuft's Table Toppers           | Adrian Tuff     | 1003          |
| 2   | Mummy T's Top Totty + Tufty II | Nikki Tuff      | 973           |
| 3   | Bo Selecta                     | Craig David     | 932           |
| 4   | Not Particularly Special II XI | Nick Stevenson  | 893           |
| 5   | The Specialists Mark II        | Andrew Kennedy  | 886           |
| 6   | One nil                        | Andy Fox        | 871           |
| 7   | Spurfect                       | Ben Farmer      | 870           |
| 8   | Sooty's Stormers               | Sarah Sutton    | 862           |
| 9   | Forever Green                  | Fred Matthews   | 848           |
| 10  | MM1                            | Martin Matthews | 847           |
| 10  | Carts' Corkers                 | David Carter    | 847           |

Until Christmas the table was a pretty close thing, with the Nikki Tuff in an almost commanding position and Adrian Tuff and Craig David (Andy Fell) jostling for position. But with the transfer window and a few sly transfers the table began to take the form that appears above. A special mention goes to Bex Alltree who persisted in making use of her 3 allotted transfers to ensure that she didn't finish at the bottom of the table, she didn't!!!

## Ladies Teams

| Pos | Team Name                    | Manager         | Fantasy Score |
|-----|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1   | Badger's Bachites            | Dan Tilley      | 437           |
| 2   | Spot III Hens                | Jackie Hefford  | 400           |
| 3   | Miller's Marvels             | Sue Millier     | 382           |
| 3   | Mummy T's Top Trumps         | Nikki Tuff      | 382           |
| 5   | Inter-Chelm                  | Ralph Thomas    | 374           |
| 6   | Wilko's Women!               | Phil Wilkinson  | 372           |
| 7   | Laura's Loveys               | Laura Stonebank | 356           |
| 8   | Basil's Babes                | Claire Penketh  | 354           |
| 9   | Pru's Powerful Passing Pride | Pru Carter      | 347           |
| 10  | Hog Trotters                 | Jacqui Hogger   | 346           |

With half the season gone last years winner, Jackie Hefford, was languishing outside the top 10, but then an end-of-season spurt by her players (must if been her Christmas team talk) ensured that it was close run thing towards the last game. With Dan Tilley trying to improve on his third position from last year he made full use of his 3 transfers, this enabled him to come out on top.

We had a slight improvement on number of teams entered this year, 91 in total compared to 81 last season. There were also 33 transfers carried out. All this enabled us to raise well over £500 for the club, after taking out the free subs and bar vouchers:

Free Subs (1<sup>st</sup>): Adrian Tuff

£100 Cash Alternative (1<sup>st</sup>): Dan Tilley

£40 Bar Vouchers (2<sup>nd</sup>): Nikki Tuff, Jackie Hefford

£20 Bar Vouchers (3<sup>rd</sup>): Andy Fell

£10 Bar Vouchers (Joint 3<sup>rd</sup>): Nikki Tuff, Sue Miller

Nikki has decided not to take her £50 bar vouchers and has donated the money back to the club.

Many thanks to everyone who has purchased a team or carried out a transfer, and special mentions go to all the hordes of people who I have collared into filling out fantasy forms for me. Thanks.

Fantasy Hockey will return next season, keep checking the website for further details and if you have any suggestions for improvements then please feel free to email them to me at:  
[fantasyhockey@chelmsfordhockey.co.uk](mailto:fantasyhockey@chelmsfordhockey.co.uk)

# Golf Day Report

David Wallbank

On Monday the 10th May we held our second golf day to raise funds for the Club. This year the number increased from 37 to 57 golfers, including an increased number of ladies to 7. We were also pleased to welcome two teams representing those who helped with the construction and the development of the Water Base project. The format for the day's golf was an 18 hole Stableford competition over the Channels course in the morning, followed by lunch, then a Texas Scramble played over the 9 hole Belsteads course in the afternoon. During the day we were helped by a Channels member, Jim Vine, who was ably assisted by David Carter. They made sure that we were all at our allotted starting tee, and kept and recorded the scores.

The results for the day were as follows:

Morning individual Stableford – 1st Ben Farmer 40 points, 2nd Luke Mephem 39 points and in 3rd Alex Brown with 36 points. The team prize went to the team of Dan Tilley, Jon Wilcox, Luke Mephem and Tony Hardy.

Afternoon Texas Scramble – the top three teams were: 1st with 19.87 - Thomas James, Matt Hammond, Ross Hammond and Matt Elderton, 2nd with 20 – last years winners - Hilary Malicka, Rosie Maxey, Brenda Clarke and Jean Lewis, and in third place with 20.62 – Dan Tilley, Jon Wilcox, Luke Mephem and Tony Hardy.

There were both Ladies and Gentlemen prizes for Nearest the Pin, on the par 3 Channels 8th which were won by Jean Lewis and Stuart McCauley. The respective longest drives on the 15th hole were Lisa Wooding and Luke Mepham.

With an excellent days weather, and with the course playing very well all those taking part had an enjoyable day. Saving the best till last, through the generosity of the management of Channels Golf Club, the players and those who contributed to the prizes, we will have made a net profit in the region (not all of our expenses are known) of £1,100 for the Club.

## 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.

You can either accost one of the Editors in the clubhouse, email them your ideas (email addresses are on the first page) or snail mail your ideas to the Tuffs:

**57 Sheppard Drive,  
Chelmsford,  
Essex,  
CM2 6QE**

# Sponsored Adverts

## HOUSE TO LET

### 5 TOWNFIELD STREET CHELMSFORD, CM1 1QJ

Two bed terrace house available, in the sought after location of Chelmsford's desirable West End. Yes, some of you may recognise this as Wiggy's old house and some of you have even stayed there (male and female, Wiggy was never fussy) or enjoyed a hearty breakfast when the trains were up the spout. Ideal for commuters, Chelmsford town centre workers, piss artists. The house is available from 31st July 2004 on a sixth month let, with a two month notice period. Shorter or longer lets available by negotiation. Original six month let may be extended by mutual consent, with a rolling two month notice period.

#### Features

Two bedrooms, one double, one single. Living room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom.

2 minutes walk to railway station, but surprisingly quiet

Resident's permit parking

Will be let furnished, including washing machine, iron, all kitchen utensils.

Cooker, beds and bedding, microwave, fridge, freezer, 3 piece suite, dining table and chairs, spin dryer. Built in safe. Vacuum cleaners.

Digital satellite receiver installed (you will need own TV and pay own subscription)

Heated by electric storage heaters. Very economical to run.

Many local amenities within 2 minutes walk, including pubs, night clubs, Italian, Indian, Chinese restaurants, fast food outlets

#### Cost

£625 per calendar month, in advance, for a sixth month let. No deposit required if you are known to Wiggy.

Shorter or longer lets, rent to be negotiated.

Plus Utilities.

*Inspection invited at your convenience.*

#### Contact

Keith Wiggins

01245 491022 (Home)

020 7465 6383 (work)

email [keith.wiggins@chrysalis.com](mailto:keith.wiggins@chrysalis.com)



## Other Adverts

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Phone : + 44 (0)1255 677177 Fax: +44 (0)1255 852460  
E-Mail: [consulting434@aol.com](mailto:consulting434@aol.com)

# Horse & Groom

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**PARTIES CATERED FOR**

**Lunchtimes and Evenings –  
Monday to Saturday**

## **Club Home Page on the Internet**

**[www.chelmsfordhc.org.uk](http://www.chelmsfordhc.org.uk)**

For the latest information on all aspects of Chelmsford Hockey Club, please visit this site for up to the minute news.

This site also contains a copy of the most recent Newsletter.

Should any member have any interesting information or reports during the season, David (Kitch) Kitchiner would like to hear from you for immediate release on the site, not forgetting to also pass these to the Newsletter editors for release to those without access to the internet.

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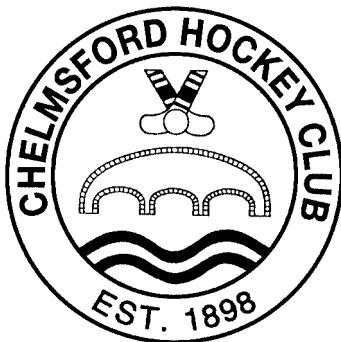
All Men's and Ladies fixtures for the 2003/2004 Season can be found on the FixturesLive Website.

**[www.fixs.co.uk](http://www.fixs.co.uk)**



**FixturesLive** The toolkit for sports clubs and leagues

## Notice of AGM



### ***CHELMSFORD HOCKEY CLUB***

Spencer Wilcox  
Hon Secretary  
Rutherford's  
72 Chignall Road  
Chelmsford  
Essex CM1 2JB

Tel: 01245 490946  
020 7438 6624 (O)  
07768 105184 (mob)  
email: [spencer@wilcox51.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:spencer@wilcox51.fsnet.co.uk)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHELMSFORD HOCKEY CLUB WILL BE HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE, CHELMER PARK ON FRIDAY 25 JUNE 2004 AT 8 PM

1. Apologies for absence
2. Adoption of the minutes of the AGM held on Friday 27 June 2003
3. Matters arising
4. To receive the Chairman's report
5. To receive the Treasurer's report and to approve the accounts for the year ending 31 May 2004
6. To set the subscriptions and match fees for the 2004/05 season.
7. Election of Officers
8. To appoint the Auditor
9. To receive a report on the Chelmsford Sports Club.
10. To receive a report on the Youth Section
11. To receive a report on progress with the Chelmer Park development and the development appeal
12. Any other business

Spencer Wilcox

25 May 2004

# AGM - Election of Officers

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED AT THE CHELMSFORD HC AGM ON FRIDAY 25 JUNE 2004

| Office                                | Present holder               | 2004/05? | Candidate    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| President                             | Ursula Heelis                | Yes      |              |
| Chairman                              | Nigel King                   | Yes      |              |
| Treasurer                             | Claire Penketh               | Yes      |              |
| Secretary                             | Spencer Wilcox               | Yes      |              |
| Fixture Secretary (Ladies)            | Anthea Hunter                | Yes      |              |
| Fixture Secretary (Men's)             | Crawford McKee               | Yes      |              |
| Clubhouse and pitch secretary         | Not filled                   |          |              |
| 1st XI manager (ladies)               | Janet Sutton                 | Yes      |              |
| 1st XI manager (men's)                | Peter Woodward, Peter Carter | Yes      |              |
| Chairman of Selection Cttee (ladies)  | Jenny Stonebank              | Yes      |              |
| Chairman of Selection Cttee (men's)   | Alistair Fergus              | No       | Adrian Tuff  |
| Chairman of Playing Cttee             | Jon Lambert                  |          |              |
| Youth section representative          | Hilary Malicka               | No       | Judith Krone |
| Chelmsford Sports Club representative | David Wallbank               | Yes      |              |

| <b>League liaison officers:</b>    |                 |     |  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|--|
| Ladies EHL                         | Janet Sutton    | Yes |  |
| Men's EHL                          | Peter Woodward  | Yes |  |
| Ladies - senior league             | Jenny Stonebank | Yes |  |
| Men's Premier Holidays East League | Alistair Fergus | ?   |  |
| Umpires Secretary (East league)    | Jenny Stonebank |     |  |
| Umpires Secretary (Essex league)   | Jenny Stonebank |     |  |

| <b>Captains:</b> |                  |      |                |
|------------------|------------------|------|----------------|
| 1st XI ladies    | Lisa Wooding     | Yes  |                |
| 1st XI men's     | Andrew Kennedy   | No   |                |
| 2nd XI ladies    | Claire Penketh   |      |                |
| 2nd XI men's     | Chris Wilson     | ?    |                |
| 3rd XI ladies    | Sally Symes      |      |                |
| 3rd XI men's     | Simon King       | No   | Derek Gould    |
| 4th XI ladies    | Nikki Tuff       | No   |                |
| 4th XI men's     | Charles Hingston | No   | Tom Dalton     |
| 5th XI ladies    | Jenny Stonebank  |      |                |
| 5th XI men's     | Jon Lambert      | No   | ?Iain Johnston |
| 6th XI men's     | Tim Burrows      | ?Yes |                |
| Vets XI men's    | Ralph Thomas     | Yes  |                |
| Evergreens       | Peter Hollebon   | Yes  |                |
| Ladies Veterans  | Debbie Hayes     |      |                |
| Indoor ladies    | Lisa Wooding     | Yes  |                |
| Indoor men's     | ?                |      |                |
| Mixed XI         | Adrian Tuff      | No   | Emma Cockerill |
| VPs              | As now           |      |                |
| Auditor          | Mary Ansell      |      |                |

# AGM - Last Year's Minutes

## CHELMSFORD HOCKEY CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Chelmsford Hockey Club held at Chelmer Park on Friday 27 June 2003 at 8pm.

1. Present: President and 44 members.

Apologies: Mesdames Roberts, Symes, Wilson, Hayes, Carter P, Wilmore, Stenhouse, Bollington, Crane; Messrs Higgins, McCullagh, Tilley, Carr D, Kennedy, Thorogood, Wilkinson, King S, Kitchiner, McKee, Gemmill A, Wilcox J, Hunter, D, Goode P, Fergus.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the AGM held on Friday 28 June 2002 as proposed by David Lines, seconded by Ken Lochhead were signed as a correct record by the President.
3. Matters arising.

None

4. To receive the Chairman's report.

a. A report was circulated and is attached. The President offered very sincere thanks to Nigel and the committee for all their efforts through the year.

b. At the proposal of Ros Marsh, seconded by Ken Lochhead, the report was adopted.

5. To receive the Treasurer's report and to approve the accounts for the year ending 31 May 2003.

a. The treasurer made the following points in presenting his draft accounts:

- The accounts were not yet audited as more information was being gathered
- The club had registered for VAT during the year and this had affected the overall net income. But there were significant advantages from being able to recover VAT on the new development albeit that a proportion was due to Sport England
- Congratulations were due to those who had organised social events during the year which had raised several £000s

b. Some questions arose:

- Why was the subscription income reduced – this was due to the demise of the ladies 6th XI, an increased proportion of youth players and the impact of VAT
- How would the maintenance of the water based be funded – this would be achieved, as historically with the original pitch, by creating a sinking fund. More explanation would be given as part of the discussion on agenda item 6

c. At the proposal of Peter Woodward, seconded Jackie Hefford it was agreed that approval of the accounts should be devolved to the Management Committee once they had been audited. It was noted that the intention was to call an EGM early in the season to update members on the development and present them with the final accounts.

6. Election of Officers

- a. This item was taken before setting the subscriptions etc (agenda item 6) since the treasurer elect had not yet arrived.
- b. The officers elected are recorded in the attached schedule.
- c. It was agreed that the job description of the clubhouse and pitch secretary should be circulated in the first newsletter of the season if the post had not been already filled by the Management Committee.
- d. Very sincere thanks were given to all outgoing officers, but particularly to David Simms for all his efforts over the 4 years he had held office and Ben Wright for his inspired support of the 6th XI and the bringing on of young players. Ursula was congratulated on her efforts for the development over the year which had been extremely challenging and time consuming.
- e. Alan Draper also noted the contribution Andrew Kennedy, the retiring men's 1st XI captain, had made to the club both on and off the field.
- f. New officers were welcomed to what would be a challenging and exciting year in the club's history.

7. To set the subscriptions and match fees for the 2003/04 season.

- a. Claire Penketh made a presentation on the budget for next year and the Management Committee proposals for the subscriptions and match fees. The subscriptions included the amount payable to the Sports Club and VAT. The proposals took account of the Management Committee's views that substantial increases in subs would risk senior players leaving and deter new members. A balance had been struck. A deficit balance was in prospect, but this was before taking account of club events, income from sponsorship, sale of match programmes and any income from hire of the new pitch.
- b. The budget took account of the saving of around £16K from pitch hire and also the need to provide a commercial amount into the pitch sinking fund. This extended the policy adopted for the original pitch which had protected the club from replacement and maintenance costs. And Sport England had insisted that it should be part of our business case.
- c. A number of points were made in discussion:
  - We should be very careful we do not price ourselves out of the market for players
  - The water based pitch must be available for all members – for games and training. It was confirmed that this would happen and was already being planned for the coming season's fixtures
  - It was noted that at Beeston, membership increased by 50% in the first season of having their water based pitch and their recruitment efforts
  - Some worries were expressed about the deficit budget since the club policy over the years was that as much as possible playing costs should be covered by playing income – it was noted that this would be impossible without raising subscriptions very considerably. The club would now have to be run more as a business taking account of all income once we understood how that would develop
  - It was acknowledged that the next year's accounts would be exceptional given the scale of the development monies and funding flowing through them
- d. The following table sets out the proposals for the season. Only a £5 increase in the senior subscription was proposed; the youth subscriptions to stay unchanged as agreed at the earlier Youth AGM. Senior and youth (over 14) match fees would increase by £2; under 14s by 50p:

| <b>Description</b>                             | <b>Amount (£)</b>               |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <i>Subscription</i>                            |                                 |
| Senior   | 140 (to be paid by end October) |
| Student (>18)                                  | 60                              |
| Youth (14 to 18)                               | 60                              |
| Youth (10 to 13)                               | 30                              |
| Youth (8 to 9)                                 | 15                              |
| Youth (7 or under)                             | Nil                             |
| Associate                                      | 50                              |
| Social   | 10                              |
| <i>Match fees</i>                              |                                 |
| Senior   | 10                              |
| Youth 14-19/Student -<br>playing senior hockey | 6                               |
| Youth up to 13                                 | 2                               |

e. A number of further points/questions arose:

- Would it be possible to pay subscriptions by standing order – it was noted that this had been considered in the past and dismissed. Although the desirability from a members' viewpoint was understood, administering standing orders was a very considerable overhead for club officials who at the end of the day gave their services voluntarily. Better would be if members committed themselves to pay quickly upfront which would also improve cashflow
- The benefits of associate and social membership were discussed. Some present felt that the extra £40 for associate membership was a lot to pay for the right to vote and play a maximum of 6 games a season without paying a full sub. It was agreed that the management Committee would review the position and publish their findings in the newsletter.

3. To appoint the Auditor

As proposed by David Simms, seconded by Peter Carter, Mary Ansell was re-elected.

9. To receive a report on the Chelmsford Sports Club

a. A report was circulated and is appended to these minutes.

b. It was noted that the bar income of the Sports Club had reduced last season, not helped by the number of “home” locations and players/visitors not coming back after their games. It was agreed that Ian Hunter’s article in a recent newsletter was right and that we should be encouraging members to use the bar and facilities more.

c. At the proposal of David Lines, seconded by Peter Woodward, the report was adopted.

10. To receive a report on progress with the Chelmer Park development and the development appeal

a. Spencer Wilcox gave a presentation. The main points were:

- Members should not underestimate the amount of work Ursula Heelis had put into the project often with frustratingly slow responses from Sport England

- The Sport England agreement had now been signed and the just under £1.2m funding was now secure
- Leases with CBC had been signed: all now ran for a new period of 30 years with provision for renewal – the licence for the old pitch, lease on the current clubhouse (which was with the Sports Club), and the ground leases for the clubhouse extension and pitch. CBC had been very generous and the club's future at Chelmer Park had been secured at peppercorn rents
- Development on the pitch would be completed by September; the changing rooms later in the Autumn
- Fund raising was still at around a £35K shortfall and there were also cashflow shortages from the covenants. But we had received some generous offers of loans should they be needed, all of which would have to be re-paid – so members should not think this let them off the hook to find the money
- Members were reminded that under 14% of playing members had yet contributed. If all did so, we would soon hit the target. Those present were encouraged to join the 500 club which could raise £15K net a year

- b. Those present expressed pleasure at the progress, but concern at how few playing members had contributed.
- c. Ursula Heelis thanked Alan Draper for his longstanding and continued support for the project.

11. Any other business

- a. Adrian Tuff gave a presentation on Fantasy Hockey. This had raised £500 last season. Presentations to the winning team owners were made. Congratulations were given to Adrian for starting and running this new initiative; everyone was pleased that he was continuing next season.
- b. Youth section – Hilary Malicka presented the attached report. Highlights were that the U11 girls got to the final of the national cup; membership was now around 120 with about 40 playing in the senior club.
- c. Alan Draper, the club patron, spoke briefly to thank the President and everyone who had worked so hard for the club. The lottery funding and the new facilities was a magnificent and unprecedented achievement which would make Chelmsford HC one of the UK's premier clubs in all respects and add significantly to the community's sports facilities.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2234 hours.

President  
25 June 2004

## 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.....

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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.

# Waterpitch 2002 Covenant Form

## Chelmsford Hockey Club Waterpitch 2002

Promise covenant.

I ..... (full name)  
of .....  
..... (address)

In the County of ..... **COVENANT** with Chelmsford Hockey Club (the Club)

To pay to the Club for the period of three years from ..... (date of first payment) or during the residue of my life whichever is the shorter the sum of £.....(total value of payment over the lifetime of the covenant). Such payments are to be made out of my general fund of taxed income and are to be paid monthly by instalments of £.....monthly and the first payment is to be made on .....

IN WITNESS whereof I have set my hand and seal this ..... day of ..... 200 .

**SIGNED as a DEED** by the  
Above named Covenantor .....  
In the presence of:-

Witness's Signature .....

Witness's Name .....

Address.....  
.....

\*\*\*\*\*  
Please now complete the Standing Order form with the same payment details  
\*\*\*\*\*

Please return all forms to: Chris Randall, 32, Jarvis Field, Little Baddow, Chelmsford CM3 4TP (Tel 01245 226693)

If you would prefer anonymity please tick this box

## Waterpitch 2002 Standing Order Mandate

To The Manager: (your bank) \_\_\_\_\_ Bank.

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\_\_\_\_\_ (Address)

Sort code: \_ \_ - - - -

Please arrange to pay from my Account No: \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of  
\_\_\_\_\_ (account title)

£50.00/£25.00/£10.00 per month on the first of each month

from \_\_\_\_\_ (date of first payment) for 36 months. (*Delete the amounts which do not apply*)

Please credit these payments to Lloyds / TSB Bank, 77 / 81, High Street, Chelmsford, Essex. CM1 1DU.

Sort code: **30 - 91- 85.** Account number: **03948678**, in the name of **Chelmsford H. C. Water 2002 Appeal.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed (2<sup>nd</sup> signatory) \_\_\_\_\_ (if required by your account)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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**Bank please quote reference..... when you make payments**  
(For Hockey Club admin purposes to trace payments)

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**Please return all forms to: Chris Randall, 32, Jarvis Field, Little Baddow, Chelmsford CM3 4TP (Tel 01245 226693) who will forward to your bank.**