



Winter 2003/2004
Issue 15

www.chelmsfordhc.org.uk

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Newsletter Editors

David Wallbank
(davidawallbank@hotmail.com)
Adrian Tuff (atuff@tiscali.co.uk)
Nikki Tuff (nikkituff@tiscali.co.uk)

Chelmsford HC

NEWSLETTER

Welcome

Editors

The editing team hope you all enjoyed your Christmas festivities, and wish you a Happy New Year.

Since our Autumn Newsletter, quite a lot has happened at Chelmsford. Perhaps the most notable was the International ladies match on the 19th November where England (whose team included three Chelmsford players) played Japan in a thrilling match which ended in a 3-2 win to the visitors. The event went off very well due to the dedicated team of Chelmsford members who organised every last detail. We now look forward to the next International!

Half way through the season our Ladies are top of the Premier League and the Men are in the last 8 of the Cup. This is all good news and we wish them well for the remainder of the season.

Congratulations to our Under 18 Girls who are through to the Youth indoor finals to be held in Worcester later this month. It is good to see that they are maintaining the very high standard of the Youth Section's successes.

What about the new changing rooms. These are now in operation and complement the Water Pitch. Grateful thanks to Nigel Seager and his workforce and to Ursula for all their

dedicated attention to detail. These new facilities are without doubt the best around, so please help in any way you can to keep them in a pristine condition.

Stop Press - Unclaimed Raffle Prize

The winner of the Raffle held on the evening of the England v Japan match has yet to claim their prize.

The Prize was a St. George Flag which was signed by both the England and Japan teams.

The winning ticket number is 86.

If you are the owner of this ticket can you please contact Sue Sturgeon on 01371 876091 to claim your prize.

Chairman's Chatter

Nigel King

So we are half way through the season, there or thereabouts. Well done to the first elevens – they are doing well with the ladies top!! and the men 'in the pack' for top honours. I ought to mention the men's cup game against the premier league leaders Cannock on Sunday, 1st February at Chelmer Park..... should be worth making the effort to come along and support.

I hope you have all had a chance to play on the new pitch before Christmas and from now, the new changing rooms are operational. The job is not completely finished and Ursula Heelis is still battling away to get the final items concluded.

This leads me to the inevitable subject – fund raising. Have a look by the bar at the Appeal Hockey Pitch made and erected by Ian Hunter. Each square is £20. Sell them all, over £19,000 in the kitty. We shall be transferring all the stickers from the old board during the next week or so but now the effort must begin to finish the fund raising. I think this board should be completed by the end of next season, sooner if possible. At least one of the squares is hiding a substantial prize if you put your £20 sticker on it!! Details will be announced soon. Also, please do consider the 500 club – it is only a £5 a month standing order. With these two methods of fund raising, we should be able to finish the job within 18 months.

You are all using the new facility, now make a serious effort to help pay for it.

Watch the notices in the clubhouse for the various social events coming up and attend as much as you can. Sally Symes has very kindly offered to take on the mantle of organising the Social Committee. Please assist her all you can by offering to help her and / or then supporting what is organised.

Enjoy the rest of the season.

Secretary's Corner

Spencer Wilcox

Happy New Year everyone!

2004 will be a momentous year for the club with the official opening of the new pitch and changing rooms – see the separate article later in the newsletter. Please stick the weekend of 16th-18th April in your diaries.

New changing rooms

The new changing rooms are now open and instructions for their use have been given to captains. You will all get to use them – and be impressed we hope – although for the time being we are restricting use just to those teams whose game is on the water. Two reasons for this – it will allow us to measure more accurately over the remainder of the season the full cost of water based hockey and therefore our hire out charges; and it keeps our costs to a minimum by continuing to use the old changing rooms for which we are effectively separately paying through our contribution to sand use. Don't worry we understand that the showers are about to be overhauled.

For the moment, the new changing block will not be permanently manned. So you must make sure that you do not leave it unlocked when you are the last one out. Please exercise the same care as you would with your own home!

Development generally

....is now just about finished. Two big things yet to do which Sport England



have approved: we are looking to put in a water re-cycling plant which will re-use water from the pitch in an environmentally friendly way. And we will be putting in security cameras to protect our investment. All of this will be done within the funding ceiling already agreed.

Fund raising

We still have money to raise. If you are now enjoying playing on the pitch, but have not yet contributed to the development fund please do so. Covenants are still available through Chris Randall or you can join the 500 club – see forms below. Or of course a one off donation would be great! Please think about this and support this magnificent development.

Email addresses

I know loads of you have email addresses and have not told me. Can you let me know on spencer@wilcox51.fsnet.co.uk. It makes communications so much easier. If you're a hotmail user, don't forget to empty your inbox unless you are paying for extra space. It's amazing how many mails from me get bounced (I'm not taking it personally) – but it's your loss, since if I have your email you will not be getting club info' on paper. And in due course we will only communicate with club members by email. You've been warned!!!

New members

I'm delighted that we have had so many new members this season – just over 20 at the last count. You are all very welcome!

Management meetings

I guess the main highlights have been:

- The development and funding
- Sponsorship
- Financial monitoring
- Sports club developments
- Use of the new pitch and facilities – building on the success of the England v Japan match.
- Issues coming up from the Playing Committee

Past members

I was delighted to receive news from Paul and Celia Hammerton. Having moved to Canada with their boys James and Thomas they are now living at 28 Whyte Place, Swift Current, SK S9H 1P8. Paul's email is paulhammerton@sasktel.net.

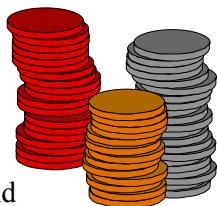
They are having a great time, have settled in with the only hockey being the ice variation. They're keen to hear from old friends in the club.

Treasurer's Report

Claire Penketh

This season has seen many changes at the Club that should be obvious to everyone, specifically the new water based astro and the changing rooms and facilities in the new building.

There is still some fund raising to be done to help pay for the final pieces of the development so I



would ask people to keep on trying to raise those last few pounds!

On a day to day basis the finances are looking quite healthy as a result of the fact that we have more members that are playing regularly on a Saturday so there is less doubling up of players. I would like to remind players that they should be bringing their match fees with them to each game as it makes life easier for your captains when they are having to pay me the money each week.

I would like to thank Treasury Consulting Lines (TCL) 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

Peter Woodward

I have formed a new Sponsorship Committee, which includes Ursula Heelis, David Lines and Crawford McKee.

We have many new leads to follow up, but, we are proud to announce a new Sponsorship deal with TCL. More details of this will be published at a later date. We are also talking with The Essex Chronicle.

Everyone can help the Club:- Sponsor a match ball for £25. A Match Programme for £100. Get someone to advertise in the programme for £250 or £500 (half or full page). Get a business to take a 3 metre x 750mm Pitchside Advertising board for £1000. Sell a few 500 Club

memberships. The list is endless.

Players Committee Report

Jon Lambert

The season is now at the halfway point and the new facilities are up and running. Thanks go to all those involved in making this happen.

The original timings on the Water-based astro did not allow sufficient time to vacate and water the pitch between matches and so this has been changed. Please be aware that the timings in the fixture card are wrong – the new times are shown below. The sand-based timings haven't changed. If in doubt, ask your captain!

The new changing rooms are now open for use by teams playing on the water-based pitch. There is a board in the foyer to show which changing room you've been allocated. If you're playing on the sand, you should still use the council changing rooms. There are bound to be teething problems, so please bear with us. Please bear in mind though that, as a club, we've invested a great deal in the new facilities so please leave them in a clean and tidy state and make sure that they are never left unlocked if you are the last person out.

The change in teas has met with a generally positive response, although we are continuing to monitor the situation. The clubhouse kitchen is being upgraded imminently and the tea-room kitchen will be renovated in the near future, and we will move

the teas through there next season to give everyone more space.

The new kit 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.

The social committee has reformed, but is always looking for volunteers. If you're interested in helping to organise the odd event at the club, please talk to Sally Symes.

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!

Kit News

Peter Hollebon

Those of you who have already placed an order for the new kit should now have received it.

All those wishing to place an order for any kit items then please see me, the next order is due to be made in mid-February.

There are still plenty of shirts available (Men's and Ladies) so please see me if you would like to buy one.

Match Times

As most of you will be aware the water-based time slots for a

Saturday have been moved to allow enough time for the watering of the pitch and a sufficient warm-up.

The new push-back times are: 10am, 12pm, 2pm, 3.45pm and 5.30pm.

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

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.

England vs. Japan

Adrian Tuff

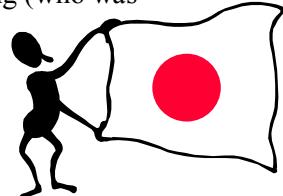
As most of you will have been aware, Chelmer Park hosted a recent England International. The fixture was the second in a three test series against Japan.

With the majority of England regulars away with the GB squad, this fixture gave an excellent opportunity for the selectors to see the wealth of talent available elsewhere in the country. With our Ladies 1st XI currently leading the way in the Ladies Premier League it was with great pride that three ladies were selected for the squad.

Lisa Wooding (who was nominated

as Co-Captain) and Cath Gilliat-Smith were

returning to the squad and Chloe Rogers was making her debut.



Unfortunately I can't comment on their performances or the game (which England lost 3v2) as I was busy selling tickets and programmes and running money back and forth to the clubhouse.

When the organisers sat down to start thinking about how to plan such an important event we thought it would be a fun idea to have a sweepstake to guess how many people would turn up. I can't remember who said 500 people, but I can assure you they were laughed out of the clubhouse.

The real attendance figure? Obviously we'll never know exactly how many people came to watch the game (as we ran out of tickets after about 300 people!) but the Jon Lambert / Crawford

McKee method of calculation derived a figure of “**a little over 1,000**”. An amazing response for what was (apparently) quite a game.

Most of you will have received the emails (forwarded by Spencer) from England Hockey and Essex Hockey congratulating us on the event.

Can I add my personal thanks to the team of organisers and “ladies wot do”, far too numerous to mention individually, but primarily to Ursula Heelis, who oversaw the preparation and (I think) was mostly walking around the clubhouse and grounds in a daze at the number of people.

If you did make it for the game then I’m sure you enjoyed yourself, if you didn’t, shame on you! Either way I’m sure that you’ll be with me in thanking everybody and hoping that England hockey were suitably impressed enough to award Chelmsford another fixture in the not too distant future.

Youth Report

Hilary Malicka

The Youth Section got off to a great start this season, with the U11 girls being presented with the Essex ‘Young Team of the Year’ award at the BBC Essex /Ridley’s Brewery Essex Sports achievers night at the Waterfront restaurant. This was in recognition of their performance at the U11 Mini-hockey National finals last summer, where they finished runners-up. The awards evening was broadcast live on BBC Essex and their pictures carried in all the local press.

Meanwhile, on Sunday mornings, the younger age groups have all been enjoying their hockey and are currently 4th in the White Knights mini-league. The next round is on January 25th when we travel to Havering HC. Chelmsford then host Southend on the 1st of February. The White Knights League is seen as a way to give beginners and players of all abilities some competitive hockey. The coaches then always make sure we field our strongest sides for the Essex and East competitions. This season, both the U11 and U13 girls teams have won through to the East Finals in Norfolk on Sunday March 14th.

The older boys and girls age groups have suffered disappointment in the Hockey Association cup, with the U18 and U15 girls teams and the boys U16 side all suffering first round defeats. However the girls teams are both through to the second round of the HA plate whilst the boys are now concentrating on the Mercian league. The U14 side have won 1 and lost 3 whilst the U16 side have also been enjoying some successful results. Their most recent being an emphatic victory over Harrow (17-0).

The new Monday evening Indoor sessions at New Hall school have also proved to be very popular. These weekly sessions alternated between the older boys and girls for the early part of the season. More recently, the U13’s were also given a chance to try out Indoor, at a U13 club Indoor tournament on January 10th. We have found it difficult to organise competitive matches but despite this, the U18 girls were able to enter the Higgins Indoor U18 schools and clubs competition and following their Essex win,

qualified at the East finals for the National championships at Worcester on the week end of January 24th/25th. The girls have really benefited from the coaching experience and enthusiasm of Ladies 1st XI players Lisa Wooding and Lynn Bollington and the team are all keen to help Lisa emulate her mother’s feat of winning the U18 girls National Indoor Championship with Helena Romanes last year.

Behind the scenes, plans are now well under way for the visit of the Youth section of Zevenbergen HC. They have been invited for the first bank holiday week-end in May and will be bringing six teams from U14 upwards. They will once again be staying under canvas at Danbury Park! Their last visit was a fantastic event at Chelmer Park, right through from their arrival on Friday evening until their departure on Sunday night. This time, with the new Chelmsford water pitch, it can only be even bigger and better. Any offers of help will be very gratefully received and for those who might like to get involved, there is a meeting at Chelmer Park on 11th February at 8 p.m.

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

Nigel King

Now we are having all the home games at Chelmer Park, the bar turnover has almost doubled from last season – excellent. The significance of this will be the Sports Club being able to look at various improvements with immediate effect – kitchen equipment first and then early consideration of furniture, bar improvements etc etc just keep drinking! I think we still have some ingredients left for a few jugs of 'purple nasty' after the Christmas exploits!



BEER FESTIVAL - WEEKEND 23rd to 25th

JANUARYmake sure you come and bring lots of friends ! Details on posters in the clubhouse.

Men's First XI Report

David Kitchiner

Unfortunately, the mid-season break seems to have come at just the wrong time for the 1st XI. Having struggled for consistency earlier in the season the squad hit form in the last few weeks, disposing of two Premier Division opponents in the Cup (Hampstead & Westminster and Old Loughtonians) and recording big league wins over Southgate (4-2) and Nottingham (7-1). As things stand at the moment we are in fifth place in the league, but it could not be much tighter. Only three points separate the top five and, with two automatic promotion places up for grabs this

season (more on that later), competition is sure to be fierce in the second half of the season.

Our plans have been somewhat disrupted due to the failures of the South African international squad to organise either their timetable or their qualification for the Athens Olympics. Player/Coach Craig "Ned" Fulton missed the Stourport game (5-1 win) in addition to the Beeston game (narrow 3-4 defeat) when his flight to India for the Afro-Asian Games was brought forward at short notice. In addition, his and Nat's wedding in early December meant that he also missed the league outing at Nottingham and the historic 6-2 cup victory over Old Loughtonians.

To make matters worse, a "golden goal" defeat to Egypt in the final of the African Nations Cup – a tournament in which Ned was not playing - means that the South Africans now have to travel to Madrid for the Olympic Qualifying Tournament in March. Still, we're unlikely to miss the services of the only one of our forwards or midfielders not to have scored a goal this season!

On the positive side, I can report that the rest of the squad appear to relish the opportunity to show the Coach what they can do in his absence. Apart from the blip at Beeston, when we were 3-1 up with fifteen minutes to go, results have surprised even our most loyal supporters and spectators.

Dave "Dppers" De Prez has led the way with eleven goals in the league and an astonishing eight strikes in three cup matches. He has now scored more open play goals than any other player in the EHL (men or ladies) this season.

It has also been good to see that Jon "The Don" Wilcox's goal touch has not deserted him this season (eight league plus one cup), though his post-goal celebrations need a little more work. They have ranged from kissing the badge on his shirt to staring down the goalkeeper after a successful penalty stroke conversion. It didn't seem to matter to The Don that the goalkeeper was completely oblivious to this performance nor that his parents were cringeing on the sideline. It's been so long since I saw Spencer score a goal that I can't remember if it's a hereditary trait.

Chris "Broomy" Broom (3 + 3), Marc "Ully" Oelfose (3 + 1), Luke Mepham (2), Ollie "Coops" Cooper (1) and Ben "Forest" Farmer (1) have all chipped in with goals and Ian "Seve" Belchamber has emphatically dispelled the theory promoted by our Player/Coach that it is impossible to score from right midfield, with two well-taken opportunist goals.

Having briefly mentioned Ully, I couldn't possibly pen a newsletter article without formally congratulating him on a most inspired piece of marketing / promotional activity on behalf of the club. Few regular readers of the Essex Chronicle could have failed to notice the green mohican haircut splashed across the back page of said journal just prior to Christmas. Quite what he has planned for the New Year remains to be seen.

The one regret of the first half of the season is that we really should not have dropped any points at all. The 2-1 defeat at Doncaster was a bitter pill to swallow having dominated the game from

start to finish. It's easy to point to umpiring decisions - a perfectly good goal disallowed and a controversial goal conceded - but the reality was that we had enough chances to win at a canter.

Beeston was going according to plan when we were deservedly leading 3-1 with fifteen minutes to go, only for the home side to complete an unlikely comeback with virtually the last hit of the game. We played poorly at Firebrands but still looked like snatching something with a spirited comeback in the last ten minutes and then we let slip a two-goal lead to share the points at home to Bowdon. At least we're still in the mix and raring to set the record straight in the second half of the season!

The Cup this year has given us the opportunity to test ourselves against Premier Division opposition. A closely-fought contest against Hampstead & Westminster (in monsoon-like conditions) swung our way with the yellow-card dismissal of former Chelmsford defender Gary Boucher ten minutes from time as we ran in three goals before the end. Not one prone to seeing eye to eye with umpires over the years, even our club Patron roared his approval of the decision that sent Bouchie trudging to the warmth of the dugout! The excitement of that tie was nothing compared to the almost surreal atmosphere surrounding the performance against Old Loughtonians a couple of weeks later. It would be easy to point to the late withdrawal through injury of another former Chelmsford favourite - Justin "Jubba" King - from the Old Loughts lineup as a reason for their defeat but, as I

have already pointed out, we were without our free-scoring Player/Coach on that day too. To say our 6-2 victory was deserved would be doing the lads an injustice in a game in which we were quite simply the better side. No greater complement could be paid to the team than one regular supporter noting after the game that he hadn't even realised that Mike "Twoshie" Cullen was playing for our Essex rivals!

Our reward for these triumphs is the dubious pleasure of a sixth round (quarter-final) home tie against National Champions and current league leaders Cannock on 1st February. We understand that they will be without their five Great Britain players, but that doesn't seem to have handicapped them too much this season. The game will also see the return to Chelmer Park of Rob Mackay, who has been playing at Cannock since leaving us at the end of the 2000/2001 season to go to University in the Midlands. The game starts at 1:00pm, so get there early to secure your place at the front of the crowd!

As promised, I'll now talk a little bit about the promotion/relegation issues. There has been a lot of talk in recent months about the controversial plans to restructure the EHL. As things stand at the moment, the league will be increased in size to thirty-six clubs at the end of this season. There will be no relegation at the end of the season, there will be automatic promotion to the Premier Division for the top two clubs in Division One and automatic promotion to the EHL for all five regional league winners. The proposed structure for next season is a Premier Division of twelve clubs and two

Division Ones (North and South) of twelve teams each.

While your 1st XI do not object to the principle of expanding the league (although our personal experience is that smaller divisions means greater competition), we are firmly against the proposed structure of the competition which will see all sides play each other once before Christmas, prior to a mid-season split that will see half the clubs playing-off in the second half of the season for promotion and the other half fighting against relegation.

While full details can be found on the new England Hockey web site (www.englandhockey.co.uk), we are fundamentally opposed to the mid-season split, believing that it will result in fixture confusion, greater player movement, more freak results and meaningless fixtures and an unnecessarily large number of clubs (five) being relegated from the EHL each season. Needless to say, we have made our views known to our EHL Committee Representatives and placed a counter-proposal on the table that would stick with the expansion to thirty-six clubs, but keep the current three-division structure until a proper consultation has taken place. Early indications are that this counter-proposal has the support of the vast majority of EHL clubs and it is due to be formally discussed by the EHL Management Committee shortly. Watch this space...

Finally, congratulations should be extended to Ned and Nat on their recent marriage. A small but significant contingent from Chelmsford HC made the long trip to South Africa to be there for

their big day and were made to feel most welcome by all their friends and family. Apart from myself and Nick, Alan and Penny Draper, Colin and Janet Sutton plus Betty, Adrian and Jenni Smith (and family) all made it out there and managed to combine the event with holiday and sightseeing. There were a lot of familiar Chelmsford faces – Dave Staniforth, Dave Viney, Wayne Denne - plus several others who have visited the club either as opposing players or merely friends of the newlyweds.

I can report that the event was a huge success. Even a violent electrical storm an hour before the ceremony failed to dampen spirits. I can further report that your correspondent faithfully followed Penny's instructions to "look after Alan" at the Stag (Bulls') Night. Sadly, I cannot be held responsible for the grass stains on his trousers sustained after our return to the hotel!

Ladies First XI Report

Janet Sutton

1st XI outdoor finished for the Christmas / Indoor break back at the end of November, and for the first time in National League history Chelmsford are clear at the top of the table by 2 points, winning 6 out of 9 matches. We have already exceeded last season's points tally and goals for. Lisa Wooding is the League's top goal scorer with her deadly penalty corner strike and clinical penalty strokes.

Katie Roberts has been unavailable for most of the first

half of the season, on International duties, but will be available to play Indoor this year. On the International front, four squad members and coach, Karen Brown, have been travelling far and near. It was a treat to watch Lisa Wooding captaining England, along with her fellow Chelmsford teammates Chloe Rogers and Cath Gilliat-Smith in a test match vs. Japan on our own new pitch at Chelmer Park back in November. Our thanks go to all who organized and helped on the day, there was over 1,000 spectators.

Katie and Karen were away with England and GB for a five week tour of Australia, which coincided with the Champions Trophy. Meanwhile Lisa, Chloe and Cath jetted off to Jo'burg for a test series v. South Africa. They all returned safely and are preparing for the Indoor. The Premier Division preliminary rounds are in Haslemere on 10/11th and 17/18th January, with the top four at Finals Night on Friday 30th January at Crystal Palace. Womens semi-finals are at 16.30 (1st v. 4th) and 18.30 (2nd v. 3rd) and Final 20.30.



We return to outdoor action with four consecutive home matches starting on 7th February. We are in the process of re-arranging our Easter Saturday NL match v. Slough (as neither team will have a squad that weekend !!!). It will probably be Sunday 28th March. TBC.

We look forward to seeing as many spectators as possible at the remainder of our home matches

(or away if you are that keen!) willing us on to stay top of the table and win the League !!! How fitting that would be for the first season on our new pitch.

Men's Team Reports

Phil Wilkinson (Men's 2nd XI)

It was evident from the word go at the start of the season that this 2nd XI contained more potential than any of the other successful 2nd XI's sides of the past, including those from the highly successful 'Spike Brown' era of yesteryear!

Coach Ian 'Stumpy' Gall and player manager Spike had a rather nice problem on their hands, too many quality players to fit into one team. Squad rotation helped ease this headache with several players putting in star performances for the 3rd XI on occasions. The competition for places together with an altogether more professional approach to both training and matches helped stimulate some good league performances. Most notably of all the stunning 7-1 demolishing of ex National League side Blueharts on the new water based pitch which showed that on our day, we were capable of beating anyone in Premier Division A.

Other notable highlights include the 3-0 win away at Bishops Stortford where a commanding performance from Phil Pineo in the centre of midfield saw him 'relegated' to the 1st XI for the rest of the campaign. Also, a 2-0 victory at Peterborough Town with ex-captain Chris 'Bruiser'

Wilson causing the damage to the home defence!

Unfortunately the high standards could not be maintained as inconsistency crept in. The first lapse was the infamous 'Bourne incident' where a car load of Chelmsford players travelled to Bourne not realising the game was actually being played at nearby Market Deeping, as a result we started the game with 10 men and ended it with only a hard fought draw. We also suffered defeats to Cambridge City and Harleston Magpies as well as heavy defeats at the hands of table toppers Crostyx and Cambridge University. These were sandwiched by respectable victories over Ipswich and West Herts leaving Chelmsford occupying 6th position at the halfway stage with as many victories as defeats (5) and as many goals scored as conceded (24).

The key to improving this standing is to stop the inconsistency that is so clearly evident from one week to the next. However this task is made especially difficult for coach Stumpy, as regular first team call ups to the likes of Belchamber, Mepham, Bell, Wilkinson and Fell together with the occasional unavailability of key players means it is virtually impossible to field the same side two weeks in a row. Also the fact that nobody in the side appears to be capable of converting a penalty flick this season does not help matters!

The squad contains a good mixture of youth and experience. Promising youngsters such as Josh Mepham, Matt Bell and Elliot Seleska are learning from the likes of Alan Thorogood and

Spike who are in the twilight of their playing careers! Owen Thom and Royce Waters have marshalled the backline with commitment while the goals have been shared around the strikers evenly with Bruiser being the current top scorer with 8. The skipper's armband has passed from Bruiser to Wilko, however travelling the world is on the agenda for the latter in February so there is an opportunity for someone else to lead the way.

Big thanks are owed to Stumpy and Spike for their efforts so far. The aim for the second half of the season must surely be to collect as many points as possible to ensure that the 2nd XI finishes in a higher position than ever achieved before. Good luck boys!

Derek Gould (Men's 3rd XI)

We could blame it on the good times, we can't blame it on the sunlight, we can't blame it on the moonlight, BUT we can blame it on the FITNESS!! Highs and Lows, Peaks and Troughs. Very much a club team with a focus on integrating and being a social, but serious team. With players ranging from the 2nd team to the 5th team, some sober to some struggling, very fit to very fat, that about sums up the 3rd team of 2003/2004.

7 wins, 4 loses, 0 draws, 35 goals for, 21 against and 21 points, leaves us sitting 4th in the league at the half way stage. There is a lot of hope in the team and spirits are riding high. Anyone of the top 4 teams could win this league (1st Ipswich on 25 points). It all relies on starting the new year as we mean to continue. Hopefully some Christmas training and

indoor for some will shake off a few "pigs in blankets" and turkey curries. It would be excellent for the team and club if the 3rd's could move up a league.

The season started better than in previous seasons. Captain courageous, Simon King managed to persuade those who most needed it to attend Chelmer Park for some pre-season fitness training. This proved too much for some as the first game saw us go down 2-1 to Ipswich away. A kick in the derriere was exactly what was needed as it lifted the players to put a string of wins together - the string was 4 games long with 17 goals for and only 3 against. Things were looking up until Havering took to the new water based like ducks and managed a 2-0 turnover. A solid away performance against Old Southendian's (1-3) put us back on track. A ding-dong game against Wapping at Chelmer left us the losers by one goal even after we scored 3. The biggest trough of the season was when we travelled in the storms to Waltham Forest. No captain, no umpire and no time for a warm-up left us struggling. Surprisingly we went 2 up in the first 10 minutes, only to be overrun for the remainder of the game and we trudged home with heavy shoulders after a 5-2 defeat. 6 points from the last 2 of the season put us back in the running and allowed us to enjoy our Xmas night out - a bit too much for some!!

The team is coming together nicely this season: Tim Briggs in goals goes from strength to strength only to be emphasised with his chance to shine with the seconds on Sat 10th Jan - let's hope he doesn't do too well!!

Simon King is threatening to go to the vets (not for the dog and cats I might add), but it should be more like promotion to the 2's. He just needs to keep his fitness up. A huge thanks goes out to Kevin Denman for supply the half-time lucozade that is working a treat (and, oh yeah, for his sterling efforts in his sweeping role!!). Strong contender for 2nd team hockey or at least player of the year is young Duncan Feldman. Consistently good performances week in week out. Andy Simmo Simpson, 2002/2003 Player of the Year and looking like getting more votes than the UK's entry in the Eurovision Song Contest this time around. Stalwart in defence with endless commitment and a joy to play with. If only Rob Fordham could produce what he manages to do at training on Wednesday's on a Saturday then he would easily be the best player in the team. Often, too much skill can be a hindrance. For someone that spends all week with children, we've found quite a mature midfielder in Ben Rew. Strong, fast, but lacking the ability to teach himself not to talk back. You'll always find the reliable Derek Gould in the same zone every week (and it's not the bar). Not too high and not too far back, he likes to control the left of midfield. The occasional run surprises the best of them. Another big thanks has to go out to Nick Stevenson for all his efforts at training on Wednesday nights. Attendance is up and the standard is excellent. His team talks and valiant attempts on the pitch really drive the team forward. Struggling to find the form of last season though. Keep up the attendance at training. Without Neil Stanhope the 3rd team would lack a decent crowd,

home and away. So, thanks to Clan Stanhope. A bit of an unsettled season so far for Neil, but if anyone can cope with sweeper one game and centre forward the next, it's Stanhope. Phil Goode has been having his own little competition so far this season: injuries versus goals. I think the goals just win - after all it must be near impossible to sustain 5 injuries in one game. Sam Gibson has really brought some solid experience and skill down from the 2nd team, just what the team needed up-front. He does tend to be a bit of a social king on the pitch though, as he is constantly chatting to the umpires. Adrian Tuff has just about got his shape back after giving birth to young Mollie. His shooting ability and knowledge of geometry go hand in hand - Goals from all angles. Sometimes though, there can be too much emphasis on the fantasy league points!! Last, but not least is the new, pacy, skilful and determined Rob Hartley. Simply needs to buckle down, turn on some consistency and he will be a regular.

Well that's it from the 3rd's, but watch this space for some exciting hockey and hopefully the promotion that we are capable of achieving.

Charlie Hingston (Men's 4th XI)

Despite losing to the top two teams in the last few weeks before the Christmas break, and only losing one other game, the 4th XI have had an excellent first half of the season. Currently sitting 3rd with a 5 point gap to fourth place and a goal difference of +30, things are looking good.

Trevor Waspe is doing his best to retain the fantasy league top goalscorer and has helped our total tally to an impressive 57 goals in 11 games!

In defence consistency seems to have worked with Russell Beattie and Gavin Spencer having excellent seasons. With promotion a real possibility we will still have plenty to play for when the league restarts.

Jon Lambert (Men's 5th XI)

The first half of the season has been distinctly mixed for the Men's 5th XI with some convincing wins and some convincing defeats leaving us in 9th place of 12 at the halfway point. Goals, however, have always been guaranteed to entertain the crowds with an aggregate of 76 in 11 games.

The start of the season saw changes to the side, with some new and returning faces arriving to replace the injured and those who moved up to the 4's. Whilst all have settled into the team well, the 5th XI have struggled to put out the same team each Saturday and the inconsistent results reflect this. If we can improve this for the second half of the season, we have shown ourselves to be more than capable of consolidating our place in Div 7SE for another season.

Finally, congratulations go to Iain and Medora Johnston on the birth of Lucy in November 2003.



Tom Burrows (Men's 6th XI)

as at end December
P11 W2 D1 L8 F17 A30 P7

We find ourselves, as last year, at the bottom of Div 8 but with high hopes for 2004. Our losses have, in the main, been by the odd goal and there is no team which we really fear for the return legs. Our defence, 'the old contemptables' has generally given us a base from which to launch our attacks and it is, I think, a lack of bodies in the opposing D which stops us capitalising.....we generally haven't got the fitness to move upfield rapidly in numbers from a defensive position, although there is no lack of willingness..... spirits and bodies spring to mind!

It's been nice to see some youngsters coming in to the side in the shape of Tim Fox, now our regular right winger, and James Stock and Sam Eastoe as goalies when Marc isn't around or, as he puts it, is dropped to the 5's or 4's. All show lots of promise and we look forward to them progressing through the club in due course. Another of our youngsters, Phil Hunt, has made a successful comeback from injury and has played particularly well in the back four this season.....he is certainly a candidate for moving up the club in the not too distant future.

Thanks to Richard Poulter for his regular umpiring again this season and thanks to those who have stepped into the breach to do this thankless task when the need has arisen.

A. N. Evergreen (Evergreens)

For the benefit of the rest of the Club, here are a few little known,

but hopefully interesting facts about the Evergreens, our most senior mens' team.

A recent snap survey in a bar somewhere or other revealed that the average age of the team is 63. When compared to our 1st XI (average age 23?), it shows that today's stars can look forward to a good 40 years of hockey ahead of them.....unless, of course, they are a bunch of fair-weather, temperate wimps !!

A notable event shortly to come in the New Year is the 70th birthday of Keith Leppard, our intrepid right-winger (and that's not just his political views!) and goal-scorer. That brings to 3 the number of septuagenarians (it can be cured, with treatment - usually of a liquid kind) in our forward line, his more 'senior' colleagues being David Simms and Gerald Wilkinson (both recent goal-scorers as well). The total age of our forward line (something well over 310 years) would easily exceed the total age of the 1st XI and come close to matching that of the total squad, assuming 2 -3 on the bench.

The Evergreens are the only Chelmsford team to opt out of playing in a league this season - the appeal of travelling to places like Reading, losing 8 - 0 to teams 15 - 20 years younger, gradually lost its lustre and the fixtures are now made up of 'friendlies'. The emphasis has been put back on the social side of the game, with pre-match pints, along with half-time or post-match 'winter-warmers' becoming a feature of more and more games. The aim of the Evergreens is to win prizes as the most social side in the Club, although it has to be reported that they only came

second to the Mens' 1st XI (but a close second) on the recent Club Day, with nine of the squad turning out in some form or other, both on the pitch and in the bar.

Another example of this change of philosophy was our award-winning tour in August to Stitche H.C. Holland via Dunkirk, a 12 hour journey courtesy of Peter's Motor Tours (PMT). Knowing that we had limited chances to win matches, we resolved to be the most social team there. Not only were we noticeably ever-present at the Friday and Saturday formal functions, but we also demonstrated a degree of resourcefulness that the SAS would have been proud of. Search parties were sent round local establishments on the Saturday morning and managed to procure 6 litres of Johnny Walker and 24 glasses. Our tactics were to offer a small toast before each of the four matches, something which our Dutch opponents were pleased to accept, but regretted shortly afterwards, as we went on to be awarded a trophy for being the most successful playing side on the Saturday.

Unfortunately, and particularly after another heavy night, we forgot to do the same again, only handing out the drinks after the matches, which resulted in the loss of three out of four of the Sunday matches - clearly a huge tactical error. However, our persistence on the alcohol front throughout the 48 hours led to a second award, for the most social side of the tournament, being presented to us by the Chairman of Stitche H.C. In solemn reciprocation, we presented the glasses and 6 empty whisky bottles to our hosts.

Having said all that, the quality of Evergreen's hockey has been improving rapidly of late and we have ended the first half of the season in winning ways, particularly with a notable and very enjoyable revenge victory over Bishops Stortford.

Hopefully, this will be a feature of the second half of the season and that we continue to reap the double dividend of playing good and entertaining hockey as well as enjoying the social activities that go on around it.

After this up-lifting report, there undoubtedly be a huge surge of interest in joining the Evergreens squad. Nevertheless, be advised that all aspiring recruits will have to undergo a rigorous one hour interview in the bar with our recruitment panel of Peter Woodward, David Simms and Fred Matthews. If you pass that, playing hockey for the Evergreens will be a cinch!! Don't forget to bring your wallet!

Ralph Thomas (Vets)

In the newly formed Home Counties Veterans League we are lying 3rd behind Cambs. City and Milton Keynes both of whom beat us but are yet to come to Chelmsford.

David Gill has re-joined the Club and is providing power and neat touches on the left flank, while Ian Brown has also re-joined bringing fearsome tackling and hitting to the centre of defence. The assured umpiring of Norman Kerridge has contributed enormously to our enjoyment of home matches and we are grateful to Martin Matthews and Nigel King who also have excelled upon umpiring.

Ladies Club Report

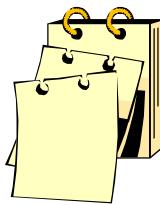
Jenny Stonebank

The first half of the season has been a fairly successful one for all elevens apart from the 4th XI, who were 'unfortunate' to gain a last place promotion at the end of last season. Being in the same league as the 3rd XI is not ideal. Nevertheless, the team spirit has been excellent and many of the results have been losses by the odd goal. The 2's, 3's and 5's are all in reasonable positions in their respective leagues and it is with great pride that we find the Ladies 1's topping the National League half way through the season.

Training continues on Monday evenings for the 2nd XI, Tuesday evenings for the 1st XI and Wednesday evenings for the rest of the club members. All training is carried out on the water-base and we are fortunate to have coaches for all of the training slots. It is a great pity that more club members do not make use of the Wednesday training slot from 8-9.30, an average of 8-10 attendees is pretty poor considering the number of club members.

Many thanks to everyone who has umpired and also to all captains and club officials for all their hard work so far this season.

Let's hope the 1st XI continue their winning ways in 2004 and that we all continue to enjoy our hockey.



Ladies Team Reports

Claire Penketh (Ladies 2nd XI)

as at end December (6th position)
P11 W4 D2 L5 F22 A24 P14

We started this season with a new coach, David Coombes, who has given us much to work on and we had been hoping to get ourselves into a promotion position to go back up to the Premier division at the end of the season. We started the season well with 2 draws (both 2-2) and then 3 wins. Unfortunately we then played Old Loughts who strengthened their team with five of their first team National League players and so they beat us quite comprehensively 5-1. This seemed to start a period of bad luck and under performance by us and we lost our next four games. We then managed to regain our composure and beat Thurrock 1-0 and we finished the first half of the season with a 4-2 loss against Norwich Union.

Overall we have played quite well and we have a much larger squad of players than last season which has helped strengthen the team and has also had a positive knock on effect for the other Ladies teams in the Club. It will be a struggle in the second half of the season to pull ourselves back into a promotion position (top 3) but we will try our hardest none the less. If we don't manage it we will use it as a chance to consolidate and try again next season.

Sally Symes (Ladies 3rd XI)

The Ladies 3's had a somewhat bumpy start to this year's season

but recently we have found our form and are now sitting in 3rd place in Division One.

Despite winning our first game back in September, the following 5 games consisted of 3 losses, one draw and only one win which was against Chelmsford 4's. It has to be said that the defeat to Clacton was very close and we were unlucky with only a draw against Southend. On the other hand, we were sloppy in defence and not eager enough up front against local rivals Brentwood 2's.

Since that game however, we have turned our performance around and have had a run of victories for 5 consecutive games up to Christmas. Notable matches were the Jonny Wilkinson inspired 3-1 win against Havering on the day of the Rugby World Cup final, and the good result against 2nd place Harlow just before Christmas.

It has been great to have a fairly stable squad for the 3's so far this year and we are now working well as a team, which is demonstrated by our improved performance in November and December. Much of this is also down to Hilary our coach, whom we owe for Wednesday night training and assistance on Saturday mornings.

Top goal scorers up to Christmas are Amy Bone and Sally Dewar with Jenny Malicka and Sophie Maxey not far behind. Our midfield and defence have now settled since the start of the season and we are putting in more confident and solid performances each time we play. A mix of experience, in the form of Sally Wilford and Sarah Sutton, with the tenacity and enthusiasm of

Toni Speakman dropping back from attack seems to be working well.

Thanks to everyone who has played for the 3's so far.

Let's keep up our current performance and we should definitely be in line for promotion to the Premier Division at the end of the season.

Nikki Tuff (Ladies 4th XI)

P12 W1 D1 L10 P4 (11th Position)

After picking up a much needed point this weekend (10/1/04), the ladies 4's have lifted themselves off the bottom slot by virtue of a better goal difference. This is due, in no small way, to some fantastic goal keeping from our duo of youngsters Sarah Vigrass and Helen Fagg. It was always going to be a difficult task to stay afloat in the first division after gaining promotion through league restructuring. Despite this, team spirit remains positive. This is especially displayed by Charlotte Roberts, who often finds herself as the lone striker, whilst the older members of the team struggle to catch up. Thanks to all the players for their support whilst I struggle to juggle captaincy and Mollie (often literally) and I hope your enthusiasm continues to the end of the season.

Jenny Stonebank (Ladies 5th XI)

Up to Christmas the 5th XI had played 8, won 3, drawn 2 and lost 3. Goals for 21 and conceded 17.

As a result we are sitting fairly comfortably in a mid table position.

Joanne Eager is currently our top goal scorer (11 goals) although a number of players have got onto the score sheet this season including sweeper Kerry Sutton.

Youngsters Laura Appleby, Sophie Dewar and Emma Gibbens have been in regular attendance this season and are all playing well. Thanks to goal keeper Frances Thompson who has played out on the pitch for the 5's on a couple of occasions this season.

Mixed Hockey

Adrian Tuff

It's been a slow start, but with 3 mixed games having been successfully negotiated I think we can call it a moderate success so far...

Our first venture was against a very competitive Bury side, with a goal a piece from Emma Cockerill and Andy Nourse the score-line was 2-2 with less than 10 minutes to go, a draw seemed a fair result, but then disaster struck....

The Bury strikers suddenly realised our weakness... Adrian Ericsson's left hand side... which was the unfortunate recipient of a Jon Lambert pile-drive in the first Men's 5th XI game of the season!

With that knowledge a Bury win was secured, two late goals past Adrian's left foot ensured victory for the visitors. Still fun was had by all.

Our second and third matches were stunning (!!) victories, a 4-2 win over Hounslow & Ealing and a 4-3 beating of a Trevor Waspe invitational team (Thanks Trev!).

As far as my records show, I think Emma and Andy lead the way with goals for the mixed team, with a stunning 2!

Our remaining (confirmed) fixtures:

*25th Jan Saffron Walden (Cup)
1st Feb Norwich Union (TBC)
15th Feb Cup or Friendly (TBC)
29th Feb Shefford & Sandy
14th Mar Mutineers*

There is also the possibility of a few mixed games on the "Official

Opening Weekend" for the new astroturf and changing rooms. So if you are interested in playing in them please let me know.

Thanks to all of the people who have supported the mixed thus far, especially our ever keen umpires, Chris Denman, Robert Nourse and Anthea Hunter.

Forthcoming Events

Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th January
Annual Beer Festival (see advert)

Saturday 7th February
Quiz Night @8.00pm (see advert)

Wednesday 11th February
Youth Meeting for Zevenbergen HC Visit
Chelmer Park Clubhouse @8.00pm

Saturday 28th February
Race Night (organised by the Men's 1st XI)

Friday 19th March
Men's Annual Dinner @7.00pm (see advert)

Friday 2nd April
Ladies Night (see advert)

Saturday 3rd April
Club Day

Friday 16th to Sunday 18th April
Grand Opening Weekend (see article below)

Saturday 17th April
Spring Hockey Newsletter

Monday 10th May
Golf Day (see advert and application form below)

Friday 25th June
Hockey Club AGM @8.00pm

Quiz Night

In the clubhouse on **Saturday 7th February**

£10 per team (maximum of 8 per team)
Raffle (all prizes gratefully received)

See Fred Matthews to register your team
fredatfirecrest@yahoo.co.uk



Men's Annual Dinner

In the clubhouse on **Friday 19th March**.

Tickets will be **£25**

Orders to Spencer Wilcox as soon as possible.

Would captains please take orders as well and let Spencer know.

First come first serve with a 90 limit overall.

Annual Beer Festival

In the clubhouse from
Friday 23rd January to
Sunday 25th January

Experience a wide range of guest ales, and perhaps even a guest cider or two!

Ladies Night

After last years success, Ladies Night returns to Chelmer Park.

In the clubhouse on **Friday 2nd April**.

Tickets will be available (first come first serve) from Jenny Stonebank and all Team Captains

Details to be confirmed

Social Events

Grand Opening Weekend.

Get this date into your new 2004 diaries right away!
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 16th 17th 18th April 2004.

We are in the process of final arrangements for the Grand Opening of our new pitch and facilities. More details will follow, and we need you all to be there. We will also require assistance for various jobs over the weekend, so offers will be gratefully accepted.

Over the weekend we are planning:

- Visiting overseas teams.
- Games on both pitches from First teams, throughout the club to Vets & Youths.
- Entertainment on Friday, Saturday & Sunday.
- Reception to host various VIP's from England Hockey and Sport England who enabled the project, and our various sponsors and contractors.
- Grand Opening ceremony on the Sunday.

Make sure to join us as a club member and a hockey player to celebrate the official opening of these superb facilities of which we should be hugely proud. We will keep you advised of more details as they come! Look out for information in the clubhouse.

CHELMSFORD HOCKEY CLUB

GOLF DAY



MONDAY 10th MAY 2004
CHANNELS GOLF CLUB
LITTLE WALTHAM, CHELMSFORD

Cost – same as last year. £60 for the day that will include coffee on arrival, lunch and evening meal.
Two rounds of golf over 27 holes. All profits will go to the Club.

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

Ben Farmer, 43 Lawling Avenue, Heybridge, Essex CM9 4YT
(H) 01621 855826 (M) 07977 539963 e-mail: ben.farmer@tiscali.co.uk

Ursula Heelis, 24 Harrow Way, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 7AU
(H) 01245 477470 (M) 07909 994384 e-mail: ursula@uheelis.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:

1st 12% of Monthly subscriptions
2nd 8%
3rd 4%
4th 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 – November and December 2003

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 | % | Draw 26 Nov 2003 | 190 qualifying members | Draw 27 Dec 2003 | 195 qualifying members |
|----------------------------------|-----|---------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| 1st Prize | 12% | £114.00 | Mark Butterworth | £117.00 | Russell Beattie |
| 2nd Prize | 8% | £76.00 | Ken Carr | £78.00 | David Kitchiner |
| 3rd Prize | 4% | £38.00 | John Currie | £39.00 | Phillipa Feldman |
| 4th Prize | 2% | £19.00 | David Wallbank, D. Bolton, Marie Carr, Andrew Hodge, Crawford McKee, Olive Nicks | £19.50 | Nicola Sutton, Glenister Thom, Ian Marsh, Peter Woodward, David Woods, Janet Sutton |
| Quarterly Bonus Prize | 10% | £95.00 | Graham Haslam | | |

Fundraising - Fantasy Hockey

Adrian Tuff

After much effort during the registration period we finally managed to top the number of teams from last year. This year we have a total of 91 teams, a slight improvement over last year.

At the time of writing the Transfer Window (new for this season) was open, although there have only been a few transfer requests.

At (about) the half-way stage the Team tables are:

Men's Teams

| Position | Team Name | Manager | Fantasy Score |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Mummy T's Top Totty + Tufty II | Nikki Tuff | 472 |
| 2 | Tufty's Table Toppers | Adrian Tuff | 435 |
| 3 | Bo Selecta | Craig David | 414 |
| 4 | Carts' Corkers | David Carter | 400 |
| 5 | Golden Oldies | Gerald Wilkinson | 398 |
| 6 | Spurfect | Ben Farmer | 394 |
| 7 | Not Particularly Special II XI | Nick Stevenson | 388 |
| 8 | Forever Green | Fred Matthews | 386 |
| 8 | MM1 | Martin Matthews | 386 |
| 10 | 11 good players plus Dad | David Hunter | 384 |

Ladies Teams

| Position | Team Name | Manager | Fantasy Score |
|----------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Badger's Bachites | Dan Tilley | 254 |
| 2 | Pru's Powerful Passing Pride | Pru Carter | 235 |
| 3 | Mummy T's Top Trumps | Nikki Tuff | 224 |
| 4 | Miller's Marvels | Sue Millier | 223 |
| 5 | O's Extras | Owen Thom | 217 |
| 6 | Hog Trotters | Jacqui Hogger | 214 |
| 7 | Spot III Hens | Jackie Hefford | 205 |
| 8 | The Specials | Andrew Kennedy | 204 |
| 9 | Inter-Chelm | Ralph Thomas | 203 |
| 10 | Wilko's Women! | Phil Wilkinson | 202 |

The Tuff's lead the way in the Men's League, last year's winner Nick Stevenson is holding on to a credible 7th but is it a gap to far? Our guest entry is holding firm at number 3 but is it just a passing trend?

Badger leads the way in the Ladies League, following up from his good finish last season, but with no

transfers made he could get left behind. Last years winner, Jackie Hefford, is positioned seventh in the table and is ready for a late season spurt.

Only Nikki Tuff has the satisfaction of having teams in the top 10 of both leagues (fix I hear you cry!!).

The Tables of Players is currently:

Men's Players

| Position | Player Name | Team | Fantasy Score |
|----------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 | Waspe, Trevor | Fifth XI | 99 |
| 2 | Goode, Phil | Second XI | 61 |
| 3 | Tuff, Adrian | Third XI | 54 |
| 4 | Randall, Chris | Vets XI | 51 |
| 5 | de Prez, Dave | First XI | 49 |
| 6 | Nourse, Andy | Fourth XI | 47 |
| 7 | Fergus, Alistair | Third XI | 44 |
| 8 | Hunter, Ian | Evergreens XI | 43 |
| 9 | Thomas, Ralph | Vets XI | 41 |
| 9 | Wilcox, Jonny | First XI | 41 |
| 9 | Nicks, Matthew | Fifth XI | 41 |

Ladies Players

| Position | Player Name | Team | Fantasy Score |
|----------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 | Eager, Joanne | Fifth XI | 43 |
| 2 | Maxey, Sophie | Third XI | 41 |
| 3 | Cockerill, Emma | Second XI | 40 |
| 4 | Wooding, Lisa | First XI | 38 |
| 4 | Dewar, Sally | Third XI | 38 |
| 6 | Bone, Amy | Second XI | 35 |
| 7 | Gilliat-Smith, Cath | First XI | 34 |
| 8 | Willmore, Tracy | First XI | 33 |
| 8 | Malicka, Jenny | Second XI | 33 |
| 10 | Speakman, George | Third XI | 31 |

There is no big shock in the Men's table, with last years winner, Trevor Waspe, already with a probably unassailable lead, closely followed by the other members of the last year's top 3. In a role reversal to last season, Doppers is currently holding the first team crown although Jonny Wilcox isn't far behind.

In the Ladies league there are several changes from last season. We see a welcome first place for Joanne Eager of the Fifth XI who at present is outscoring Lisa Wooding. Chris Cunningham (last year's winner) has yet to make it into the Top 10 whilst (for a pleasant surprise) the Ladies Second XI have 3 forwards in the top 10!! Who'd have thought it! (Although some of them mainly play for the 3's)

The prizes have been finalised and they are the same as last year. With free subs (or £100) to the winner of the Team leagues and £40 and £20 worth of bar vouchers

to the second and third placed teams. The leading points scorers will once again get their names on the Fantasy Hockey tankards behind the bar, or the Trevor Waspe cup as we like to call it!!

This year the website (<http://home.freeuk.com/atuff>) holds a plethora of interesting and not-so-interesting

tables. The key tables are still placed in the clubhouse and on the clubhouse PC.

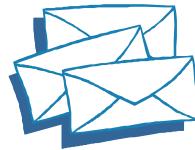
Many Thanks to all of the people who have assisted in getting Fantasy Hockey running again this year, and a special mention goes to all of the people who fill in the weekly results forms without fail each weekend.

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

Our illustrious Chairman, Mr Nigel King, has proposed a new method of fund raising. Sponsored Adverts. If you have anything that you would like to advertise in this Newsletter (see Nigel's advert below) then all we ask is that you purchase a pitch square (£20) for each advert placed.

So to start the ball rolling Nigel and Bunny have purchased the first Sponsored Advert Pitch Square, and in return their advert is below. If you want to advertise anything then please contact one of the editors for details.

HOUSE TO LET

'Killick' is in the village of Waldringfield, just north of Ipswich.

It comprises 4 bedrooms (one en-suite double on ground floor) and sleeps 7 persons comfortably. Also 2 bathrooms, dining room, sitting room and kitchen. The back garden has views of the river Deben. Ample parking. It is available for long weekends and holiday lets all the year round. Not suitable for children under 8 years of age. Rates £40 per day for 2 people plus £7 per additional person per day.

For enquiries phone Bunny King on 01245 268174 or mobile 07710 968754

Email : bunny@jinner.demon.co.uk

Other Adverts

Treasury Consulting Lines

an *agilis*™ affiliate (www.agilis.co.uk)

Sponsors of

Chelmsford Hockey Club

Treasury Consulting Lines

- Specialist training in global financial markets
- Consulting expertise in Treasury and Financial Risk Management
- Author of the **CODE** © (Consulting On-line for Directors and Executives) Treasury and Risk Management coaching product
- Agent for the award-winning **Vega Asset Management** group of funds (for institutional investors only)

Galleon Chambers, 3 Connaught Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9PN
Phone : + 44 (0)1255 677177 Fax: +44 (0)1255 852460
E-Mail: consulting434@aol.com

Other Adverts

Horse & Groom

Dave & Lyn Lovejoy

Galleywood Common
Chelmsford Essex CM2 8PL
Phone 01245 261653

**GOOD FOOD & ALES
FAMILY ROOM
GARDEN**

PARTIES CATERED FOR

**Lunchtimes and Evenings –
Monday to Saturday**

Club Home Page on the Internet

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.

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

www.fixs.co.uk



FixturesLive The toolkit for sports clubs and leagues

Other Adverts

We would like to express our thanks to *The Printing Place* for their support of previous editions of this newsletter, from this edition onwards we will be producing all paper copies on the clubhouse photocopier.

**The
PRINTING
PLACE Ltd...** are pleased to sponsor

**CHELMSFORD
HOCKEY CLUB**

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Website: <http://www.printingplace.co.uk>

Golf Day Application Form

CHELMSFORD HOCKEY CLUB
GOLF DAY – MONDAY 10th MAY 2004
CHANNELS GOLF CLUB, LITTLE WALTHAM, CHELMSFORD

Open to all golfers - Ladies, Gentlemen, Youth - and Guests are most welcome. The greater the number, the better the day. The greater the number, the lower the cost. The greater the number, the more sponsorship for the Club

Programme

Coffee on arrival 9.00am

9 Holes - *Belsteads Course* – Texas Scramble, Team Prize

Lunch 12.30pm

18 Holes – *Channels Course* – Stableford, Individual & Team Prize + Longest Drive & Nearest the Pin.
Three Course Dinner, (Gentlemen jacket & tie please) followed by an award ceremony and raffle.

Cost £60 pp. This will depend a lot on the number of entrants and the deal we can make. Sponsorship of prizes would be appreciated.

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

CHELMSFORD HOCKEY CLUB

GOLF DAY – MONDAY 10th MAY 2004

CHANNELS GOLF CLUB, LITTLE WALTHAM, CHELMSFORD

The organisers need to know the number of competitors by the 27th March 2004. Please submit this form with your team or phone either Ben or Ursula

Name:Handicap:

Name:Handicap:

Name:Handicap:

Name:Handicap:

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

Ben Farmer,
43 Lawling Avenue, Heybridge, Essex, CM9 4YT
(H) 01621 855826 (M) 07977 539963
e-mail: ben_farmer@tiscali.co.uk

Signed:

Ursula Heelis,
24 Harrow Way, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 7AU
(H) 01245 477470 (M) 07909 994384
e-mail: ursula@uheelis.freeserve.co.uk

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 7th day of every month

Account to be debited:-

Your name.....

Your Bank's Title.....

Your Bank code.....

Your account number.....

Your Banks Address.....

.....
Signature (s).....

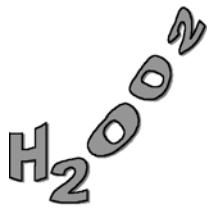
.....
Date.....

Please return the form to: -

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

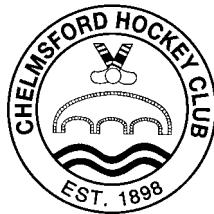
You may copy this to pass on to other prospective members.

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.

(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 (2nd signatory) _____ (if required by your account)

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address _____

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

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