

# ASHFORD HOCKEY CLUB

## Read & Black Newsletter: AUGUST 2009



### Chairman's Chatter

Hello everybody

I was delighted recently to accept the Committee's invitation to be co-opted as your new Chairman. A recent Committee Meeting did take me back to when I was last on Committee in 1980 or 1981 at the 'old club' at Woodthorpe Road! I think that we can look forward to the new season with optimism in many areas. Our Junior Section is established as one of the elite Groups in the south and continues to impress friend and foe alike. Our Ladies looked much improved in the Summer Leagues (from an umpires' perspective) and the men can look towards a new coach in September and new impetus.

The new rules will revolutionise the game and I would urge you all to 'get acquainted' with them as soon as you can. I think that the speed of the game - mentally and physically - will speed up and it will put greater emphasis on fitness. For umpires as well I might add. I am sure you all know me but suffice to say that if you think that I can assist or contribute in any way do not hesitate to ask or grab me in the Clubhouse at any time.

I have always thought that our Club is a 'breed apart' and offered something special to the world of hockey. I am delighted to be able to play a more active role in the running of the club and look forward to a great season. Carpe Diem.

Ian Jenkins (Sherpa)

### Ashford (Short Lane) Sports (A(SL)S) News

The first thing I need to report is that we are still short of two AHC members for the A(SL)S Management Committee. Jesse Donelan joined up in May and has been active on several projects already and is quickly learning what is involved in running the Short Lane (SL) site. More help is needed as we desperately try to reduce our approximately £10,000/month running costs and find ways of bringing in extra revenue which will help maintain and hopefully improve the facilities for all AHC members and visiting teams. Please contact me for further details, only 6 formal meetings are held per year and 6 'hands on' ones where jobs and cleaning tasks around the Clubhouse are undertaken. On a brighter note, I am pleased to report that the social fund raising has continued during the summer months and new chairs for the Function room have been purchased. We are also hoping to exchange some of the hockey and cricket photographs currently on display so that there are an almost equal spread of each in the Function room and Members bar and if any of you have hockey pictures, preferably already framed we will endeavour to put them up.

Unfortunately we had a break in to the Ground mans shed in the summer, but nothing was stolen and we swiftly reported and repaired the damage and extra security measures have now been installed. Several Clubhouse external areas have been painted/cleaned during the summer and the hedges etc trimmed, so work is continuing. Also one or two minor acts of vandalism on cars have occurred so may we remind you again not to leave anything of value or on display in your cars whilst parked at SL. Several water leaks and maintenance problems have occurred during the summer and these have damaged some of the changing room ceilings. We are letting the plaster work dry out and will endeavour to repaint and repair them, but some of it is specialist work and so we apologise for the delay. Further notice boards are being installed in the Members bar and function room to keep all users up to date with A(SL)S and related matters which we hope will be of interest. As from October it will of course be AHC's turn to run the bar on Monday and Tuesday evenings and once again we will be looking for help from every member where possible. Lots of members are already helping in many ways and hopefully things are improving steadily, but there is still a lot of work to be done. Please let Jesse or I know if you can help. *Lynne A(SL)S Ltd*

\*\*\*\*\* SUBSCRIPTIONS \*\*\*\*\*

Subscription rates remain the same as last season and are shown below. Please can all those of you paying by standing order check to make sure your payments are for the correct monthly amount. Members can also pay by cheque or cash, but any member who does not pay something before the start of November 2009 will not be considered for selection until their subs are paid. The rates are:

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Senior playing member<br>(Over 18 years at 1.10.08 and in employment)            | 12 payments of £26 = £312     |
| Senior playing member<br>(Over 18 years at 1.10.08 and unemployed, student etc.) | 12 payments of £16.66p = £200 |
| Junior playing member<br>(Under 18 years at 1.10.08)                             | 12 payments of £9.16pp = £110 |
| Junior playing member<br>(Under 14 years at 1.10.08)                             | 12 payments of £5.83p = £70   |
| Non-playing Member   | £20                           |

In addition, for Colts who only play on a Sunday in Colts leagues, the annual subscription is £50 or 12 payments of £4.16p.

A form for any members who would like to start paying their subscription by standing order is available on the Notice Board and on the AHC Website. May we remind you all about subscriptions; previously when you paid your subscription at the start of the season, you didn't normally get any reimbursement of it, regardless of how much hockey you played or whether you played summer hockey. However, now that many members are paying by standing order over a 12 month period, some are stopping their payments before all twelve payments i.e. their full subscription for the season, have been made; for what seems in many instances for no apparent reason. Thus AHC is not getting a full subscription from many members and we are losing funds because of it. Please contact Doreen Brown - Hon Treasurer (01932 229785), Sue Westlake or Gordon Smith (Ladies and Men's Membership Secretaries respectively) to pay your subs by any means or for further details.

### AHC Committee Members for this Season

|                              |                                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| President                    | Lynne Morgan                          |
| Chairman                     | Ian Jenkins                           |
| Treasurer                    | Doreen Brown                          |
| Secretary                    | Phil Worsfold                         |
| Ladies Fixtures              | Alex Saunders                         |
| Men's Fixtures               | Matt Emmerton                         |
| Ladies Club Captain          | Emma Hynes                            |
| Men's Club Captain           | Matt Emmerton                         |
| Ladies Membership secretary  | Sue Westlake                          |
| Men's Membership Secretary   | Gordon Smith                          |
| Press Officer/Webmaster      | Lynne Morgan/James Meers              |
| Recruitment                  | Gordon Smith                          |
| Colts Manager                | Peter Cottrell                        |
| Entertainments               | Hayley Eames                          |
| Sport Club Representative    | Jesse Donelan                         |
| A(SL)S Development Committee | Jesse Donelan + 2 still to be elected |
| A(SL)S Maintenance Committee | Lynne Morgan                          |

### Pitch Etiquette

May we remind all members and spectators that if they are not involved with the game being played, you should remain behind the spectator side line barriers at all times. Members should not be 'knocking up' or using the goals or areas of the pitch whilst matches are being prepared for or in progress. This rule also covers the half time period during games!!! In addition smoking within the confines of astro pitch and the use of glass drinks containers is prohibited.

### Pitch and Grounds Litter

Please put all your litter, empty cups/ bottles etc., in the numerous litter bins provided when you have finished your game and/or training. Please don't leave it for somebody else to clear up. PLEASE RESPECT THE PITCH LAWS AND FACILITIES.

## Ashford Antiques (AAs) News

\* Congratulations to former AHC Player Flippa (and Bwi) who had a baby boy Charles (Charlie) John Adair Messenger on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August at 7.59am weighing a manageable 7lb 15oz. The pictures of Charles look great and we hope to see him at Short Lane soon. AA's regular and AHC player Hilary Hull also gave birth to a boy (her and Dean's second child) and details are given under the Stork section. Well done all and hope to see you all back playing soon hopefully Hils/Dean/Flippa!

\* By no means is she an AA, but former star Ladies AHC 1<sup>st</sup> XI goalkeeper in our South League days Leanne Sargeant (who left the area to join the Police), has recently been selected for the UK National Police Hockey Squad, she is currently the reserve keeper, but is hoping to secure the main slot in the near future. She is also about to start playing for a local team called Earls Barton near Northampton, who aren't of a high standard but with her shift work it is difficult to commit to a regular playing schedule.

\* Many AHC members attended the Test and other International cricket events during the summer and we met former Men's player and long time Staines HC Men's Fixture Secretary Martin Williams and Husband of AA Jane Williams, at Lord's during the West Indies Test Match early in the summer. Four AA's also attended the first Ashes Test Match in the wonderful city of Cardiff where the sun shone and a good time was had by all.

\* Remaining on a cricket theme it was good to see former AHC player John Maunders getting 150 runs for Essex against Leicestershire (one of John's former Counties) in a County Championship match recently. John has also been in the Essex pro 40 squad and featured in a couple of their recent televised matches. Another AHC TV and almost cricket star, Robert Evans has also been making some excellent TV appearances during the summer for his day job.

\* It was good to see Bees supporter and former 4<sup>th</sup> XI goal poacher Janet Mock at our summer AA's bash at chez Baldwin's riverside retreat in June. We had 16 attendees; nearly that number of apologies (including Joe Leonard, June Goulds and Tracey Cottrell amongst others) for absence and one of the many highlights of the evening was the moonlight/dusk river trips undertaken with former AHC player Keith Baldwin at the helm of the Baldwin's mini cruiser.

\* It was a great pleasure to see and share a table with long time 5<sup>th</sup> XI player and Men's Fixture Secretary Yasdi Merchant at the AHC Dinner in April and to catch up on his jet setting life style. Rumour has it that he maybe dusting off his stick and returning to playing for his mate Peter Greateorex's team in the not too distant future. Go for it Yasdi. Perhaps we could also get AA John Lewis out for a few games.

\* Pleased to report that Joy Ménage has now moved to Dorset and we are hoping to visit her in her new Dorset at some stage in the future. Long time 3<sup>rd</sup> XI defender Alma Hughes Jones had a hip replacement earlier in the year and is recovering well. Unfortunately our oldest AA Joan Wadmore (91) had a bad fall at home earlier in the summer, but she is recovering well and is now resident at the Sunrise Nursing Home Virginia Water and is open to visitors.

\* South African and long time Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> XI super, super star player/legend/coach Jackie (Yip Yip) Parsons reckons she has hung up her stick and astro boots. We are hoping she will still play some AA's games and perhaps return in some capacity once the children are older. Jackie's contribution to AHC both on and off the pitch cannot be summarised in a few lines like this, but until we can write something properly DANKIE - many thanks Yip Yip and hope to see you soon.

\* Don't forget that AHC is 90 years old next year, so we are looking for any past information, newspaper clippings, fixture cards, scandal or contributions of any kind and are also considering nominating former (and current hopefully!) players for an AHC Hall of Fame. Please let me know if you have anything we can copy or borrow, we promise to return it safely. We are also trying to contact former players, so please can you either pass the word on or give me their contact details. Finally if you have any ideas for suitable mementoes or events, again please let me know.

*Lynne – [lynne.morgan@live.co.uk](mailto:lynne.morgan@live.co.uk) 07831 827690/01932 229785*

## **Social Dates for your Diaries!**

Socials are a great opportunity to meet up with everyone from the club to have a good old catch-up, a few laughs and probably more than a few pints! Lots of people work really hard to organize a variety of social events and those of you who attended any of last years' will know that they are a hell of a lot of fun! So have a look at the dates below them in your diary and keep them free, it's always great to see as many members as possible at these events and remember all the money raised goes into making Ashford Hockey Club the best it can be! We haven't got an organising committee as yet, but Hayley Eames has kindly agreed to lead on the organising of things and she would welcome suggestions for possible events. We are possibly going to delegate each event to the teams to organise i.e. one Men's and one Ladies to do each event. Hope to see you all there, the dates are all Saturdays! Thanks - Hynes and Matt

### 2009

October 17th,  
November 28th,

### 2010

January 30th  
March 13<sup>th</sup>

## **Tours**

22 of the mixed players dressed up as Cowboys and Indians for this year's Wayfarers Mixed Festival on July 10-12<sup>th</sup>. I must say they really go to town with the themes each year, and the team's gazebo was brilliantly decorated this year! See AHC Face book for the great pictures.

## **Club Kit available to buy this season-**

### Socks

Pro Star Socks - £6.00, Sizes Small (3-6) and Large (7-12)  
New Dita socks are on order, price to be agreed, sizes Small (3-6) and Large (7-12).

### Ladies League (numbered) shirts

Winter shirts £20 each large sizes only,  
New thin 'breathable' shirts £22 each (S, M, L XL, XXL).

### Unisex AHC badged kit, all sizes:

|                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Black & red Warm up jackets @ £28 | Tracksuit Trousers @ £27 |
| Black Fleece @ £27                | Black Shorts @ £14       |
| Black hoodie £15                  |                          |

Contact Doreen Brown or Lynne Morgan for further details or to place an order for any of the above.

### Men's & Colts shirts -

Please contact Peter Cottrell.  
Colts sweatshirts and hoodies are also available directly from the Proshop in Brentford.

Please endeavour to wear Club kit for all AHC games and for Ladies league games black skirts are supposed to be worn.

## **Sponsorship**

We are looking for sponsorship for kit, teams and/or equipment of any sort, so if you think you or your Company can help please let one of the Committee know.  
Thanks.

## Recruitment

Players or would be players, umpires, coaches, managers, helpers, spectators of all ages and abilities are urgently needed by AHC. We are losing players, especially 'senior ones' from the men's sides and not getting replacements and are in danger of losing a team. We have got a new Australian coach Duncan Mahoney coming for the Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI and senior teams coaching and with 20 teams covering Men's, ladies, Juniors and Mixed hockey, we pride ourselves on offering high standards of hockey and making sure we have a good time in the bar afterwards! We pride ourselves on not only offering a high standard of hockey, but also supporting the developments of our colt's players to their highest capability and also offer coaching and opportunities and our Colts sections need extra members. Please help us spread the word, name and reputation of AHC as we feel we have a lot to offer:

- Our Ladies sides play in the Middlesex Leagues and are supported by qualified and experienced coaches.
- Both our Men's' 1<sup>st</sup> XI and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI play in the highly competitive Southern Leagues and offer a very high standard of hockey.
- Coaching for all male players from nationally qualified coaches is available every week.
- Our Lower XI men's sides play across the Middlesex and MBBO Open leagues and are supported by qualified and experienced coaches who have played the game at various levels.
- We have an umpiring training scheme and many qualified umpires to help novice and new umpires.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CONTACTS WITHIN THE LOCAL SCHOOLS. WORK PLACES AND COLLEGES TO HELP DISPLAY OUR NEW POSTERS AND ARE HOPING TO PRODUCE A NEW AHC INFORMATION FLYER FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION. Please contact one of the Committee if you think you can help.

## Midweek Training Times (sessions have already started!)

Please note that the main winter training nights for senior Men's and Ladies teams have been swapped this year and are as follows:

Tuesday evenings 7.30 - 9.30 pm - Men's 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> XI's.

Wednesday evenings 7.30- 9.30pm - Ladies 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XI's.

Thursday evenings 7.30 - 9.00 pm - Men's 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> XI's.

Colts midweek training remains as before.

## Weddings/Engagements

Alex Barlow and Natalie got married on 21<sup>st</sup> August, and Jamie Webber and Hannah get married on 18<sup>th</sup> September 09.

## Stork Club

BB (Andy Justice) and Lou had a baby boy, 7lbs on 1<sup>st</sup> July and he is called James

Hils and Dean Hull had a baby boy, 7lb 11oz on 13<sup>th</sup> July and he is called John George Hull

Just waiting on Nads who is now due to give birth on 8<sup>th</sup> September.

Jody and Lucie Smith are expecting their second child

## Goodbye

To all those of you off to University, including Fiona Mitchell whom we inadvertently left off our last list, hope you got into wherever you wanted to go, good luck and come back and see us/play again sometime soon. To all of those who are retiring from playing, we would ask you to think again please or if you are going off to pastures new such as Mark Burrows, all the best and please stay in touch...

## Welcome

To all our new members, you are very welcome and we hope you enjoy your time at AHC!

## Colts Hockey

Peter Cottrell - Junior Coordinator on colts@ashfordhockeyclub.co.uk or 07803 263488

### Team Managers:

The teams for the 2009/10 season will be organised by:-

U9 Mixed - To be arranged (TBA)

Ux10 Girls - Gordon Smith (C)

U10 Boys - Gordon Smith (C)

U12 Girls - Sam Clarey (M & C), Caroline Jefferies (C)

U12 Boys - Peter Cottrell (M & C), Matt Emmerton (C)

U14 Girls - Sam Clarey (M & C) Caroline Jefferies (C)

U14 Boys - Adrian Hewes (M & C) Jakki Wheeler (M & C)

U16 Girls - TBA (M), Laura Quinn (C)

U16 Boys - Peter Cottrell (M & C) Adrian Hewes (M & C) Jakki Wheeler (M & C)

U18 Girls - Alison Boxell (M) Laura Samouel (C)

U18 Boys - Peter Cottrell (M & C) Luke Cottrell (C)

(M) Manager (C) Coach

## Ladies Summer Hockey

The ladies ran a Summer League for the 9<sup>th</sup> year running putting in 2 teams, one in the A league and one in the B league. We did extremely well and won each of the leagues, so for the first time ever Ashford name will be engraved on the summer League trophy. Thanks to everyone for organising the teams, umpiring, playing and supporting summer Hockey this year and hopefully practising the new rules has helped in preparation for the forthcoming season! In particular we would like to thank Sherpa, Neil and Mark (and others) for helping with the umpire coaching and assessments.

## WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS.....

|           | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points |
|-----------|--------|-----|-------|------|--------|
| Ashford A | 6      | 4   | 1     | 1    | 18     |
| Ashford B | 6      | 3   | 1     | 2    | 13     |

## Your Captains for this Season

Ladies 1s - Capt: Phil Worsfold and Vice Capt Stacey Kenward

Ladies 2s - Capt: Liv Washer and Vice Capt Tracey Holland (Luvvy)

Ladies 3s - Capt: Hannah Stokes and Vice Capt Kim Downs

Ladies 4s - Capt: Nicola Humphries and Vice Capt Anna Davis-Hale

Mens 1s - Capt: Luke Cottrell and Vice Capt TBA

Mens 2s - Capt: Carl Meadows and Vice Capt Darren Cole

Mens 3s - Capt: Amit Bhamra and Vice Capt TBA

Mens 4s - Capt: Andy Sonden and Vice Capt TBA

Mens 5s - Capt: Peter Greateorex and Vice Capt Robert Evans

Mixed - Capt; Hannah Stokes

## **Season Starts again – Get ready to go.....**

Tuesday September 1st Senior Men's training restarts 7.30- 9.30pm along with **Colts** 6.30-7.30 for U9, U11 and U14 Boys and Girls

Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup> **Ladies Training Restarts 7.30pm-9.30pm**

Thursday September 3rd **LOWER MENS TRAINING RESTARTS 7.30pm-9.00pm**  
U16 Boys and U18/U16 Girls 7.30-9.00pm

Saturday September 5<sup>th</sup> **CLUB DAY - Mixed 7-aside Tournament 12.30 Registration**

Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup> U9 and U11 Boys and Girls 9.30-11.00am  
U14, U16, U18 Boys and Girls 11.00-12.30am

Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> **LADIES TRIALS 2-4pm**  
**Ladies 3s V Amersham & Chalfont Home @ 12.00**  
**Mens 1s V Eastcote 2s Home @ 10.30**  
**Mens 2/3s V Thames Valley 1s Away 12.00 @ Salesian School.**  
**Mens 4/5s V Staines 6s Away at 11.30**

Saturday September 19th - Ladies 1/2s V Amersham & Chalfont Away @ 13.30  
**FRIENDLIES** Ladies 3/4s V Thame Away time tbc  
Mens 1s V Epsom 1s Away 13.30 Blenheim School, Epsom  
Mens 2/3s V Aldershot & Farnham 2/3s Away 14:45  
Mens 4/5s V Fleet, Away @ 12.00 Aldershot Army Base

Saturday September 26th - Ladies 1s V friendly away - tbc  
**FRIENDLIES AND** Ladies 2s V friendly away - tbc  
**SOME LEAGUE** Ladies 3s V WH&E 3s Home @ 12.00 (LEAGUE)  
Ladies 4s V Old Uxonians Home @ 10.30 (LEAGUE)  
Mens 1s V Richmond Home @ 13.30  
Mens 2s V Aldershot & Farnham 1/2s Home 15:00  
Mens 3s V Maidenhead 3s Away @ Time TBA  
Mens 4s V Bracknell 2s Home @ 16.30  
Mens 5s V Wycombe Away Time TBA

Saturday October 3rd- Ladies 1s V WH&E 1s Home @ 12.00  
**LEAGUE FOR ALL** Ladies 2s V Gymkhana 1s Away  
Ladies 3s V Old Uxonians Away  
Ladies 4s V Gymkhana 2s Away  
Mens 1s V Wimbledon Away  
Mens 2s V Bracknell 1s Home @ 1.30  
Mens 3s V South Bucks 2s Home @ 15.00  
Mens 4s V British Airways 3s Home @ 10.30  
Mens 5s V Ramgarhia Away @

Have a great season everyone and more importantly enjoy your hockey!  
Ed.