



The Chelmer

The Newsletter of the Friends of Chelmsford Hockey Club Re-united

Edition 2 – Winter 2009/2010

Hopefully you have all been keenly looking forward to this, the second edition of The Chelmer. Let's hope you are not disappointed.

Whilst I did not expect a flood of articles, photographs and suggestions, you will probably not be surprised that the editor's office, cleared ready for that flood remained quite calm – in fact it's true to say that in total we received one unsolicited photo of a boat sent by the aptly named Mr. Goode and that was it. However, enthused by a barrage of invective and nagging from the editor the members have "stepped up to the plate".

So, undaunted by this originally low level of enthusiasm, we have nagged nearly all the teams into producing mid-season reports and we are doggedly carrying on, determined to break into the big-time. We have most of the sections from last time and some new, so if the mood takes you and you can find the time let us have some stuff for the May/June edition – The Chelmer 3 and I will clear a large area and await the onslaught.

On a more reflective note, I have been amazed at the time, effort and enthusiasm of captains, helpers and members of all the sections, particularly those that hold down jobs with long hours, as I have watched most of the teams from time to time, been up and seen the juniors, some of the training and seen the results of so many events held by the club. Give yourselves all a clap on the back and I hope it enthuses some new volunteers. Great Club!!

Ed.



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Chairman's Blog

Well here we are with Edition 2 and the start of a new decade. There's lots of challenges for hockey at the moment with many clubs finding the going tough. But I'm pleased to report that at Chelmer Park there's still plenty of enthusiasm on and off the field.

Newsletters often just fade away, depending as they do, on usually just a few enthusiasts or sometimes only one. Doug, as we have already learnt does not give up easily, and he seems determined to get the "Friends of Chelmsford Hockey Club" and "The Chelmer" into being a real fixture of the Club. I hope you will all encourage him by responding to The Chelmer with comments or contributions for future editions.

We are into the second half of the season with the Ladies 1sts doing really well standing a great chance of an early return to the Premier Division.

The Men's 1sts continue to find it hard to get results, and it has been difficult to strengthen the squad with either domestic or overseas players. I was interested to learn at the annual club quiz that the age gap between the oldest and youngest player in each squad is 16 years!! I think we'd like to see that gap a touch narrower!! Their first few games in February will probably decide which way we are going for both teams and I know they would really appreciate your support at the Chelmer Park games.

Details are all on the website www.chelmsfordhc.org.uk

Elsewhere in the club, whilst struggling to field five ladies elevens, we are still somehow managing it, and most teams seem to be enjoying themselves with mixed results.

The usual thanks go to the teams of volunteers, spectators, drivers, players doubling up and fund-raisers, donators and everyone, many unsung (and often happy to be) who keep us running.

The water astro has kept us occupied for much of the season with some weeks in November seeing it closed as being too dirty. We have invested –

The Pitch Cleaning Machine at work



sizeable money in this and will probably have to keep doing so. Several members – Carl Wright and Angus Rayner in particular put long hours into this (including at one stage clearing a long length of ditch by hand) as did Fred, Doug and Crawford. The science of operating water astro pitches is young and it is no real consolation to know that many other clubs have similar or even worse experiences. We are still working on it.

You will also see that there are one or two initiatives taking place as part of an upgrade of our facilities:

We have tidied up the corner in the bar just inside the clubhouse and we are fitting a wi-fi link in the bar.

The changing room foyer is being spruced up – a new screen above the doors leading into the corridor is being fitted, the burglar alarm system has been upgraded and we now have a phone line in the office.

We have been tested for our electrics and our water supply for legionella (both passed). The pitch lights are being renovated to a proper light level.

We are looking to improve/add to the paths to the pitches, improve the signs in the car park and the shelving in the equipment room. We have already put new shelving in the Karcher Shed.

And a lot more is planned to keep the fabric of the buildings and the services inside.

Another initiative is to promote advertising boards round the pitch and to re-visit sponsorship both of which Doug with the help of Carl and Neil Stanhope has started to tackle. You will see a section in The Chelmer and also some brochures around the bar area in a brochure holder. Feel free to take one and push it at friends, parents, your company – anyone who might be interested. We are suggesting some reductions of subs next year for good acquisitions of sponsorship or advertising – see Doug for details.

Before Christmas we had a visit from Sport England which was anxious to see if their investment at Chelmer Park was producing the right results. I had a very positive meeting with their representative and SE seem very pleased with what they saw and the progress we are making. There's no doubt that the above improvements build on our investment at Chelmer Park. I am very proud of what the club has achieved which positions us very well for the future.

So make sure, if you're not a regular visitor, to come down and see for yourself what's going on.

Cheers,
Spence

Evergreen's Lisbon Tour – June 2009

A motley crew of 9 Evergreen's players plus a team photographer, numbers a bit down due to the credit crunch, the ravages of time and injury and such reasons as a "Tour too far" in 2009 went to Lisbon (Portugal) to feature in a 4 way tournament.

The hosts were Lisbon Casuals who are mainly ex-patriots, plus Zevenbergen and Lisbon City Transport.

Due to the shortage of numbers in several teams there was a fair amount of guesting and so the results were variable but we won one, drew and lost one and had a great time.

We had an excellent hospitable lunch with Zevenbergen hosted by Lisbon Casuals on the Sunday.



Above:

The starting gate (Denman gets the first fine for not wearing a tour shirt). Already team talk number 44.



Above: Recruiting for a hastily proposed ladies game the next day.

*Right:
Those that made it to Breakfast.*





Above. With the hosts.

Sunday.

Due to censorship by the Chinese Authorities we cannot give more tour information in case our web-site is shut down.

Next tour/pilgrimage is Santiago di Compostela in February 2010.

Right: Tour finances hit by credit crunch



TEAM REPORTS

Ladies "Veterans"

The Ladies have "resurrected" the Ladies Vets and decided to take part in the National Over-35s Masters Cup.

(Surely that should be the National Over-35s Mistresses Cup ?? – Ed)

Having had a bye in the first round we then beat Bishops Stortford in a tough game, then had another bye and then met Aldershot in the last 16 and went out in an extremely hard, close-fought game. Aldershot had a coach and everything and Chelmsford did not even have a sub for the game, so overall we did really well.

Team was: Kath MacDonald, Lynn Bollington, Jo Green, Tracy Willmott, Tracy Comber, Vanessa Smith, Lisa Baillie, Denise Hayes, Chris Cunningham, Gill Collins, Margaret Gill, Nikki Tuff, Jenny Stonebank and Tracy McLagan

Ladies 5th XI

After the traumas of trying to field a 5th XI throughout last season and the annoyance of being relegated to Essex League Division 4 because of having to default on the last game of the season, its good to report that the Ladies 5's are still "alive and kicking" and doing well.

There is no captain as such, but, following the decision of the main Committee to attempt to retain a 5th XI for 2009/10, the efforts of Tina Parish again ensured that there was a team to fulfil the opening fixture in September. Some of the early games were still played with Chelmsford only being able to raise 10 players, but that has slowly improved, with Tina again being mainly responsible for getting a team out each week.

The continued close liaison and co-operation with Janet and the 4's, and with Bunny over umpires has certainly helped and has made life a bit easier for the 5's 'organisers'. Also we've acquired some new players! – adult members such as Wendy, students such as Kat and several colts – notably Georgia and Ellen from the youth set-up and Roni and Shannon from Kingswood School, Harold Hill. All of these have shown enthusiasm and commitment, being available almost every week, which has been great. The improvement in the colts playing in an adult situation has been particularly noticeable, and huge thanks are also due to their parents who have 'taxied' and supported.

We shouldn't forget either the 'stalwarts', young and old, without whom the 5's would not have survived. They know who they are!

The results are very encouraging as we go into the second half of the season. At present we are 3rd in Division 4:- Won 5 Drawn 2 and Lost 3

28 goals have been scored, including several from Chris in her forays up the field, and only 8 conceded.

Here's hoping we can keep up the good work!

Gill

Ladies 4th XI

	Home						Away						Points
	Pl	W	D	L	GF	GA	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	
Chelmsford 4s	12	1	0	5	8	22	0	0	6	3	27	-38	3

Well it's been a challenging 1st half of the season for the Ladies 4th XI. After somehow managing to stay in Essex Division 1 despite finishing 2nd from bottom for the 2nd year running we started with a very different line up. We lost Sarah Eagar to Uni and various others to the 3rd XI. We started against Essex Uni hoping that we would catch them before the fresher's arrived but with our new line up including some players new to ladies hockey, and others regretting the lack of exercise over the summer, we lost 4-2.

We then welcomed Sally Dalton back out of retirement and Martha Jenkinson, our goalkeeper decided she would prefer to play on the pitch so youngster Abi Ashford was called in from the U16s but sadly heavy defeats to East London and Romford followed. Forced to concede 3 points against Wapping due to a lack of players we moved on to Witham hopeful for a change of luck. We were unlucky not to get a point and suffered a close 2-1 defeat. The following week we travelled to Old Southendians where despite welcoming Lou Acton back from having her second baby we lost 7-1, then came a change in fortune. Phoenix were holding up the bottom of the table with us and we knew this game was crucial if we wanted to have any chance of improving our league position. We managed a comfortable 3-1 win and secured our first points of the season. Two new U16s, Katie Cheung and Sophie Martin, then made the step up to adult hockey but our winning streak didn't last long with 3 further defeats ending the 1st half of the season. We then started again with Essex Uni and put in a good performance but suffered a narrow 2-1 defeat. Weather and Christmas then took over and left us with a 6 week gap before we played Wapping. With the game level at 1-1 we were all hopeful for some points (or just 1 would have done us!) a lapse in concentration let Wapping score in the

dying minutes and again we finished empty handed.

Despite our run of poor results the scores would have been a lot worse had it not been for our young keeper Abi Ashford who has put in some excellent performances.

Having had 30 different players this season we have never had the same team on 2 consecutive weeks so we are hoping that availability and consistence will improve and we can start to produce a few more chances and the points will come in the second half of the season.

Ladies 3rd XI OK, here goes, (i'm not sure how to spell Leider-Hosen)

Last season was a tough year. The ladies three's played their first year in East Hockey - having won promotion the year before despite a six point penalty. Our main aim was to stay up and stay focused. The focusing part was the difficult bit! We worked hard and managed to stay up despite the usual losses against bottom teams and wins against those at the top. Our main incentive was that if we stayed in East Hockey, the team would be rewarded with a tour at the end of the season.

And so, on the final day of school exams, which all but two of our players were taking. We met on a Friday evening at Chelmer Park to travel to Bowdon High Town. Our group was made up of players, hardy supporting mothers and one sister. The journey was almost seamless and eventually we arrived. The theme was kept a secret until arrival and there was much hilarity over our Bavarian Oompah Band theme. Lieder-hosen were to be worn all weekend and no excuses! The only thing we were lacking were some male players as we only had two so a first night transfer was made with St. Johns University. In exchange for some of our very talented young ladies. Well done to all of the girls and boys who doubled up all weekend. The whole weekend was fantastic for mums and players. We even got our photo taken with the Slazenger Hockey League Trophy. Oh, and George Bojarski cannot drink six pints of milk in a minute ... its been tested.

So our season started, our second year of East Hockey. We are currently playing in the South West Division Two. Although we are finding it testing, we are doing ok and are currently placed mid-table(ish). This is a huge achievement for all of the players who have to play around other commitments and an ever changing

team. We are the only third eleven in our division and in fact in the whole of the East League. We play mainly against first teams and have had some good results. With a fixture against Old Loughts 2's ahead we hope to get a result despite their first team 'super-subbs'!

A special thank you to everyone who has played for the ladies three's this year there are too many of you to mention. To Simon Price for coaching and putting up with us every week free of charge, to Hilary Patterson manager extraordinaire - we wouldn't get to a game without your super organisation. To Sheila King (Bunny) for umpiring we couldn't play without you (even though I do moan) and of course to our ever hardy band of supporters who drive players every week and watch in the cold depths of Norfolk.

Thanks ... here's to tour 2010!
Andrea Allen Bsc (Hons) ACSI
(Proprietor The Simply Sports Group)

The Simply Sports Group

Ladies 2nd XI

When I was asked to write something about the first half of this season, my first thoughts were, what should this look like? As I do not want to bore you with lots of statistics, numbers or names, I asked Doug to send me some examples and the previous version of The Chelmer, to get an idea of the expected piece. Therefore I will keep this short. The Ladies Seconds are currently in eighth place, trailing by fourteen points to be saved from relegation. The six bottom teams could go down.

I took over the team on November nineteenth, missing the first nine games of the season. Since I took up coaching in the middle of the mid-nineties, this group is one of the strongest in spirit and determination in their efforts to bring their game forward, and will have a go at everything that's thrown at them. This base was built by their previous coach, who unfortunately had to resign for personal reasons. I know that the thoughts of the team are with the both of you.

In fifteen games no less than twenty-four players have been part of the squad, which meant that the rotation within the positions on the pitch had an effect on the games played. Players not sure about their position, a new coach that wants to change the system, not to mention the strange accent and terminology he brought

with him! The team is steadily improving in using the flanks and taking the ball out of crowded areas by playing it around the back. Playing a counter system is better suited to the present squad. The main reason that we do not convert our dominance in the field into goals, is caused by the thoughts of players on Einstein's theory of relativity, i.e. what speed do I hit the ball towards the goal avoiding the ball to collide with any barriers brought in by the opposition?? Ladies just hit!! Let's remember that on Saturday afternoon school is out and it is time to enjoy...

In the team spirit: Up and Forward...

Jean

Ladies 1st XI

Following relegation from the Premier league last season the Ladies First XI started this campaign in determined mood. Knowing their ability to perform well at this level and challenge for immediate promotion, coach Alan Lindsay forecast that the squad would be "there or thereabouts" at the end of the season. As we reached the winter break, this ambition was on track with Chelmsford sitting in third place just two points behind the leaders, Ipswich.

Chelmsford opened the season with a good win over Conference East newcomers Northampton Saints but then slipped up losing away at Ipswich. The squad needed time to settle down and a string of four straight wins helped settle nerves and build confidence. Unfortunately the team missed Kat Letts and Toni Speakman as they went off travelling early in the season, but the strength of the squad showed through with great performances from the experienced Marie Kirkham and Hayley Heggie plus the youngsters Katie Roberts and Jess Ecott in defence, not forgetting super-keeper Lynsey Warren. Hayley's tendency to strike home short corners also featured in the headlines this term.

The return of Julia Butterworth from university and Rebecca Alltree from injury, joining Becky Budd and Louisa Smith, gave the midfield strength in depth. Sarah Bolton, Libby Knifton and Sarah Glanvill provided much of the front running, leading to regular appearances for each of them on the scoresheet. Sarah Bolton's tally to date includes a trio of coolly converted penalty flicks.

With Beth Wilde, and Harri Kinnear storming the flanks, and also getting on the scoresheet, Kate Maxey tore opposition sides ragged with charging runs – and short corner bullet goals to boot. Kate is part of the England U/18 set up and we hope she has a great time with the squad



Losing at home to a fluent and committed Harleston Magpies showed that no match will be easy. Losing away at Cambridge City cannot be explained but as the winter break approached, two fine battling wins against Old Loughts and Ipswich restored Chelmsford's status as serious contender in the league.

At the England Indoor Hockey League, round 1, Chelmsford showed their skills and versatility with two wins out of four matches, including overpowering Bowdon, last year's winners. Round 2 of the indoor season takes place in January.

The scene is set for an intriguing and challenging second half of the outdoor season and we wish every success to the ladies, so come on Team Chelm, get down to Chelmer Park and cheer them on!

In full flight



Front row L to R: Beth Wild, Sarah Glanvill, Julia Butterworth, Marie Kirkham (Capt), Beccy Budd, Jess Ecott, Louisa Smith. **Back row L to R:** Hilary Malicka (Manager), Lynsey Warren, Libby Knifton, Harri Kinnear, Toni Speakman, Kate Maxey (v.capt), Hayley Heggie, Becky Alltree, Sarah Bolton, Alan Lindsey (Coach)

Mens Evergreens

So far this season the Evergreens are having a relatively successful season as our playing record shows

P	W	D	L	F	A
11	7	0	4	33	30

When playing sides of similar ages we normally manage to do very well and win as we have done this year already to regain the David Simms Shield against the LX Club.

Half of our conceded goals were in 2 games where the opposition had at least a 10 year start over many of the Evergreens. This season's age range is from 49 to 74 with the average age of an Evergreens Saturday side being over 60.



We as ever continue to enjoy our hockey with like minded sides and hope to continue to do so in the future, the Evergreens will be touring in February as ever with this year Santiago de Compostela in Northern Spain having the dubious honour.

We would welcome support from previous Evergreens at games and for a social afterwards at any home games, or at our end of season Tonka Trophy tournament.

Fred Matthews
Evergreens Manager

Mens Veterans



The season so far can only be described as bity with a number of matches postponed either due to the weather or to the National Cup commitments of either ourselves or our opposition. Consequently we have only played 5 of our league games (out of a planned total of 9), one Vintage Cup game, one Vintage Plate game and a couple of friendlies. In the league we have won 1, drawn 1 and lost 3, the latter to the three strongest teams in our league. Along

the way we have managed to score 22 goals with Rob Hart gain leading the way with 7 ably supported by Ken Wooding and Spencer Wilcox (4 each). Unfortunately goals against tally 32! In the Vintage Cup we lost to a strong Southampton team but were not helped by some strange umpiring decisions. We then managed a comprehensive victory over Bury St Edmunds in the first round of the Vintage Plate. The second round of this competition sees us renewing our acquaintance with Old Victorians in Jersey on the first weekend in February – something to definitely look forward to. This season we have welcomed some new and a returning player in the shape of Michael Scott, Jean Relou and Richard Higgins. Unfortunately Jean has had his head turned by the Ladies 2nd XI who have nabbed him as their coach and so we only see him when they let him have some time off.

Mens 6th XI

The 6th XI is enjoying a mixed season having won 5, drawn 3 and lost 4 matches so far. We are currently lying 5th in Division 10SE and if we can string together some winning performances in the second part of the season there is no reason why we shouldn't be pressing for promotion in March.

There has been a tremendous spirit in the team which has been made up of the usual mix of youth and experience. We have already won more games this season than in the whole of last year and this has done much to improve our confidence - we now go out thinking we will win games!! The 9-1 victory at Old Southendians was a great win, but our best performance was the 3-3 draw with Wapping - the first time the 6's have taken a point off Wapping.

It has been very pleasing to see the younger members of the team improve and develop their skills and their understanding of team play. Daniel Thomas, Andrew Bird, Joshua Clark, Toby Stock, James Ruff and Matt Need have all played regularly and their growing confidence on the ball has contributed to our good start to the season. Daniel, Andrew and Toby have also helped out the 5's and performed well at this higher level.

Our new goalkeeper Mark Clark is proving a real success in goal and the Paul Fielding and Alan Ball particularly enjoy his encouraging comments of support and defensive tactical advice. Steve Sale and Chris Randall have provided much needed experience and energy in midfield, working tirelessly to bring the youngsters into the game. Tom Burrows and Dan Burch have led the attack and give us goal power up front.

We have enjoyed great support from our fans, especially Christina Ruff, David

and Sally Thomas and Jason Need (who proved excellent goalkeeping cover on one occasion!). Thanks to Bunny King who has done a great job providing umpires and the team are particularly keen on our home teas which are devoured by the boys with relish !!

Mens 5th XI

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Chelmsford 5s	12	7	2	3	37	27	10	23

Second in Division 7SE after just over half the season is more than we could have expected after narrowly missing out on relegation last season. The 5XI started with a 2-1 win over Phoenix, which although was a scrappy game gave us confidence going forward. Second up was Harlow away and although we had 11 players there was no goal keeper available! A magnificent performance from all 11 players effectively prevented Harlow getting the ball into the 'D' apart from on a small number of occasions. Furthermore at the other end Chelmsford managed an inspirational seven goals, securing a 7-1 win!!

Defensively our record doesn't look good on paper, but without a regular goal keeper Andy Towns and Matt Pappin have worked hard to make sure that, although we are conceding goals, we concede fewer than we score! At the other end Richard Lines has been the highest goal scorer for the 5XI and well supported from mid-field with goals from Alan Paddon, Charlie Hingston and Will Thorogood.

With promotion in the offing the 5XI will need to maintain the will to win for the rest of the season as there are 4 other teams within 3 points who will be looking for promotion.

Mens 4th XI

Having been promoted last year the 4s are finding it hard in the league just below where the 3s are. However we are 9th or 10th out of 12 in mid January. Results are: P14, W2, D4, L8, GF20, GA46 and with 10 points, we have a chance of staying up partly depending on how many go down.

We have a squad of 20 or 21 but are often struggling to get 11 out as the teams either side take some. We also only have 2 central midfield players in our squad.

Particular stars are Ollie Headon, a forward, who is only 14 or 15, Lewis Bartlett a goalie who is 17(ish) and has come on really well. Matt Nicks, newly back from University has scored 5 and Captain Tufty has scored 9.

Mens 3rd XI

Played 11, won 5, drawn 3, lost 3, for 48, against 35.

A good start to the season saw us win our first 3 games which was a huge improvement on last season's relegation fight (amazing what you can do without a coach...), the highlight being a 10-2 win against Essex Uni with a hat trick for Bastian. Unfortunately one of these games was later awarded to the opposition



due to us playing a 1st team player. The fact that it was a) Wrighty b) a game we won 5-1 and c) Wrighty on pitch did not seem to make a difference to the East League and they docked us the 3 points.

Following this we drew 3 games that we should have won. 4-2 up against East London and 4-0 up against Crostyx both ended up in 4-4 draws.

Fortunately after this we played Brentwood who seemed to tire themselves out in the warm up which played into the older members of the teams' hands. Jonny Wilcox aka the Pillsbury Dough Boy netted 4 in his first game for us and has failed to score since! Kitch rolled back the years and found his 'Mojo' during the 1st half but unfortunately is yet to rediscover it. (If only he could play against that fat right back every week!!) However this was trivial as we romped to a 9-3 win.

Our final 2 games before Christmas saw us win close games against Thurrock and Upminster by the odd goal with Nipper doing his customary jug avoidance fine and scoring 2 goals in each to finish top scorer. Nipper has been welcomed back into the club with open arms. Not only has he doubled the bar takings, shown Stanhope and Kitch how to strike a short corner and p*ssed off the tea lady, he has come back a lot thinner and fitter than ever before, even when he was playing 1s. He even ran enough to sweat in one game although there is still a debate as to whether this was sweat or whether Kitch had just wee'd on his shirt.

The 3rd XI is a great place to be at the moment. We are enjoying our hockey and having a laugh at the same time. Currently we sit 5th, 8 points off promotion with a game in hand and there is no reason why we can't go on a real run and claim a promotion spot.

Nick Bastian

Mens 1st XI The performances but no product



Chelmsford Hockey Club Men's 1st XI

September	Sun 20			
Bromley and Beckenham 1	EHL East	Drew	4	- 4
	Sat 26			
Canterbury 1	EHL East	Lost	2	- 3
October	Sat 3			
Indian Gymkhana 1	EHL East	Lost	5	- 4
	Sun 4			
Winchester 1	EH Cup - R2	Won	3	- 0
	Sat 10			
Harleston Magpies 1	EHL East	Lost	0	- 6
	Sun 18			
Oxted 1	EHL East	Lost	4	- 0
	Sat 24			
Sevenoaks 1	EHL East	Lost	3	- 7
November	Sun 1			
Staines 1	EH Cup - R3	Won	6	- 5
	Sun 8			
Southgate 1	EHL East	Lost	3	- 1
	Sun 15			
Holcombe 1	EHL East	Lost	2	- 6
	Sat 21			
Old Loughts 1	EHL East	Lost	1	- 6
	Sun 22			
Olton & West Warks 1	EH Cup - R4	Lost	1	- 2
	Sat 28			
Canterbury 1	EHL East	Lost	5	- 1

League: Played 10 Won 0 Drawn 1 Lost 9

EH Cup: Last 16

Top Scorers: Adi Palmer 6, Luke Mepham 4

Chelmsford Men's 1st Team 1st half of the season has been a tale of two different stories, one of results and one of performances.

They performed exceptionally well against some of the higher placed teams in the league including 2 valiant efforts against Canterbury (one of which the score did not reflect the game) and a close game away at Southgate but were unable to come away with anything from the game.

However, they performed poorly against sides including Sevenoaks and

Harleston Magpies where they should of performed far better as a team and this would have resulted in a closer game if not even a win.

There have also been games where decisions just didn't go there way including Indian Gymkhana and Oxted away where points should have been picked up if it wasn't for luck not going their way and a little bit more composure in and around the goal. (Note: I presume I am not allowed to criticise umpires!!!)

With players including Willy Hales, Jason Evans & Adam Hunter returning and potentially a couple of new additions to the squad, the strength and depth increases meaning players will have to step up to warrant a first team place they desire.

Chelmsford will need to hit the ground running vs Indian Gymkhana in February to ensure they begin to push their way back up the table in this crucial game, and after 2 months out the squad should be chomping at the bit to get their first win of the season.

Youth Section Report

David Kitchiner ("Kitch") took over as Chairman of the CHC Youth at the last AGM and this is his note in the Autumn 2009 Youth Newsletter.

"When my elder daughter was born ten years ago, one of my hockey teammates nodded across the bar in my direction and, slightly tongue-in-cheek, remarked "There's a future Chairman of the Youth Section". While I paid little attention to the comment then, I'm sure he'll greet me with a smug grin the next time I see him now that his prophecy has been fulfilled!

I'm delighted to have taken on this responsibility but, despite a long-standing relationship with the club, many of you will know little about me, so here goes... I've been a member of Chelmsford Hockey Club for thirty years and have played for every team in the club in that time. I've coached at club, county and regional level, managed the 1st XI for ten years and held various other positions within the club and the County. More recently, as my two daughters have started playing on Sunday mornings, I've been coaching at U7, U9 and U11 level and have now seen the club from the perspective of a parent.

While my background certainly doesn't guarantee success in this new role, I

think it will help me see the bigger picture and better understand some of the challenges we face. Fortunately, my predecessor, Judith Krone, has left the Youth Section in a healthy and vibrant state and I would like to formally record my thanks to Judith and the rest of the team of volunteers, most of whom are still heavily involved, for all their hard work in keeping everything running smoothly. The biggest challenge facing us now is how to keep improving on what we have built.

Finally, I hope that all our young players continue to enjoy their hockey at Chelmer Park, form long and lasting friendships and get as much out of the Club and the wonderful game of hockey as I have over the years. It really is one of the few sports clubs in the country where there is something for everyone, irrespective of age, gender or ability level.

Kitch – Autumn 2009

Advertising & Sponsorship

We have embarked on a new drive to get advertising on advertising boards around the water astro pitch and also to raise some sponsorship. The intention is to try to get our annual subs down with a regular income.

There are new brochures in a brochure holder in the clubhouse and the brochures are already being sent out and handed out around the club and some local businesses. The detail from the brochure is shown below without the photos used in the brochure and the price list is also shown.

If you have any interest then either push it yourself or refer it to Doug Denman, Carl Wright or Neil Stanhope.

We are prepared to give good discounts on 2010/11 subscriptions for anyone acquiring an advert or good sponsorship for the club. For details talk to Doug.

Chelmsford Hockey Club

- Chelmsford Hockey Club has been running for over 110 years and is arguably the pre-eminent hockey club in East Anglia.

- Both men's and ladies 1st Teams play in the English Hockey League.
- The club runs 8 men's sides and 5 ladies sides most Saturdays.
- There is a 200 strong junior section of 6 year olds up to 18 year olds which train every Sunday at the ground.
- There are over 500 members in the club.
- There are modern changing rooms and a state of the art Water-based Astroturf Pitch with floodlights to international standards and a 100 seater stand.
- The club has hosted an international match, England Hockey and other national tournaments. The club has also been included within London 2012's Pre-Games Training Camp Guide.

Advertising at Chelmer Park.

Our water-based Astroturf Pitch provides opportunities to advertise for local and regional firms and organisations that will reach sporting players, parents and visitors.

Advertising Boards can be placed in "Premium" or "Standard" positions opposite the seating stand, behind either of the two goals or in the entrance. Spectators will therefore be watching the game but also looking towards the advertising areas for up to 80 minutes for a full game.

Prices start at £250 + VAT.

As a typical example, the "Standard" sized metal board placement (2.4m x 0.9m) for one season would be £300 plus the cost of the "board" £200 +VAT, so the total would be £500 + VAT.

Additionally there can be advertising on our web-site, in the match day programmes and the club newsletter "The Chelmer".

Advertisers can also participate in our membership card discount scheme, where club members can be attracted to your service or product by being offered a discount on showing their Chelmsford Hockey Club Membership card

More detailed prices are shown in the separate price list or contact one of those named on the back page.

Sponsorship

Our main Club Sponsors are Capital Spreads and our Kit Sponsors are Alliance Sports.

There are opportunities throughout the club to sponsor:

- A team where a sponsor's logo would be on the shirt for at least two seasons. Additionally, logos can be on the after-match polo shirts and/or on track suits.
- A player or the match ball.
- A tournament which can include a "travelling" advertising PVC banner at the tournament - this is often a national tournament with occasional Sky TV coverage.

Sponsorship of match shirts for ladies or men's teams starts at £400 + VAT which would include the supply of 15 shirts with your logo on the sleeve.

More detailed prices are shown in the separate price list or you can get in touch with one of the named contacts in this brochure.

Chelmsford Hockey Club Advertising & Sponsorship Contacts:

Doug Denman T: 01277 823479 M: 07837 397351

Carl Wright T: 01245 266461 M: 07745 133102

Neil Stanhope T: 01376 340440 M: 07715 558899

Ground: The Chelmsford Hockey Centre, Chelmer Park, Beehive Lane,
Galleywood, CHELMSFORD, Essex CM2 8RL

Clubhouse phone: 01245 250189

Web-site: www.chelmsfordhc.org.uk

Membership Cards

We decided in mid 2009 to introduce Membership Cards to the club, partly to enable our bar-persons to be able to stop under-age purchasers and drinkers of alcohol, but also to enable members to obtain discounts from local firms participating in the scheme.

The cards are very smart, they are unique to each member as they should have the member's name and signature on the back and there are different colours for Adults (gold), Junior (bronze), Social(blue) and VPs/Life Members (silver).

It's true to say that it has been slow to get under way. Many Social and VP/Life Member Cards still have to be distributed (my fault, sorry about that – hope to finish that job in late February/early March – Ed)

We are still looking for local firms, restaurants and any other services that have a fixed price tariff that will enable a discount of 10%-25% to be identified and offered.

We will issue a list of them in April.

So if you know of, or can think of, any firms that might be approached (I am perfectly happy to do the following up) then let me know.

Ed.

Ros Marsh – “The one with the hair-do”

Most of the ladies and many of the men will know Ros – the impassioned speech at the Chelmsford AGM in 2009 probably best sums up Ros' crusade to get more of the ladies involved with the club.

Ros played at school in Tottenham, captaining the school team and then playing for the Old Tottenhams until she moved house. She then did not take up playing until 1972 in her mid 20s when she had come to Chelmsford to live. She rang Gill Hickman, borrowed some kit from Jenny Cardwell her twin sister who played for England and so she joined Chelmsford Hockey Club.

She was a skilled defender but it was mainly her efficiency at administration including shorthand and typing that started her climb to the top of hockey's administration in England in umpiring and committee work, bringing on the advent of the National League, the knock out cup and the plate competition

which gives smaller clubs the opportunity to mix-it with the big guns. Ros has travelled all over the world managing, umpiring and administering – a true full hockey career.



The list of her accolades and achievements is enormous (it covers two A4 pages) but without doubt the most satisfying for her is the award in 2009 of the 1st England Hockey Lifetime Achievement Award for Outstanding Services to Hockey.

Thanks Ros for all you have done for Chelmsford HC and hockey in England.



B&W – Ros at Weymouth Festival in 1976. The team played as Greenshanks. Note all the other Chelmer lady notables in the line-up.

Colour. Ros (and Ursula) umpiring the Chelmsford v. The Festival XI in 1982.

Chelmsford Hockey Club – Golf Day 15th May 2009

The 15th May saw the Club's 7th annual golf day held as usual at Channels Golf Club, Little Waltham.

We had our largest field ever, with 43 golfers drawn from club members and friends, most of whom have played in all of our events. As in previous years we attracted ladies as well as gentlemen, and this year we also had three fathers and sons and one father and daughter playing. The day started with very over-cast skies and light rain, and thoughts were on a wet day. However, only the first groups were subjected to rain over the first three holes, after which it stopped raining and from then on we all enjoyed good weather.

The day's event was contested over 9 holes on the Belsteads Course in the morning, followed by 18 holes on the Channels Course in the afternoon. This produced some entertaining golf with some good scores and interesting tales to be told (more later).

The players were playing for their own individual Stableford scores as well as team scores, nearest the pin on the par threes and the longest drives.

The results for the day are as follows:-

Belsteads Course. Team Prize -

1st Spesh, Emu, Jimmy Smith & Kimber

2nd Jon Lambert, Russell Jackson, Ronan Kavanagh & Steve Kemble

3rd Phil Goode, Richard Nourse, Nick Bastion & Freddie Clough

Channels Course. Nearest the Pin -

Men – Mark Butterworth

Ladies – Hilary Malicka

Longest Drive - Men – Russell Jackson

Ladies – Rosie Maxey

Team Prize -

1st Kat Letts, Chris Letts, John Letts & Richard Johnson

2nd Doug Denman, Dick Goode, Robert Nourse & David Wallbank

3rd Rosie Maxey, Matthew Clark, Will & Anthea Williams

Individual Prize –

Men – Richard Nourse

Ladies – Kat Letts

In addition to the competition prizes, the organizers felt it necessary/appropriate

to award a Best Dressed Team award so named the BLING PRIZE and this was awarded to Spesh, Emu, Jimmy Smith and Kimber for wearing different sponsored shirts for their morning and afternoon rounds (very Ryder Cup).

These awards were made after the evening dinner, at the conclusion of which further awards, devised by Jimmy and Emu and entitled the JAM AWARDS, were presented as follows:

The Ian Belchamber Bandit Award:

Richard Nourse for getting 86 points off a handicap of 36!

The Peaking-Too-Soon Award:

Russell Jackson for scoring more points in the morning 9 holes than the afternoon 18 holes.

The Eddie the Eagle Award for Magnificent Uselessness:

Carl Wright for 11 points for 18 holes, including a nervous breakdown—inducing 1 point on the front 9. (Never mind Carl you played, you tried and you'll be back next year).

A very good day was had by all, a huge vote of thanks to the staff of Channels for looking after us, and the Green Staff for presenting an excellent course, to all those who played, where the profits from the day (£266.42) will go to the Hockey Club, and also to all those who donated prizes.



Whisky Tasting 2009

The fifteenth tasting got off to a flying start with the Quaich (a cup of friendship), which was filled with a blend of malts from my collection, and by sheer luck it turned out to be very good. The seven whiskies for the tasting were Cameron Brig (a single grain whisky), Royal Lochnagar, Lagavulin, Johnnie Walker Red Label, Caol Ila, Cragganmore and the Singleton of Dufftown. All were supplied by Lisa Crane of Diageo for which many thanks.

After the Quaich and the Cameron Brig the haggis was piped around the clubhouse, led by Bill the piper and beautifully addressed by Ken. This led us into the buffet which was started off with the now traditional haggis, neeps and

tatties. The buffet was put together by Liz with help from Margaret and Mia.

Whiskies were produced at regular intervals during the evening and greatly enjoyed if the noise level was anything to go by! The raffle went extremely well, and thanks to Adam for selling the tickets. All the prizes this year were donated, and thank you to all who gave so generously. The evening was finished with the ever popular auction, with our very own auctioneer Mr. Nigel King in his element, helping to boost the takings of the night.

Planning for next year is already under way, so please put Saturday 4th December into next year's diary.



Chelmsford Hockey Club's 10th Annual Beer Festival

This was a great success (as usual) with the Friday night for beer enthusiasts followed by the more musical Saturday Night over the weekend of the 15th-17th January.

There were 14 barrel of various beers ranging from a porter to a Raspberry Beer via ones with Cider apples and a "Fall-Over Juice" at 5.2%. There were also Fruit Bat, Pickled Moon, Kiss me Quick and Golden Plover and the sources included Somerset, Cornwall and Lincolnshire.

The Saturday Night was enlivened by Evergreen Stalwart - Derek Breinberg's band and over 100 attended and achieved various states of inebriation.

Lots of money was raised as the takings were excellent and all had a great time.

Next Year's is in Mid January 2011 as usual.

Chelmsford Mens Dinner – Friday April 9th 2010.

This will probably follow a similar format to 2009's successful event, but arrangements are only just under way – probably at the clubhouse, probably semi/formal, probably about £27 per head and probably 7 for 7.45
It will be first come, first served.

Use the tear-off form overleaf and get back to Doug Denman, Homestead Farm, Woolmongers Lane, INGATESTONE, CM4 0JX.
Email: CHC_Treasurer@ChelmsfordHC.org.uk.

Cheques for £27 payable to Chelmsford Hockey Club or direct into our account 00076610, sort 30-91-85 with your "Name+Dinner" as the reference So - "JBloggsDinner").

Order Form for Men's Dinner Tickets by Cheque/post or email

Tear off/cut off here

I want to attend the Men's Dinner on Friday April 9th (7 for 7.45).

Please reserve me tickets at £27 each.

Cheque enclosed for £ or Paid in Direct (tick)

Name(s).....

Telephone number and/or email address to contact.

Tel:.....

Email Address

The Club Golf Day is Friday 14th May 2010. Details on the notice boards and web-site.

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Chelmsford Players in International Squads

Harri Kinnear who plays for the Ladies 1s is in the Wales Squad going to Russia this spring to play in the World Cup Qualifiers.

Ken Wooding who plays for the Men's Vets played for England in the GB Masters team that won gold in Hong Kong last Autumn and scored the winning goal—fuller story on the web-site.

Kate Maxey is in the England Under 18 squad.

REMEMBERING

David Waddell.



David played for Chelmsford for a number of years and was a Housemaster at Felsted School. He was about 73 when he passed away in late 2009.

A Memorial Service for David was held in the Felsted School Chapel on December 5th.

The late John Quill

You may have seen that we noted in Chelmer 1 that John Quill had passed away. The following remembering much of John Quill' style is shown below.

This piece has been retrieved from an article written by Hugh Scantlebury in 1998 as part of his reminiscence of Chelmsford from 1956 and which appeared as a nostalgic look back at the New Writtle Street ground in the Chelmsford Centenary Magazine. There were several mentions of John Quill.

Hugh Scantlebury says:-

“My abiding memory of my first game in 1956 was of playing with Writtle, ironically against Chelmsford and of rushing out at a short corner. In those days with all eleven players defending corners, the quickest, the bravest or the most

expendable went first with the slower or more imaginative following at a safe distance. The Chelmsford striker was a short, balding man with glasses and very baggy shorts. Having stopped the hit-out with his hand, he then produced an old fashioned English stick from somewhere behind his right ear and struck a rising shot at the goal which whistled through my hair on its wicked way over our crossbar. "Sorry chaps, missed" he apologised as he trotted back. Whether he meant me or the goal I never knew and thought it prudent not to enquire.....

One person who still used his old and trusted English Stick in the late fifties when nearly everyone else had moved over to using the shorter hooked Indian style stick was the short balding man with spectacles and baggy pants that I had met in my earlier days. He, I now learned, was one John Quill, a full back for Chelmsford 1st XI.....

Perhaps I could finish with one memory from so many that typifies the sixties. We went to Bury St. Edmunds to play Bury YM on the wonderful pitch they always had at the Victory Ground. It was on Grand National Day at the very end of March or the beginning of April. Some of our opponents had had a bet on the race and there was no way they were going to start the game before they had heard the race.

Eventually we played and had the usual fast and furious struggle with them. At the end of the game Chelmsford were desperately trying to hold on to a one goal lead. To help waste time one of our full backs, the aforementioned John Quill, still with spectacles, baggy shorts and English stick, was at every opportunity crashing his clearances into either a very prickly hedge or into the vast areas of the distant cricket pitches. Despite a copious supply of balls and the retrieving qualities of the spectators, we gained a few moments of respite. Immediately on restarting after one such delay, a somewhat disgruntled Bury forward clattered into John. As I went back I enquired of John if he was OK. "I'll get the so-and-so" he muttered, "but first I'm going to calm down so that I don't miss.

After the match a good time was had by all and it was probably fairly late before we returned to Chelmsford. What none of us realised until he told us the next week was that we had inadvertently left Mr. Quill behind in Bury. But there were still trains running in those days, so after catching a train from Bury to Ipswich, he was able to join up with the fish train from Lowestoft which stopped at Chelmsford on its way to Liverpool Street. For weeks afterwards he was always being asked what that fishy smell was."

The Chelmer

Contact details

"The Chelmer"
Friends of Chelmsford Hockey Club Re-United
c/o Doug Denman
Homemead Farm, Woolmongers Lane
Blackmore, INGATESTONE, Essex CM4 0JX

Phone: 01277 823479
Mobile: 07837 397351
Email: friends@chelmsfordhc.org.uk

The Friends of Chelmsford Hockey Club Re-United

We have made some slow progress in assembling a list of past/older members - which is in addition to VPs, Life Members and current members but is also reaching out to contact others who have played for the club in the past and with whom some in the club still have some contact.

So if you know anyone in this category obviously let us know and we will send them a copy of Chelmer2 and invite them to join "The Friends". There is no fee or sub, all they have to do is indicate that they would like to receive the Chelmer in the future and they will also get invites to relevant events, such as Dinners, Cocktail Parties and big matches wherever we can get our act together.

Doug Denman

We will also work out a short constitution

Aims are:

1. To send out The Chelmer, free, to as many ex members as possible.
2. To encourage contact by whatever other means for those that want to stay in touch.



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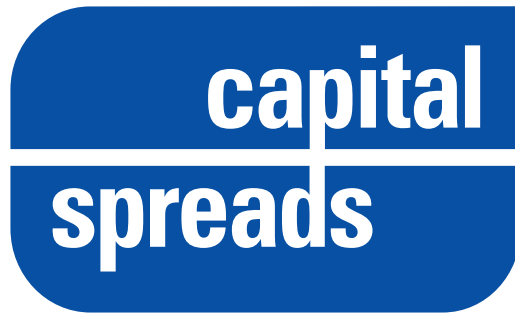
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