

2012/13 Season Issue 12 29/01/13 Broadwater School, Summers Road, Farncombe, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3BW email: intouch@guildfordhc.com web: www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ twitter: @guildfordhc This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

U12 Boys are Cup Winners in Barcelona – see below for full the full report!!

Mens 1s are top of the Conference West going into the new year.

The lucky winners of the 300Club Xmas Draw are:

This Month's Prizes	£67	£45	£23
This Month's Winners	M. Kyte	D. Barnes	E. Knight



All of the Guildford Hockey Club fixtures are available through the following links:

MEN

Team	Role	Name/E-mail	Telephone	League	Link to results, tables and fixtures
1st XI	Manager	Tony Hall	01483 768832	National West Conference	1st XI
	Coach	lan Jennings	07802 886000		
2nd XI	Captain	Tim Darke		London League Div 1	2nd XI
3rd XI	Captain	Tom Pollard		London League Div 2	3rd XI
Shadows	Captain	Steve Morris	07788 784143	Surrey Open Premier	Shadows XI
4th XI	Captain	Robert Leonard	07796 400450	Surrey Open Div 1	4th XI
Pilgrims	Captain	Mark Lenel		Wessex Masters Div 1	Men's Vets
Gondoliers	Captain	Andy Roberts	01483 271206	Wessex SuperVets	Men's SuperVets



www.englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=67

LADIES

Team	Captain/Email	Link to results, tables and fixtures
1st XI	Kate Hutchins	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies1.html
2nd XI	Tracey Henderson	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies2.html
3rd XI	Karen Faulkner	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies3.html
4th XI	Beth Fantastic	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/ladies4.html
Fireflies	Clare Edgington	http://www.guildfordhockey.co.uk/fireflies.html

... also see The Surrey Hockey Association Ladies League www.surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk

The latest 1st XI League Tables can also be reached via http://www.southleague.org.uk

MATCH REPORTS

Don't forget to send any match reports from the weekend to **andymatfield@gmail.com** by Tuesday evening.

Men's Section

Saturday 12th January

Richmond 3s 2 – 2 Guildford 3s

After a very mixed start to the season in September last year, the 3s had taken 4 points from their first 3 games – registering one win, one draw and one loss. Now a much more cohesive unit in the second half of the season, we were looking for improvement every week, having won 2 out of 2 of the reverse fixtures so far. This amazingly despite turn-out at training taking its traditional post-Christmas nosedive and not quit breaking double figures during the week. This week was a tricky away fixture against a Richmond side that had walked all over us a few months ago, breezing to a 2-0 win and making us look pretty woeful in the process.

With skiing holidays, and post-holiday lethargy, and work placements in Gibraltar and all sorts of nonsense robbing about a third of the squad, things were looking fairly desperate this week. Skipper Pollard definitely spent more time that he would have liked on his Friday birthday cobbling together a squad, which he then ironically has to disband early Saturday morning when the game was cancelled. Or was it?!? Well, no....clearly. Many thanks to Ian A, Pat Sharpe's lovechild Funhouse and master of hair-resentment Miles for saving us from playing with 10.

To the game, and Richmond took advantage from the off, turning the screw and dominating play all over the park. However, as opposed to the last time we played them, we actually woke up and began to play a bit ourselves, refusing to let them boss possession and slowly working our way back into the game. The defence, especially the centre pairing of the two Wills, were solid for the first 10 minutes, starving their forwards of possession, something which most definitely set the tone for the rest of the game.

With this defensive solidity negating everything Richmond had to throw at us, we started to apply our own pressure around the oppo's D and promptly opened the scoring in slightly fortuitous fashion when light-on-top newcomer Miles shot from the edge of the D, the ball taking a chunky deflection past the keeper. With our tails up one quickly turned into two, with Ian taking a leaf out of Matfield's book and mimicking one of his swan-like uber-athletic dives to swipe in as the ball was rolling past the far post.

Now, this had properly quietened down the Richmond boys, who had probably thought this would be another easy 3 points and didn't really know what had gone wrong. Even their yappy, argumentative coach had stopped chirping on the sidelines. Top stuff. So, you would think that to protect our position at 3rd in the league, and see the game out, first thing on the to-do list would be to see out the half nice and calmly. So what do we do? Concede two. Almost straight away. Nightmare. Both goals came from being caught in possession deep in our own half, something that could have been so easily avoided.

At the half we were still fairly pleased with most of the first half's play however, strong performances from Mullet, Dean and Miles in the centre of the park, along with bags of running up front from Polly and Ian meant we were fairly confident of taking 3 points back to HQ. A great game of hockey in the second half saw plenty of chances for both sides, but with none of several promising chances going in, the game ended all square...definitely 2 points thrown away! Also definitely worth a mention is Funhouse missing a deflection on a ball fired in from outside the D by literally millimetres...and then trying to claim his non-goal with the most lukewarm of fake celebrations.

Dropping points saw us drop to fourth, which makes our upcoming game against 5th place Reading absolutely crucial if we are to stay in the top 4 and guarantee a place in the cup.

<u>Season's goal tallies</u>: 4 – Rhino, Pollard 3 – Pollard 2 – Alex, Kit, Chris B, Sam HS, Ryan, Ian A 1 – JB, Rich F, Miles, Fran

<u>MOM</u>: The two Wills dominated today's vote, jet-setting Christmas-fitness-freak Will G sneaking it ahead of Will E and his childish haircut.

<u>DOD</u>: Mullet and skipper Pollard again popular this week, although bizarrely we decided to welcome Funhouse to the side, and thank him for turning up to save the day...by voting him DOD. Ironically that meant Mullet still had to wash the shirts...again. Excellent. Maybe it was because Funhouse didn't score with that excellent chance and win us the game. Who knows. If you're thinking about playing for the 3s though, do turn up – were definitely a friendly bunch really.

Saturday 5th January

Guildford 3s 3 – 2 Old Loughtonian 3s

After polishing off nailed-on relegation strugglers King's Alleyns in our last match before the Christmas break and sitting pretty in 3rd in the league over the festive period, Guildford re-grouped at HQ brimming with confidence for their first game of 2013. Our last outing against Old Loughts had seen us lead all game, only for OL to equalise with literally the last hit of the game in controversial circumstances, so we were looking to start the new year off in the right fashion, as well as righting a perceived massive injustice!

Lacking body-on-the-line aggression and international playboy finesse from the heart of defense in Bungle and Will G, as well as Rhino – the man never knowingly able to handle to handle his booze like a grown-up – we still managed to pull together a strong 14-man match day squad. Many thanks to Ian for again continuing his return to full fitness with us and to Ed Evans for dragging down the average age of the squad with some youthful running on the wing, making a surprising but highly welcome return from Uni hockey up in Oxford.

A special mention should go to newly bronzed tea-monster Mullet, who returned from a wedding and honeymoon with both wedding ring and dignity intact, an absolutely shocking turn up for the books. New Year's Eve soon sorted out the dignity bit, but welcome back big guy.

Guildford made a bright start to the first half, but again failed to find the required clinical touch in the final third and could not break down a stubborn Old Loughts side. As the half wore on, Guildford tightened up on possession, started to dominate territory with plenty of running from the midfield four of Ed, Matt, Mullet and Ian, but could not find space in the D for many decent shots, all chances that fell our way being snuffed out by decent saves on the line or impressive last ditch tackling.

Despite Guildford's strong start, it was the travelling side that probably registered the better chances of the half, causing problems with a quick transfer down the right wing for the their lanky winger to yomp towards our D and flash the ball across the face of goal. Many a time our blushes were saved by the horror show reactions of the oppo's front two.

Half time arrived with a stalemate that looked like it could have lasted the length of the match, with both teams probably fancying their chances. Early on in the second, Loughts were given a shorty on a rare break into the home D and Matfield, fresh from an indulgent Christmas punctuated by absolutely no fitness whatsoever, told Deano to stand down, he had the 1st runners slot covered. He promptly got nowhere near the strike and Louhgts took the lead as the ball flew into the side of the net.

Guildford had been the better side for most of the game so there was no panic at the restart, and about 10 minutes later the hosts duly won their own short corner, calmly despatched by Ian with a thumping shot low past the helpless keeper. We knew we were back in it, but the speed and the circumstances of the second goal surprised everyone. Guildford had been making several promising D incursions, but when one of the less promising of these broke down only a few minutes after our first, Alex Foster capitalised on an absolute howler by their centre back, flicking the ball calmly past their keeper...unmarked...from 3 yards out...child's play.

If the second was fortuitous, the third was a nugget of beauty from Ryan and Polly, a slick interchange on a rapid break taking several defenders out of the game before Polly put us into what would prove to be an unassailable lead with an assured finish. Kit Fantastic, back to add some bite up front, then almost scored what would have been one of the goals of the season, and a goal that would definitely have killed the game good and proper. Centimetres from audaciously lobbing the keeper from the edge of the D, into the top corner...and walking calamity Mullet intervened to illegally tap the ball in above waist height. It was only after wheeling away in celebration with one hand in the air – Shearer style – that he heard the howls of outrage from the rest of his team and started looking sheepish.

OL were too good a side to let the game go without a fight and looked dangerous for the rest of the half, eventually getting another short corner with 10 minutes from time. Up stepped Matfield, assuring the much more agile Deano that he would definitely make this one as 1st runner, and no Deano could take a rest on the post. He didn't make it. They scored.

OL put us under enough pressure for Will Evans to cry out for midfield anchor Rich Franklin to be brought on as the minutes ticked down and the oppo made us work to maintain possession, but the home team moved the ball around intelligently and the final whistle came. As the results filtered in Guildford stayed in 3rd place in the league, only edging out Spencer on goal difference, but seeing rivals for places in the top 4 Hampstead and Richmond both drop points.

MOM: Despite acting a clown and throwing himself on the deck all afternoon, Matfield got the nod this week.

DOD: Mullet had done enough on the day and over the Christmas break to get a season's worth of DODs, and got to almost double figures in votes.

Guildford Gondoliers 1 – 7 Cantebury Vets

This was always going to be a tough game against a side who joined our league last year and stayed at the top with frequent double digit victories. This is our first encounter with them, and despite the goal difference, the Gondo's held their own for much of the match at 3-1 down. In the first fifteen minutes a combination of defensive lapses and good intelligent play by Canterbury saw them lead with a three nil margin. In the final ten minutes with Stokes receiving a nasty wrist injury and having to go off there was another flurry of four goals.

Otherwise it was always Guildford having to do the chasing around, especially their ex GB 53yr old who ran us ragged with excellent ball skills and alarming speed and stamina. Our two resident umpires declared it was a good well fought game, especially as our two excitable and outspoken players keeping themselves under control except for the very odd occasion when they still managed to send shock waves among the listening crowd.

Ladies' Section

Sunday 9th December

Fireflies 0 – 2 Wycome

I am so very proud that the team arrived for a pre match game chat and warm up.. It dependently helps us as a team to understand the objectives of our game.. Lets keep this up for the Woking game in Jan 2013 and beyond.

The Sunday game was good end to end stuff, we were just unfortunate with going down 1-0 early on. We worked hard as a team to get the game down their end as much as possible, and should really have put away a few goals, however Wycombe just seemed to want the ball a little more than us at times and converted a second goal in the first half.

Second half: After a team talk, we reformed and no more goal from Wycombe.. We made a few changes on the pitch and this seemed to help us, 12 players is a great for us, giving rest to key players during the game.

We had a few short calls against us and these I am sure would have ended in a few good goals to us, however just not meant to be on the day.

Great defense work Rusty!! Our local Girl "Goldy like skills" she was suddenly left with two forward Wycombe's in our "D" with only Freda in sight... I think as this point Freda was worried about her sight and what was in front of her... But, "goldilocks", won the day and I think Freda nearly fainted.. I do remember "Goldilocks" falling down too and yes, it was due to the fact that the 3 bear were hot on her heel's .. but, I don't think the porridge was the issue.. Additionally, Puss in **"Boots"** made a few good challenges on pitch, with at time duelling for the ball and of course win more than them!! Great tea for us.. I think it took us all back to the Guildford Cricket Club.. French bread/cheese and pate, Thanks for the help from the Staff in the club..

On the journey to Hockey K took a tight turn in the car, unfortunately Daisy was not strapped in!! (Please add these to your new website: <u>www.BooDaisy.co.uk</u>), Daisy left the seat and spun into the foot well onto Brewster... I understand Daisy has a website herself, looking for a new rich home....

Dog 2012 Awards: I know you have all been waiting for an update on Daisy and her exams, well Daisy passed with a bronze certificate, possible more about K's ability than Daisy !!! (Daisy.. we think K may be holding you back, should have been "Gold")

Team award: Freda... My god, even though the reporter was at the opposite end of the pitch.. She could see what an amazing mid air left corner goal you saved.. WOW!!!! Good game

Summary to 2012

Lipstick and Edge would like to say as new captain's to technically two teams (Friendly and Master Leagues!), we have had a hard learning curve (Lipstick had done the most!!), we do feel that we have put a good platform in as a good start. Lipstick, thanks for your hard work, we really love you xxx Both of us would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Yearx See you on 13 January, Master League game Woking away meet by 12.15pm PLEASExx

Colts' Section

Sunday 9th December

Guildford U12 Boys in the XXVI Torneo Internacional de la Inmaculada 'Trofeo Marga Monegel' Real Club de Polo de Barcelona 7-9 December 2012

Firstly, we should remember to give our tournaments such grand titles as the one above.....'Guildford v Woking v Ashford' does not somehow have the same the ring to it.

It was a very excited group that arrived (surprisingly all on time) at 5.30am to catch the flight to Barcelona. The U12 squad consisted of Alex, Raphael, Ollie, Freddy, Harry, Will, Isaac, Max, and Elliot. All went smoothly and we booked in at a very nice hotel situated adjacent to the hockey club. The boys seemed more interested in riding up and down in the lifts but they were eventually successfully rounded up and it was a short walk down to the hockey pitches. The facilities at the club were in a different class; Catalonia is the stronghold of Spanish hockey and I think we began to realise that this was truly a 'serious' competition.

Pool F – Match 1

We had two matches to play in the afternoon, so any signs of tiredness from the trip had to be quickly eradicated and the warm up seemed to do the trick. Our first game was against a local Barcelona team called *Junior FC*. The boys started brightly enough and seemed comfortable but not playing as well as they had in recent games. They perhaps lacked a cutting edge to their attacking play and were punished after six minutes when an excellent move from the *Junior* team led to their forward giving Alex no chance with a shot into the corner. This seemed to knock the team back a little and it took some time before they regained their composure. In the last five minutes of the game however the Guildford team laid siege to their opponent's goal. Max hit the post and several opportunities were missed. The final whistle went...a 1-0 loss led to some dejected boys trudging off the field at the end. In this game they were perhaps not used to the quality of opposition they had encountered, had left it too late in the game before they really believed in themselves and began to really attack their opponent's goal.



We weren't familiar with all of the 'local rules'

Pool F – Match 2

If we had any hopes of doing well in the competition then we had to win our next game. This took place at night against '*Real Sociedad de Tenis de la Magdalena*' (from now on known as *RS Tenis*!) a team from the northern Spanish city of Santander. We needed a good start to regain our confidence and in the first minute Isaac scored from a penalty corner. We were now playing much better hockey and after five minutes some good build up involving Freddy and Will led to Isaac rounding the keeper to make it 2-0. *RS Tenis* came back at us and pulled it back to 2-1 before Isaac scored his third with a shot that was deflected over the keeper's head. Max then finished it off with a good low shot to make it 4-1. This was a good result against strong opposition and showed that the team had the character to bounce back from the earlier defeat. So the games for the day had finished and it was off in taxis to a nice restaurant whose owner really looked after us. A long day ended with some of the boys literally falling asleep at the table.

Group 2 – Match 1

The next morning (ok I may have missed out the consumption of local Spanish drink in the bar at the hotel the previous night!) we found out that due to goal difference we had come top of our group and we were then drawn to play two other teams who also had come top of their groups. The first game was against *'Koninklijke Hockey Club'* (KHC?...or does that make them sound like a fast food restaurant?) from Leuven, Belgium. Within a couple of minutes we were 1-0 up with Isaac again taking advantage of Raphael's good ball in from a penalty corner. We were controlling the game but were then hit on the counter attack with the Belgian forward striking a good shot that looked as though it was in until Alex dived to his left to keep it out and to keep us ahead in the game. After some good wing play from Max and Harry, Freddy made it 2-0. Another good save from Alex with his foot kept KHC out and Freddy finished it off with his second goal to make it 3-0.



Freddy v KHC



Group 2 – Match 2

We were now progressing well and if we could win the next game we would be through to the final. We were due to play 'Jolaseta Hockey Club' from Bilbao and the goal difference was such that we had to win; a draw would not have been good enough. A scouting mission was undertaken to observe the previous match Jolaseta were involved in and it was apparent they had a couple of wingers who looked like they were very good players. The game started and there is no other way to describe it... we were overwhelmed by a team that played fast, skilful hockey of a standard that we probably had never faced before.

To state that they could have been 3 or 4 goals up within the first five minutes is no exaggeration. However, we somehow managed to keep them out (and I'm still not quite sure how we did it) due to excellent, brave and sometimes downright desperate defending by the whole team but particularly noteworthy were Raphael, Ollie and Will. Alex made a whole series of saves, probably seven or eight of them within the first eight or so minutes and one or two of them were really excellent stops.

The *Jolaseta* side must have been wondering what they were doing wrong to not be ahead in the game and slowly but surely the Guildford boys began to get themselves back in the match. Isaac and Elliott began to see more of the ball ably supported by Harry, Freddy and Will. From another well delivered penalty corner from Raphael, Isaac scored to put us ahead. The opposition attacked us again, a combination of good keeping and defending kept them out and we went 2-0 ahead when Elliott scored a fine goal after some good work from Isaac. The game ended 2-0 and we were in the final! It is telling that the parents of the opposition high-fived goalkeeper Alex and offered the words, 'best goalkeeper in the world' as he left the pitch.



Best goalkeeper in the world as voted by the Jolaseta supporters

Final – Winner Group 1 v Winner Group 2

The following day (Sunday) the final was against the tournament hosts *Real Club de Polo de Barcelona*. This club is probably the strongest club in Spain, provides many of the players to the

Spanish national team, boasts 49 players who have participated in the Olympic Games, wins the tournament on a regular basis and were favourites to take the trophy again.

The boys had slept well (wish I could say the same about the adults....the lure of a hotel bar in the early hours proved irresistible) and seemed quietly confident. Roared on by the U14 and U16 teams, all the parents and even some of the locals, Guildford took the initiative early and played the better hockey. We did most of the attacking and the opposition appeared to be rattled. We could not, however, get the ball into the net despite some really good attacking play particularly involving Max on the right wing.



Max's attacking work on the right wing

Elliott and Isaac could have scored, but then the opponents suddenly broke away and their attacker tried to round Alex but he spread himself to knock the ball clear with his stick to complete a very important save. A minute later from a penalty corner Isaac scored to make it 1-0. The opposition in desperation attacked and a cross into our box led to a shot on target that Alex managed to stop, the rebound was hit with real power that Max bravely managed to stop by diving in front of the goal and being struck by the ball but unfortunately the ball fell to another opposing player who scored to make it 1-1.

Despite this setback we were the better team and put together several attacks that led to an allowed and then (controversially) disallowed goal followed by a ball into the goal that unfortunately got there via the foot instead of the stick. The game ended 1-1 and now it was down to the very thing that everyone did not want...the winners to be decided on penalty flicks.

The ghosts of previous penalty competitions involving English teams in Europe circled the ground... Pearce, Waddle and Southgate to name just a few. Oh no, surely not again!

The boys probably have never even heard of any of the above, so contemptuously dismissed their parent's fears and didn't seem to be overly stressed by the situation. Freddy, Raphael, Harry, Isaac and Ollie all managed to hold their nerve to decisively and skilfully score despite the noise and pressure from the crowd. At 5-4 the opponents had to score to take it through to sudden death. Their striker stepped up, struck it low and hard to the right and Alex dived the right way to keep it out. The *Trofeo Marga Monegal* was Guildford's!



Cue high emotion... tears, hysterics, hugs, high fives (anyway, enough about the coaches and parents)the boys were very happy as well. The team received their trophy on the podium to much applause from all including many of the locals. They had achieved so much against some really tough opposition including winning the final against the hot favourites. They had somehow kept themselves in games when it seemed they would lose and a combination of effort, real character and no little skill led to them prevailing at the end. They deserved their success and were a credit to themselves, their coaches, their parents and Guildford Hockey Club.



U12s on the podium – 1st out of 18 teams from across Spain and Europe

So back to reality and a freezing Gatwick from the sunshine of sunny Catalonia with the trophy safely tucked away in the hand luggage.

Although the boys played wonderfully well, there was much hard work done behind the scenes to achieve this success. The coaches, led by Gary, but ably assisted by James and Will worked extremely hard to keep the players fit and motivated and got them back on track again after the defeat in the first game. In hindsight, the defeat in the first game may have been a 'wake-up call' to the team and the catalyst for the excellent performances in the subsequent matches. Melinda also richly deserves a mention as she spent days helping to organise the trip and her hard work allowed the coaches to get on and deal with coaching the team. She played a vital part in the team's success. Finally, thanks to everyone including the U14 and U16 teams, coaches and all of the parents who provided such great support to the U12 team.

(more photos below...)



The cup will make a nice addition to the trophy cabinet back in Guildford.



Every match started with a proper warm-up...



...watching the competitors gave valuable insight.



All 37 Guildford players from U16, U14 and U12 squads. The boys all supported each other and were a pleasure to travel with and be around during the weekend.



"Hey look guys – they have hockey ball trees in Spain!" (photos by Melinda)

More photos from the tournament are available on this Spanish photojournalism website (though we don't know for how long):

http://www.mundodeportivo.com/20121209/reportajes-fotograficos/xxv-torneo-internacional-de-hockey-de-la-inmaculada_54356217313.html?numPage=7

Guildford U12 Girls 5 – 0 Horsham U12 Girls

Guildford started the match very quickly winning the ball and attacking strongly down the left through Hannah Wilson and Ella. A short corner was awarded after Guildford found a defenders foot inside the D and this was converted with a strong slightly lifted Becky special. Not to be outdone for skill Coca found herself in front of goal, deftly pulled the ball onto the reverse side and reverse stick slapped into the bottom corner. The girls were frankly terrorising the Horsham defence when they were going forward and whenever they lost possession the midfield and defence would pounce on any loose ball. Another 2 goals followed in quick succession and we were up 4-0 inside 20 minutes.

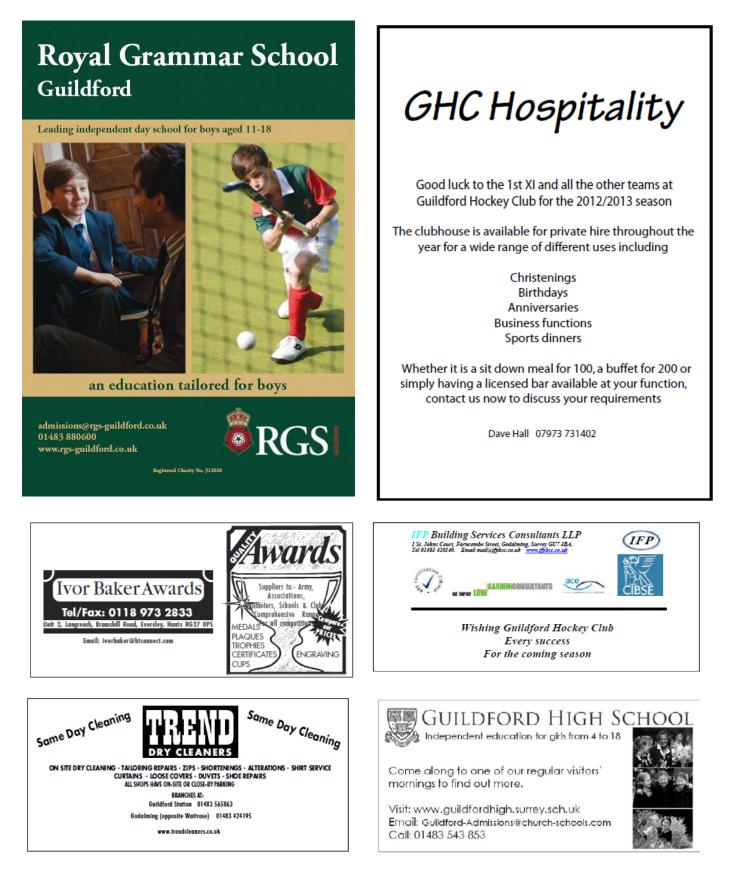
At the first break it was clear that on a 1:1 basis the Guildford girls were going to dominate this game, so Toby and Dave took the decision to challenge the girls to play stylish possession hockey concentrating on passing and moving the ball across the pitch rather than going straight at goal. They were told not to go for goal until they had completed 15 passes uninterrupted....it took about 10 minutes...but some great control and pivot passes out of the middle from Autumn and Rosie ably supported by Mia, Eliza and others gave them the green light to go for goal! A sweeping string of passes ended in a strong run into the D from Ella and a beautifully slipped pass to Hannah Wylie lurking outside a post....calmly dispatched 5-0.

In the final 20 minutes, we had defenders in attack, attackers in defence, three Groovy Guildfordians off injured...but desperate to get back on, and two more goals.. Lucie running into the D one on one with the goalkeeper and placing the ball crisply into the corner of the goal...and Becky took the last and scored our first hatrick!

Great performance from everyone...greatly enjoyed by players, parents and coaches...and poor Sarah Bishop missed it due to her many other commitments.

Sponsors Page

If you have any notices that you would like circulated to members and friends of Guildford Hockey Club, please email details to richard.julian@gmail.com.





Wright's

FOR REFRESHMENT

CONTACT: Dick Wright

Lion Brewery, West Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7AB

Tel: 01252 715749

Fax: 01252 735841



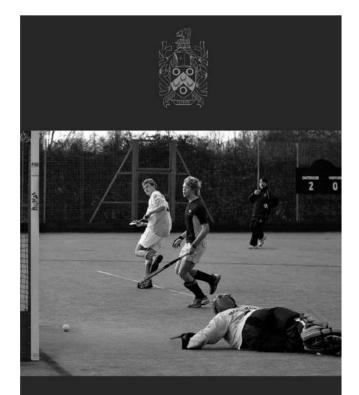


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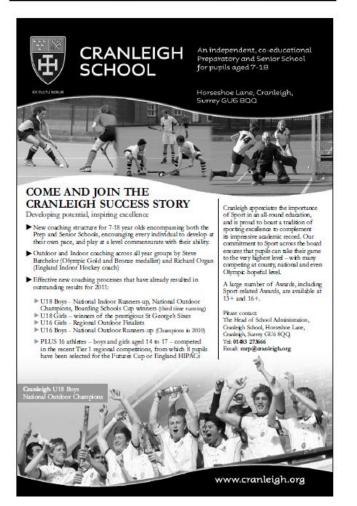
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Good luck to the 1st XI and all other teams at Guildford Hockey Club for the 2012/2013 season





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Visit www.guildfordlegion.com to see the club, what's going on, sign up to membership or make a booking







For now we hope you enjoy the game

The Dog & Pheasant

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Everyone at The Dog & Pheasant wishes Guildford Hockey Club 1st XI & all the other teams the best for the 2012/2013 season.

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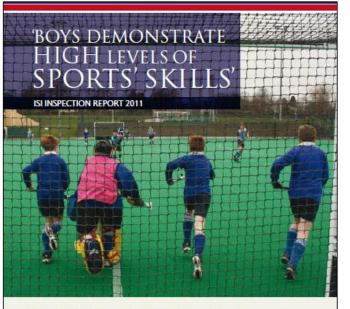
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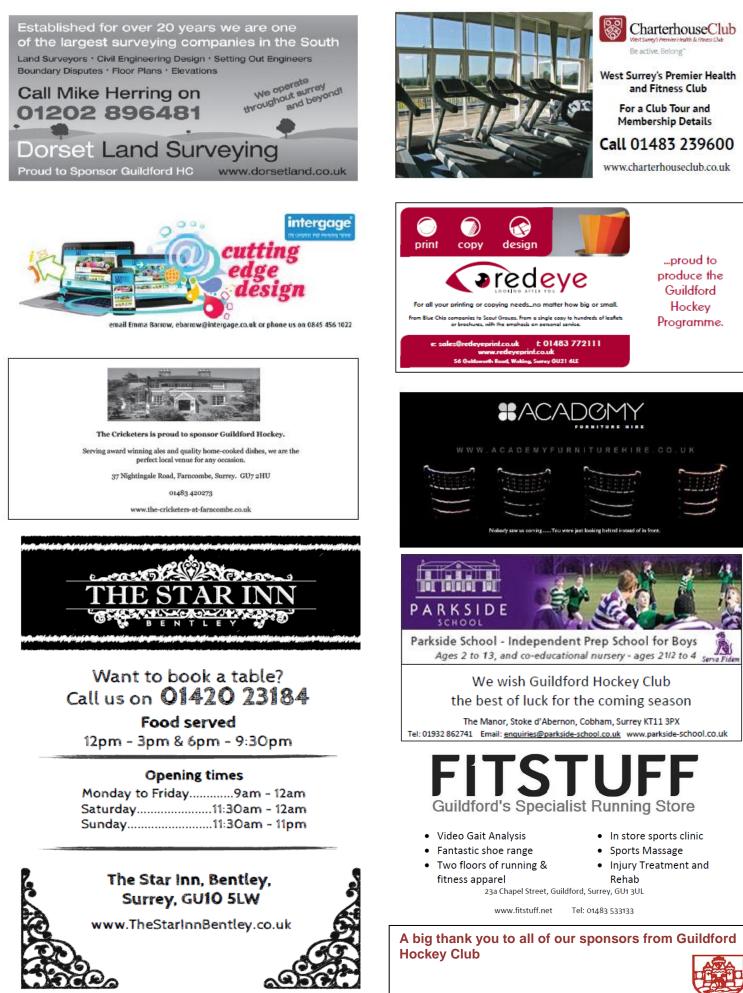
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