

# in touch

the e-zine - from Guildford Hockey Club

2012/13 Season

Issue 17

25/03/13

Broadwater School, Summers Road, Farncombe, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3BW

email: [andymatfield@gmail.com](mailto:andymatfield@gmail.com) web: <http://www.guildfordhc.com/> twitter: @guildfordhc

This newsletter will also be published on the web-site

**Good win for the Men 1s secures third place in the table, a mere 4 points away from a place in the playoffs.**

**Ladies 1s lose tight relegation decider with Havant.**

**Plenty of end of season social activity coming up, read on to find out more!**

Men's Conference West 2012/13										
			P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1		<a href="#">Cardiff &amp; UWIC</a>	18	12	3	3	37	24	13	39
2		<a href="#">University of Exeter</a>	18	11	5	2	51	22	29	38
3		<a href="#">Guildford</a>	18	10	5	3	42	22	20	35
4		<a href="#">Team Bath Buccaneers</a>	18	10	4	4	51	29	22	34
5		<a href="#">University of Birmingham</a>	18	7	4	7	43	33	10	25
6		<a href="#">Havant</a>	18	6	5	7	38	37	1	23
7		<a href="#">Cheltenham</a>	18	5	5	8	31	42	-11	20
8		<a href="#">Fareham</a>	18	5	4	9	36	52	-16	19
9		<a href="#">Whitchurch</a>	18	5	2	11	24	43	-19	17
10		<a href="#">Bristol Firebrands</a>	18	0	1	17	19	68	-49	1



**GUILDFORD HC RACE NIGHT**  
**30th MARCH 7pm**  
**@ GUILDFORD HC**

Easter weekend is soon upon us, and so it is time to dispel a few biblical myths:

- Bread and wine were not served at the Last Supper, rather Red Rum and Black Caviar.
- James and John were bookmakers, not fishermen.
- And Gethsemane is not a beautiful garden in which to pray, but a much-frequented racecourse popular with Jesus' disciples.

With this in mind, Guildford HC would like to invite you all to our highly-praised race night. Featuring awfully-punned horses such as Arkle Angel, Son of One Man, and Pontious Seabiscuit; the heavenly delights of Chef Dave Hall's cooking; an array of miraculous prizes; and a fully stocked bar (no need to turn water into wine here!) - the night promises to be the highlight of the Easter weekend.

Tickets (inc. dinner): £10

Contact: Ian Jennings (07802886000 [ianjennings62@hotmail.com](mailto:ianjennings62@hotmail.com))

**HORSES NOW ON SALE!**

## **End of Season Dinner!**

Just a reminder that the Club End of Season Dinner is on Saturday 20th April, from 7.30pm at the Club.

Tickets are £30 each and include a glass of bubbly on arrival, a sumptuous 3 course meal and the evenings entertainment.

Due to limited space, initially tickets are available to club members, coaches and Friends of GHC only. If there is less demand than expected, we can open invitations to spouses and partners. We had to take this decision due to the number of members that missed out on the Christmas Dinner.

We will be presenting an award to the Club Man/woman of the year on the night but would ask that individual team awards are kept to separate occasions because in the past these presentations have gone on far too long and never keep people's attention.

Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis but will not be confirmed until full payment is made to Jeremy. Members should speak to their Team Captains or me for any more information.

# FIXTURES

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	<b>Tony Hall</b>	01483 768832	National West Conference	<a href="#">1st XI</a>
	Coach	<b>Ian Jennings</b>	07802 886000		
2nd XI	Captain	<b>Tim Darke</b>		London League Div 1	<a href="#">2nd XI</a>
3rd XI	Captain	<b>Tom Pollard</b>		London League Div 2	<a href="#">3rd XI</a>
Shadows	Captain	<b>Steve Morris</b>	07788 784143	South League Surrey Div 3	<a href="#">Shadows XI</a>
4th XI	Captain	<b>Robert Leonard</b>	07796 400450	Surrey Open Div 1	<a href="#">4th XI</a>
Pilgrims	Captain	<b>Mark Lenel</b>		Wessex Masters Div 1	<a href="#">Men's Vets</a>
Gondoliers	Captain	<b>Andy Roberts</b>	01483 271206	Wessex SuperVets	<a href="#">Men's SuperVets</a>



[www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=67](http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=67)

## LADIES

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

... also see The Surrey Hockey Association Ladies League [www.surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk](http://www.surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk)

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

## Junior Goalkeepers

This weekend saw the last Sunday training session for the Junior GKs. A lot of fun was had as they bounced over mini jumps, worked with training ladders, sprinted around like mad things and all in the pursuit of Cream Eggs. This year has been about building on the success of last year and creating GKs that are capable of making their way into the Men's and Ladies section of GHC.

Last year Maria and Marcus made that jump from Junior hockey to adult hockey. Next year, it is hoped that Bella, Matt and Henry can follow in their footsteps as GHC looks to development sides in both Men's and Ladies hockey to help Juniors manage the transition in their hockey.

At the end of the season, all the GKs who regularly attended training have shown some significant improvement.

On the boy's side, the most improved GK and winner of the cup and Lindt chocolate rabbit was Alex. His overall skills have come on significantly over the last year and his performance in Barcelona before Christmas was outstanding. Runner up was Henry who last weekend had his first taste of Men's hockey with the 4th XI and acquitted himself very well.

For the girls, the cup winner and winner of a Lindt chocolate bunny was Hannah. She came to Sunday GK training for the first time this year and has already demonstrated that critical GK skill of refusing to be intimidated by balls, even when they come at head height. Runner up was Sophia and this was a very very close run thing.

There are very few clubs that invest in their Junior GKs in the same way that GHC does and over the next decade, we should be able to look forward to a steady stream of home grown talent into the adult section of the club.

# MATCH REPORTS

Don't forget to send any match reports from the weekend to [andymatfield@gmail.com](mailto:andymatfield@gmail.com) by Tuesday evening.

## MEN'S SECTION

### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March

#### Guildford 3s 3 – 1 Reading 2As

After sitting pretty in 3<sup>rd</sup> position at the half way stage of the season, the combination of circumstances that had conspired to leave the 3s fighting to avoid their 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive defeat at the end of the season had baffled everyone. Playing a strong Reading side we had been fortunate to draw against earlier in the season was no-one's idea of the ideal game to stop the rot, but luckily Reading travelled with a bare 11 and a mixed bag of wide-ranging hockey ability. Guildford welcomed back Vidal Sassoon from his traitorous University-based activities and Mullet from his invented ankle 'injury' and had a strong match day squad of 14.

The home side played as well as we have in recent weeks in the first half, with a new 4-3-3 formation meaning we played the majority of the game further up the pitch, and with lots of energy and running injected into the side from returning players. Oddly, utterly regardless of this, it was a gnarled veteran who got the first, Sam Hansen roaring up from the back and Dr. Bannering a ball into the D with so much menace that it crashed into the backboard off a multitude of slight deflections. Sam has scored at least one own goal this season so it was nice to see him finally trying to make amends.

As the game continued it became aware that Reading had the core of a very very good team, garnished with players who clearly don't play in this league regularly. So all Guildford had to do was play our high tempo game and make sure the danger men were properly marked when on the defensive. This we did surprisingly well, starving their dangerous centre-forward of the ball and frustrating their holding midfield player into the most selfish and ineffective hockey performance (given his obvious talent) I have seen in a good while.

Then second game after Polly had missed a hat full of simpler chances, but got his name on the score sheet with impressive control and assured finish from an incisive through ball. 2-0 at half time and confidence was flowing, although we had capitulated to the most ludicrous of home defeats against Indian Gym from almost exactly the same position earlier in the season so a big second half performance was needed.

Total domination from Guildford followed in the second half as they muscled Reading out of almost any possession of the ball, and used their subs to good effect against tired and increasingly disinterested Reading players. The game was sewn up with a lovely goal from Kit Fantastic, sealing his place as top scorer for the season. Employing a smart turn that left his marker for dead, he bore down on goal and classily lifted the ball over the on-rushing keeper with consummate ease. It looked bloody outstanding from the back.

Reading scored a late consolation when a hopeful ball smashed into the D from a free-hit bamboozled everyone...everyone apart from Andy that is, who now just hates keeping a clean sheet and wanted to bring us all down a bit. We finished the season a mid-table 6<sup>th</sup> out of 12 teams and on reflection fair position for the season's play. Sadly we know that we can and should have been beating all but 2/3 of these teams regularly this season so could and should do much better next time around.

## **Epsom Vagabonds 4 – 3 Guildford Gondoliers**

Some things never change. A phrase that could usefully be employed to describe the absence of parking spaces in Ripley on a Saturday afternoon, a thought which your scribe happened upon during the course of his fourth journey along the High Street.... Having found his way, eventually, to The Ship, his expectation was to find ten further Gondolieri supping swift halves of brown nectar, in good spirits following two victories over Amersham and Havant, ready to emit forth the fearsome battle cry "Avanti Gondolieri!" on taking to the pitch.

Or so your writer thought.... The reality proved to be the sight of Sottocapo Michele Regiani standing outside The Ship in the rain, propped against a bicycle tastefully attired in retro 1970s style brown needlecords (later to be embellished, tastefully, by the addition of white socks and a possible adoption of an alter-ego, Michela). With no kit. Shortly, the twosome are joined by Sottocapo Geofredo Tonkessore, carrying many bags and in loquacious mood, followed by Capitano Tommaso Carnele, stylishly attired (as befits a Capitano) in boat shoes, denim (O.M.G) and a flowing robe (possibly handed down by an ancestor, a veteran of the Italian campaign in North Africa in 1940) skilfully cut to minimise the apparent shape caused by a recent Portuguese eating disorder (gluttony)). Carnele did not experience any problem parking, since his Renault engined rather boxy Carro Armato M11/39 was able to nudge all other vehicles out of its way.

Alas, no other Gondolieri were able to park in Ripley, and so it was that only a muted "Avanti Gondolieri!" was capable of being practised before setting off to Leatherhead, where eventually other Gondolieri appeared carrying with them two Pilgrims who had been encountered en-route, lost and confused, returning on their journey from Rome. "Papal blessings be upon you" they said and so with the knowledge that they could not fail, the gallant band of Gondolieri took to the pitch under leaden skies to face the enemy of the day. Soon, it was apparent that Epsom might have played the game before, their crisp and incisive 1-2 passing causing mild concern amongst the Gondoliers midfield/forward line. Tension crept into the Gondoliers game, as witnessed by an exchange of words: Cappo Christoforo Gouldoni "Why you no passa da ball to me?" In reply, Secondo Cappo Michelangelo Joniensis "Shaddupa Your Face! "Shaddupa Your Face!" (Michelangelo, having remembered his shorts this week, had forgotten his performance enhancing tight white lycra undergarments).

Crisp passing, 1-2, 1-2, oh dear – Epsom have scored a goal. Thereupon, a muscle in your writer's left leg decided that the task of marking the five feet tall Epsom left-winger was too much for a Saturday afternoon and gave up the task, calling Ammiraglio Andrea Robertino into the fray from the sidelines (or should that be from the bridge?). The team stabilised – but not for long. Soon, it became apparent that the Acqua Alta was coming not from the leaden skies, but from the Epsom team. Capitano Tommaso Carnele, remembering the advice given to him by his North African campaign veteran ancestor, stuck the Carro Armato M11/39 into reverse in the face of the Epsom Matildas (no longer were they Vagabonds), causing the Gondoliers defence to retreat through Leatherhead, passing Ripley and back to Guildford. As a direct result, at halftime the scoreline read 'Gondoliers 0 Epsom 3'. It could have read 1-3. Attempting to mirror the silky skills of the Epsom forwards,

Secondo Cappel Michelangelo threaded a beautiful pass across the D to Cappel Cristoforo Bellini, who stylishly swung his stick through air..... and missed the ball.

So to the second half, which began with a replay of the Michelangelo/Cristoforo passing move.... with the same result. Cristoforo, now demoted to Sottocappel, knew that his time would come at some point in the game. Things were not looking good. Epsom score another goal. The Gondolieri, lead by Ammiraglio Andrea, recover some composure, and Cappel Cristoforo Gouldoni gets a goal. "Avanti Gondolieri!" Sottocappel Cristoforo Bellini, now knowing that his time has actually come, scores another – and another! Restored to Cappel, Cristoforo is carried by the Gondolieri from the pitch in triumph. Almost. And so the score ends, Gondoliers 3 Epsom 4.

No matter sing the Gondolieri, England will vanquish Wales this very afternoon, a spectacle to be enjoyed in the Epsom clubhouse whilst consuming chilli con carne (or is that Carney?) and quantities of a strange dark brew known as Old Trip. A powerful combination, your writer's wife observing to him during the course of Sunday afternoon that the house seemed to be full of beer odours..... Like the Gondoliers' victory, England's proved an illusion. On the journey back to Ripley Sottocappel Geofredo Tonkessore, legs seized of a rigor mortis, loquaciously expanded upon the events of the day and so it seemed to your writer that this could best be expressed in a Gondoliers song, to the tune of O Sole Mio:

O Gondolieri  
Give it to us  
We like da birra  
Old Trip's the one!

O all, we Gondoliers  
Go back to Guildford  
And there to drink.



# LADIES' SECTION

9<sup>th</sup> March 2013

## London Edwardian Ladies 1s 2 – 1 Guildford Ladies 2s

We set off for London with 10 players! We had had to give four players to the 1's to ensure they stayed up in their league, as we were already safe.

So all ten of us were prepared to give it all for 70 minutes in the hope of scraping a point out of it. London Eds were right behind us on the table and hoping to win to go third on the table instead of us.

We were looking unlikely to pull this off and the pressure was on from London Eds who came forward in wave after wave of attacks! First Amy got hit on the head and cut her eye open and we had to stop the game in order to patch her up. Then Harriet got hit on the hand and had to go off for five minutes, so we were down to 9!

We managed to survive till half time at 0-0. Then early in the second half they scored from a short corner to make it 1-0. We were energised by this goal and came back straight away with a goal from Kerry who worked it up the field with Lou. They made it look easy!

Sadly London Eds managed to get another short corner later in the half and convert it to score their second goal. Emily then managed to get herself sent off for complaining to the umpire about some of his decisions. So 9 again!

Even though we lost we were proud of ourselves for this result considering the fact we only had 10 and at times 9. Final result 2-1 loss.

# COLTS' SECTION

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

### Girls U12

It was a busy week-end for the girls with the A squad playing against Surbiton at Reeds School, and the Development team in action at the Mini tournament at Horsham

#### **A squad – against Surbiton – 0-3 loss**

This was always going to be a tough match with Surbiton as our opposition and Guildford were under pressure from the start. Surbiton put out a stronger team than in our previous fixture and pressed hard on our defenders. There was some great efforts at the back, with good defensive work from Rosie, Eliza and Mia. Our midfielders struggled to get the ball forward, thwarted continually by a strong Surbiton defence. A few break chances from the left side did not come off and after a strong push from Surbiton they went 1-0 up at the end of the first period.

In the second period Guildford consolidated and contained the score to 1-0, with a few great runs and attacks on goal from mid-field into the D. In the third period we looked much sharper and pressed Surbiton in their defence. However they proved the stronger team on the day and they scored 2 goals in close succession to finish 3-0 up.

#### **Development tournament – Horsham**

We managed to turn 3 further 7-a-side teams out for the tournament at Horsham, and looked a strong force in many of the matches. Looking at the results, we have started to score goals, defend better and play increasingly as a team – stringing passes together and passing sympathetically. Eloise, Hebe and Niamh in the 'Doves' team, deserve special mention for their efforts 'up-front', with support from all their fellow team members. Special thanks also to Abi Nichol for playing in goal wherever she was needed, and making some great saves. Well done girls !

#### **Guildford Robins – managed by Alastair**

Lost 0 - 1 against Wimbledon  
Won 3-0 against Oxted - Eloise 2 Emma 1  
Lost 0 -3 Guildford doves

#### **Guilford Doves – managed by Kevin**

Won 2 -1 against Oxted -Niamh 1 and Hebe 1  
Lost 0-2 against Wimbledon  
Won 3-0 against Guildford Robins -Niamh 2 and Hebe 1

#### **Guildford Jays – managed by Nick**

Lost 0-1 against Horsham  
Lost 0 - 3 against Wimbledon


Draw 0-0 against Oxted

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