

Welcome

This is the sixteenth in our series of revamped Newsletters. Another season draws to a close. A season with some exceptional events. Paramount in significance has probably been the success of the Women's 1st XI in their debut season in the National League, where they have made a very successful showing, including a notable 3-0 defeat of the leading side, Slough, who until then appeared to be cruising to the Championship (and a play-off place for the Premier League). A fourth position at the end of the season is pleasing and testament to the squad led prominently and enthusiastically by captain, Annbeth Wijtenburg.

Memorial Match

Sunday, 4 September 2016 has been set for the annual Legends' Memorial match at PRG. It is hoped that this can coincide with an appearance by the Men's 1st XI and will be an opportunity to convene with past players, Vice Presidents and Friends of the Club. Plans for the latter are still in embryo but will be supplied as soon as the detail justifies it.

Club News

Jonny Witt took over the Chairmanship of the Club from Oz Rankin, after a lengthy tenure that will be long remembered. Oz will continue to assist on fund raising. Will Saxby agreed to act as Vice Presidents and former players' co-ordinator and is likely already to have been in touch with many readers of this letter.

Women's Hockey Outlook

Annabeth summarised the team's first season in the National League in a recent conversation with the *Ham & High*. (All photographs are thanks to the Club's expert technician, Mark Clews)



Hampstead Women's 1s are at the highest level in their 30-year history after promotion to the National League Conference East. The season's successes suggest they can continue to climb to the top flight.

Sunday's result was slightly disappointing – a 3-3 draw at home against St Albans which stopped Wijtenburg and her team-mates from grabbing third place in the final standings. But, while they ended up eight points behind leaders Slough, they were only two points behind the runners-up, Wimbledon, and the skipper believes there is plenty more to come from her side.

"I think it's been a great season. We set our goal to be in the top three or four and I think we've grown so much as a team and our players have become so much better, so I'm very excited for next season. There's always room for improvement and I think, talking to the girls and everybody, there are little things that we can definitely take forward – becoming fitter, more clinical and staying patient while we're trying to score".

She added, "It's been our first season in the National League and we've had 10 new players in so at times it was definitely interesting to manage selection. I think we've done really well and I definitely don't think we've peaked. We can still grow so much more as a team, which is the exciting part. Obviously it would have been nice to be in the top three because I think that's nicer to say, but in general the feeling is everybody's pretty proud of the season and what we've achieved. The spirit in the group is great, which I think is very important."

The team had gone into the winter break in second place but stumbled on their return to action in February, taking just one point from a possible nine against Cambridge City, Maidenhead and Chelmsford – and the latter two sides have finished in the bottom three.

However, H&W responded by thumping pacesetters Slough 3-0 at PRG and won their following two games before finishing off their campaign with Sunday's draw against St Albans. "We were starting to improve before Christmas and then we had three not-so-great games. It might have been just about getting into it again."

"I remember in the first game against Cambridge we definitely didn't play that well, but in the two games after that we didn't actually play that badly. We drew against Maidenhead and we had so many chances. We were getting there but we weren't finishing it, and we've definitely done that since then. I think the last few weeks have been the best hockey we've played, with some great results. We unfortunately drew on Sunday but I'm so positive for next season. I think we could beat any team."

Annabeth is not anticipating another influx into the squad this summer. But she is hopeful of attracting some of the players who have been pushing to earn a place in Great Britain's Olympic squad this season, and who might be happy to drop down from the Premier Division and focus a bit more on their jobs next term. She added, "I definitely think we'll be a lot more stable. We will naturally attract some additional players. This has been the year leading up to the Olympics, so people might have been trying to get into the national squad, and we are a central London team".

[Women's Investec National League Eastern Conference](#)

The season's results were as follows:

Maidenhead 3 Hampstead 4

Hampstead 1 Harleston Magpies 0

Sevenoaks 2 Hampstead 4

Hampstead 1 Chelmsford 2

Slough 1 Hampstead 0

Wimbledon 3 Hampstead 2

Hampstead 5 Ipswich 3

St. Albans 2 Hampstead 2

Hampstead 1 Cambridge City 1

Harleston Magpies 1 Hampstead 2
 Hampstead 3 Wimbledon 2
 Cambridge City 3 Hampstead 1
 Hampstead 2 Maidenhead 2
 Chelmsford 3 Hampstead 2
 Hampstead 3 Slough 0
 Hampstead 3 Sevenoaks 1
 Ipswich 0 Hampstead 5
 Hampstead 3 St Albans 3

League Table

The final standings:

Sough	18	12	3	3	51	17	39
Wimbledon	18	9	6	3	32	17	33
Cambridge City	18	9	5	4	23	15	32
Hampstead & W	18	9	4	5	44	32	31
Harleston Magpies	18	7	6	5	30	19	27
Sevenoaks	18	7	5	6	33	33	26
St Albans	18	6	7	5	32	28	25
Chelmsford	18	4	4	10	24	52	16
Maidenhead	18	4	3	11	27	51	15
Ipswich	18	0	3	15	13	52	3



Time, then, for a few further words from the captain...

At what age did you begin playing hockey?

I started playing when I was 6, in the Netherlands

What was your first competitive game and what was the result?

That must have been when I was around 12 or so – in Holland youth teams go by school years not necessarily age. So I played for C1 (which is when you're around 12/13) and we played in the highest league at that level – score I am afraid I can't remember!

If that is not competitive enough, I remember my debut for HCKZ ladies1s in my final year of being a junior, playing a full game at centre back because our player was injured. It was snowing and freezing cold so we had to play on a sand based pitch and I remember having to defend one of the international forwards. I think we lost the game, but great memories!

For which other Clubs have you played?

I started at Hockey Club Klein Zwitserland (HCKZ) in The Hague, where I played for 12 years. I moved to Utrecht for my Bachelors and whilst I started at HCKZ again after a year of travelling I decided the distance was too much and moved to play for SCHC. My last season of hockey in the Netherlands I played for Bloemendaal as I was living in Amsterdam at that moment.

Where on the pitch is your usual position?

Spare full back or sweeper

Which hockey stadium, ground or venue do you rate the best?

I like the Wagener Stadium at Amsterdam.

Who is the best player that you have played alongside?

Kate Richardson Walsh – I played with her during my last year of juniors at HCKZ. That year I doubled up also playing with the 1st ladies team, which was great fun because Kate actually coached the junior team I played for that year as well.

Who is the best opponent you have faced?

Amsterdam, their ladies 1s is just so organised and strong.

What is the most amusing incident you have witnessed on a hockey pitch?

I always used to play with my best friend during juniors, she could get quite heated on the pitch and I can still picture her running after a girl for a good few yards – literally chasing her off the pitch, the ball was nowhere in sight!

Which is the best game that you have played in and what was the result?

It was when I played for B1 (equivalent of under 16s) at HCKZ and we made it to the finals of the national championships in the Wagener Stadium. The score was 1-1 after extra time so we had to go to flicks, which was pretty nerve racking. I scored the third flick and we won by the fourth. Fun fact is that I played against Ellen Hoog that game, who missed a flick by completely pushing over the ball!

Which is the best game you have watched and why?

I want to say the men Holland vs England semi-finals at the Olympics but not sure how well that goes down in this newsletter or with my boyfriend Richard Smith! I think the Dutch men just showed exceptional hockey with absolutely everything working for them.

Though I have to admit that the Euro finals last summer of women England vs Holland, where the England women got back from being down quite a few goals and eventually grabbing the title was a pretty thrilling match as well – I love seeing that fighting spirit, always keep on believing and never giving up!

Which Rule of Hockey would you change first?

I actually think the International Hockey Federation is great at evolving the rules whilst the game is becoming quicker and it gets more attention in the media.

One thing I loved to see changed though is, not necessarily a rule, but to start the second half of the season slightly later. In Holland, for example, it starts early March and season ends late April. This means a longer winter break and more time for indoor as well as a few weeks of hockey in the nicer weather!

Which other sports do you follow in particular?

I follow football quite regularly and have to admit I have started to like rugby since I moved to England.

What is the best part of your hockey job?

Bringing together a team that loves playing with each other and for each other. I think performance is driven by enjoying to play with those alongside you and willing to go the extra mile for them. I believe that when a team harmony is right the great hockey will follow and I love playing an important part in that.

And the most difficult?

Finding the right balance between consulting coaches on selection decisions whilst staying close to the girls and being as impartial as I can.

The higher you play the tougher selection decisions are, so managing expectations and keeping everyone happy is tough, especially some of the girls you get on with so well get upset by certain decisions.

Which football team's result do you look for first?

In England that has to be Manchester United, slightly controversial at times, but I of course support Van Gaal, plus there's just a large history of Dutch players, including Van Nistelrooij, who comes from the team I support at home, PSV

Other Women's Teams

A significant disappointment this season was the second place of the Women's 2nd XI in Division 3A of the South League, when they drew the final game of the season away to West Hampstead 1st XI on the same day on which their chief protagonists, Buckingham 2nd XI, were able to overwhelm second from bottom Maidenhead 2nd XI by 11-1 and thereby win the League (and promotion) by a single point. This was the equal of the Women's 1st XI's experience at the same stage of last season. League standings, with one fixture to be fulfilled on 9 April, were

Buckingham 2	22	20	0	2	91	27	55*
Hampstead & W 2	22	17	3	2	63	18	54
PHC Chiswick 1	21	15	0	6	82	27	45
Milton Keynes 1	22	12	4	6	45	31	40
Witney 1	22	11	2	9	55	40	35
Wycombe 1	21	10	4	7	44	45	34
Henley 1	22	10	2	10	49	52	32
Eastcote 1	22	7	4	11	32	40	25
West Hampstead 1	22	6	3	13	28	53	21
Teddington 2	22	6	0	16	29	65	18
Maidenhead 2	22	4	0	18	26	79	7*
Wallingford 1	22	1	2	19	13	82	5

*points deducted

3rd XI

Another equally frustrating second spot: this time in the Middlesex Premier League for the 3's on goal difference only, after a double header weekend of wins right at the end of the season.

Southgate 2	22	19	2	1	96	16	59
Hampstead & W 3	22	19	2	1	77	13	59
Harrow 1	22	12	3	7	60	31	39
Staines 2	22	12	3	7	53	27	39
Winchmore Hill & Enfield 1	22	10	5	7	39	41	35

4th XI

In the same league, the 4's ended in ninth place (continuing the same League table):-

Eastcote 2	22	11	2	9	33	38	35
Ashford 1	22	10	3	9	55	55	33
West Hampstead 2	22	8	4	10	34	46	28
Hampstead & W 4	22	6	2	14	31	48	20
PHC Chiswick 2	22	5	4	13	42	62	19
Hendon & Mill Hill 1	22	2	3	17	22	92	7*
PHC Chiswick 3	22	1	1	20	14	87	4

5th XI

It was a fourth place for the 5's in Division 1 of the Middlesex League, won in comfortable fashion by unbeaten Southgate 3rd XI, who only lost two points throughout and were miserly in defence. The top five places were as follows:-

Southgate 3	22	21	1	0	90	8	64
West Hampstead 3	22	15	1	6	58	28	46
Teddington 3	22	13	4	5	54	26	43
Hampstead & W 5	22	14	1	7	58	31	43
West Hampstead 4	22	12	5	5	45	29	39*

6th XI

It was yet another second place, by just three points for the high scoring Woman's 6's in Middlesex League Division 2, dominated by the top two, where the top five places were:-

OMT Duchesses	22	20	1	1	118	10	61
Hampstead & W 6	22	19	1	2	109	23	58
Eastcote 4	22	11	4	7	41	37	37
Imperial Medical Women 1	22	11	3	8	79	56	36
Ashford 2	22	11	3	8	76	58	36

7th XI

It was seventh position in the Middlesex League Division 3 for the 7's, where the top eight were:

Indian Gymkhana 1	24	21	3	0	114	9	66
PHC Chiswick 5	24	17	5	2	58	16	56
Harrow 2	24	17	4	3	65	15	55
West Hampstead 5	24	15	6	3	84	27	51
British Airways Hayes 2	24	13	4	7	57	38	41*
Ashford 3	24	10	5	9	49	43	35
Hampstead & W 7	24	11	3	10	60	44	34*
Eastcote 5	24	7	2	14	21	64	23

Men's Section

EHL Men's Premier League 2015-16

The season's results were as follows

Reading 1 Hampstead 0
Hampstead 2 Cannock 2
Canterbury 1 Hampstead 2
Hampstead 3 Brooklands 1
Hampstead 2 Wimbledon 2
Surbiton 4 Hampstead 2
East Grinstead 4 Hampstead 1
Hampstead 2 Beeston 1

Holcombe 1 Hampstead 1
 Hampstead 1 Surbiton 4
 Brooklands 3 Hampstead 2
 Hampstead 1 Canterbury 3
 Beeston 3 Hampstead 2
 Hampstead 0 East Grinstead 0
 Hampstead 3 Reading 1
 Wimbledon 1 Hampstead 0
 Cannock 1 Hampstead 2
 Hampstead 0 Holcombe 3

This was a season in which the 70th minute featured disproportionately. Reading scored their winner with the final hit of the game in the season opener. Against League leaders (and eventual League winners) Holcombe, on their pitch in Chatham, Hampstead held their illustriously comprised opponents for 65 minutes and then scored from a rare short corner, converted on the near post by Matt Botha. They held out for a further four minutes for what would have been an unlikely win, only for Holcombe to equalise in the final seconds.



Alex Jakeman celebrates what was the winning goal against Beeston at PRG

Later in the season, Wimbledon scored in the 70th minute for a 1-0 win after heroic defence and especially from Harry Gibson in goal. This was against the most impressive of Hampstead's opponents (in the eyes of Hampstead's coach Michael Johnson) armed with current internationals, but perhaps not to the level of Holcombe.

Hampstead finished the season in their now customary seventh position in the Premier League. With three weeks to go, it had all the appearances of another close run thing, following a number of narrow and frustrating losses, emphasising the fine margins that play a part and the absence of their first choice goalkeeper to Great Britain games and training weekends. The team slipped to ninth that brought the prospect of joining the end of season play-offs, to avoid relegation.

The turning point may well have been the 3-1 defeat of then second placed Reading, who were left to old tactics that Hampstead were savvy enough to counter and win the three valuable points and in part redress the disappointment of the opening game of the season.

This had been preceded by a goalless draw against East Grinstead, when what appeared to be a perfectly valid goal was overturned by the umpire in the other half of the pitch that on later review, with the aid of video evidence, appeared mysterious.

The key game was the penultimate League fixture at Chase Park, Cannock. The home team had experienced a tough season but Hampstead's away wins there have a rarity value the equivalent of hens' teeth.

Cannock won the first corner after a bright opening two minutes from Hampstead who kept the ball and probed the right side of attack. The game had been more evenly contested, when the ball careered off Harry Gibson in the Hampstead goal and was volleyed in at chest height by the advancing Cannock forward for the first half lead and that led to local "chatter" in the stand.

Hampstead improved in the second half and gradually took control. Joel Carroll followed up a parried Hampstead corner and cracked in a shot along the ground at serious pace for the equaliser. Dependable Stuart Loughrey then scored from a short corner for the lead.

The final five minutes were tense. Skipper Toby Roche was shown a yellow card for over ambitious defence and had to sit out the rest of the game. Cannock took their goalkeeper off and threw everything into attack. They were awarded two short corners that the Hampstead defence kept out.

Then a final corner was awarded to Cannock in the notorious 70th minute. The whistle went for the end of the game. The thwack of ball against the back board was not heard and, instead, the ball was blocked and shepherded out to the sideline for the win and to huge relief for Hampstead.

Cannock later slipped to bottom of the League after the final round of games and were relegated. This was a sad moment for a proud club that had enjoyed 27 seasons in the top flight and won nine national titles, along with an impressive presence in European hockey over the years. Cannock is determined to rebuild and are likely to bounce back quickly. So it proved a difficult day for Hampstead's coach Michael Johnson, a former Cannock player himself and for Irish international Stuart Loughrey who had joined Hampstead from Cannock.

Hampstead's defence was the third best in the League from the perspective of conceded goals. The lack of goals scored was again the important factor inhibiting improvement in points won and affecting League position. The introduction of Joel Carroll at Christmas from Australia was very significant, as he replaced Irfan as the team's one permitted international player (that is without EU credentials). Joel has won 122 caps for Australia and has a gold medal from the Commonwealth Games and a bronze Olympic medal from 2012.

Premier League Table

Holcombe	18	13	5	0	57	24	44 pts
Surbiton	18	12	1	5	67	46	37
Reading	18	10	2	6	51	41	32
Wimbledon	18	10	2	6	41	35	32
Brooklands	18	7	4	7	49	46	25
Beeston	18	5	4	9	38	40	19
Hampstead	18	5	4	9	26	36	19
East Grinstead	18	5	3	10	36	50	18
Canterbury	18	5	1	12	32	58	16
Cannock	18	4	2	12	45	66	14



Matt Botha at pace up the right for Hampstead

Representation

Significant representative honours were won by three players during the season. Stuart Loughrey added to his caps for Ireland to more than 60 that frequently saw him travelling back and forth over the Irish Sea and on some occasions managing four games in a week, when shared with his Hampstead appearances.

Forward James Simpson was the proud wearer of a Gold Medal for Great Britain U21 after the final of the Sultan of Johor Cup in Malaysia in October 2015. This followed a penalty shoot-out after a 2-2 draw with India that Great Britain won by 4-3. In the earlier match, Great Britain had defeated India 4-3, James scoring after he had “ghosted between two India defenders to deflect in”. James had preceded this with a third place for England U23 in the Six Nations Tournament in Breda in July 2015. Harry Gibson (mentioned further, *below*) was also playing. This had seen a 4-0 defeat of Belgium, a loss to Germany by 2-3, and three draws, 1-1 with the Netherlands, 3-3 with New Zealand and 1-1 with India. The team then put that last result right with a 3-0 defeat of India for third place.

Goalkeeper Harry Gibson emulated Hampstead’s fellow ‘keeper, Luther Vye, of the 1950’s, by representing Great Britain before playing for England. In three games against Argentina in London in October 2015, he played in two, the wins by 2-1 on 21 October 2015 and then 5-3 on 23 October 2015. He later was a member of the Great Britain Men’s World League Finals II team in Delhi in November 2015, skippered by Dan Fox. He was on hand in the famous 5-2 defeat of Australia, notable for a stunning gloved save in that win from Simon Orchard. Harry tended to share the goalkeeping duties with James Bailey of Wimbledon (each playing one half).

Great Britain defeated Canada 3-1 and Australia 5-2 but drew 3-3 with Belgium and lost 1-2 to India and then 2-4 to Argentina in the 5th/6th play-off.

We must also salute former Men’s 1s skipper, Dan Fox, who not only won his 100th cap for England during the season but captained the GB team in India in December.



James Simpson (left) celebrates the third goal against Brooklands in the home fixture

More Player News

Joel Carroll

As mentioned earlier, Joel joined the H&W ranks in the New Year and was registered with the National League as the team's overseas player for the re-start of the season in February. Joel was a big influence in the Hampstead defence and scored the vital goal at Cannock that led to the precious win in the penultimate game, reported earlier.

Joel is aged 29 and another hoping to attend a second Olympic Games by being elected for Rio. He has recovered from a long term injury to represent Australia once again. He hails from Darwin. His uncle, Joes Daby, was a renowned hockey player and recognised in the list of Australia Indigenous Olympians. Joel played for the local University team before being selected for Australia U21. When aged 15, he represented Northern Territories at U18 and U21 levels. He later moved to Perth (and was introduced to Hampstead by recent returnee, Tom Kavanagh).

In addition to the medals mentioned, Joel has won gold in the Champions Trophy, in 2010 in Monchengladbach and in 2012, in Melbourne.

Men's Reports

Men's 2nd XI

The 2's maintained their wonderful decade of success in the London League Premiership this season but, as efforts were concentrated in the latter part of the season in supporting the Men's 1's, the loss to Canterbury saw their opponents grab the top spot but with a smaller goal difference.

The hope is that the team can now succeed in winning the League play offs and reverse past disappointments on that score. Spare a thought for Indian Gym who managed to lose three deducted points on top of the heavy defeats on the pitch.

					GD	Pts
Canterbury	22	18	2	2	42	56
Hampstead	22	16	2	4	61	50
Wimbledon	22	16	2	4	48	50
Surbiton	22	12	3	7		39
Spencer	22	12	1	9		37
Reading	22	11	1	10		34
Bromley & Beckenham	22	10	3	9		33
East Grinstead	22	9	3	10		27*
Southgate	22	8	2	12		26
Teddington	22	4	4	14		16
Oxted	22	4	1	17		13
Indian Gymkhana	22	0	0	22	-115	-3*

Hampstead 2 Bromley & Beckenham 2
 East Grinstead 1 Hampstead 5
 Hampstead 3 Teddington 0
 Oxted 1 Hampstead 7
 Hampstead 14 Indian Gymkhana 0
 Spencer 2 Hampstead 1
 Hampstead 4 Reading 0
 Southgate 2 Hampstead 3
 Hampstead 3 Wimbledon 1
 Canterbury 2 Hampstead 0
 Hampstead 2 Surbiton 3
 Bromley & Beckenham 2 Hampstead 4
 Hampstead 5 East Grinstead 0
 Teddington 1 Hampstead 3
 Hampstead 5 Oxted 0
 Indian Gymkhana 1 Hampstead 8
 Hampstead 7 Spencer 1
 Reading 0 Hampstead 3
 Hampstead 4 Southgate 3
 Wimbledon 1 Hampstead 1
 Hampstead 1 Canterbury 2
 Surbiton 4 Hampstead 5

Men's 3rd XI

The 3's were runners up, on goal difference, to St Albans 2nd XI in London League Division 1 that was won by Richmond 2nd XI.

Richmond 2	22	15	2	5	47
Hampstead 3	22	12	4	6	40
St Albans 2	22	13	1	8	40
London Wayfarers 2	22	10	8	4	38
Spencer 3	22	11	4	7	37
Hampstead Zak Hond	22	10	3	9	33
Reading 2A	22	9	3	10	30
Tulse Hill & Dulwich	22	7	7	8	28
Guildford 2	22	6	8	8	26
Wimbledon 3	22	6	6	10	24
Oxford University 2	22	3	7	12	16
Old Loughtonians 2	22	2	3	17	9

Men's Zak Hond XI

As the League table confirms above, the Zaks ended in sixth position, confronting the second ranked teams of some of the leading London League clubs. They won 10 and lost nine, with three draws. The number of goals scored was matched by those conceded.

Men's 5th XI

The 5th XI and 6th XI compete in the London League Division 3. The 5's were sixth place, after nine wins and eleven losses, with two draws. The league was won by Old Georgians 2nd XI, four points ahead of...

Men's 6th XI

...who were second after their full round of league games - but by some margin from PHC Chiswick 2's.

Old Georgians 2	22	19	1	2	55
Hampstead 6	22	16	3	3	51
PHC Chiswick 2	22	13	3	5	42
Bromley & Beckenham 4	22	11	4	7	37
London Wayfarers Vikings	22	11	3	8	36
Hampstead 5	22	9	2	11	29
Reading Refills	22	8	2	12	26
Southgate 4	22	7	4	11	25
Kings Alleyns 2	22	5	6	11	21
Richmond Lions	22	6	5	11	20*
Richmond Griffins	22	6	1	15	19
Wimbledon 4	22	2	4	16	10

Men's Hammers XI

It was a fourth spot for the Hammers in London League Division 5 that was won by Imperial Medicals HRT team, who were unbeaten but drew three for 48 points. Old Loughtonians 4 had to withdraw from the League and the results against them are expunged. The top five places are:-

Imperial Medicals HRT	18	15	3	0	48
Kings Alleyns 4	18	13	1	4	40
London Academicals 2	18	12	2	4	38
Hampstead Hammers	18	9	2	7	29
London Wayfarers Pirates	18	6	3	9	21

Men's Spaniards XI

The Spaniards ended in fifth place in London League Division 6, after five wins, three draws and six losses.

London Edwardians 4	14	12	1	1	37
London Wayfarers Outlaws	14	9	1	4	27*
Indian Gymkhana 4	14	8	3	3	26*
HAC Sutlers	14	7	2	5	23
Hampstead Spaniards	14	5	3	6	18
Richmond Deerstalkers	14	4	1	9	13
PHC Chiswick 4	14	2	2	10	8
PHC Chiswick 5	14	1	3	10	6

Men's Thirsts XI

The Thirsts were third in a truncated London League Division 7. Another casualty was Tulse Hill Dulwich Aztecs, whose results were also discounted completely in compiling the table

Clapham Common	10	9	1	0	28
Slough 2	10	6	1	3	19
Hampstead Thirsts	10	6	0	4	18
Barnes Accidentals	10	4	1	5	13
London Royals	10	2	1	7	7
Richmond Redoubtables	10	1	0	9	3
Tulse Hill Dulwich Aztecs	0	0	0	0	0

Men's Vets XI

A concentrated effort saw the Vets XI stave off the threat of possible relegation from Division 1 of the London League Vets Division, with a strong showing at the end of the season, overall winning nine, drawing once and losing 12, for 28 league points.

With one match still to be played (on 9 April) to end the season, the League was won by Reading, who have 52 points, followed by Old Georgians Fire and East Grinstead, who are to play Teddington. EG have the same number of points as Eastcote in fourth, who have played all their games but suffered one more loss, so far.

Maidenhead 2 Hampstead 1
Hampstead 2 East Grinstead 2
Teddington 3 Hampstead 1
Hampstead 5 Oxted 1
Eastcote 7 Hampstead 5
Hampstead 1 Dulwich/Tulse Hill 4
Reading 8 Hampstead 3
Hampstead 5 Southgate 2
Old Georgians 3 Hampstead 1
Hampstead 3 Richmond 2
Surbiton 10 Hampstead 1
Hampstead 2 Maidenhead 3
East Grinstead 5 Hampstead 0
Hampstead 5 Teddington 2
Oxted 3 Hampstead 4
Hampstead 8 Eastcote 1
Tulse Hill/Dulwich 3 Hampstead 1
Hampstead 1 Reading 3
Southgate 1 Hampstead 5
Hampstead 5 Old Georgians 0
Richmond 1 Hampstead 5
Hampstead 2 Surbiton 1

Men's Supervets XI

The Supervets were in seventh place in the London League Supervets Division 1 when going to print, with matches still to be played in April, the final game scheduled for 23 April 2016 against Indian Gym Tigers. Of their 12 games played, the Supervets had won three, drawn four and lost five.

The League was led by Spencer on 31 points (having played 14) St Albans on 29 (having also played 14) followed by Indian Gym Tigers on 24 points (having played only 11).

[EuroHockey Nations Seniors](#)

Chris Somes-Charlton had requested details of the various senior cup competitions that accompanied the EuroHockey Championships of last summer. Better late than never is all we can say. Especially as some of the teams will have already returned from the next competition in Australia and others will be packing their bags for departure as this Newsletter is distributed...

The EuroHockey Masters Championships featured 92 teams in the various competitions, namely the EuroHockey Women's Masters 40+, 45+, 50+ and 55+ Cups, the EuroHockey Women's Grand Masters 60+ Cup, the EuroHockey Men's Masters 40+, 45+, 50+ and 55+ Cups, the EuroHockey Men's Grand Masters 60+, 65+, 70+ 75+ Cups and the EuroHockey Men's Grand Masters 60+, 65+, 70+ Tournament Trophies.

The Tournament Trophy events featured the European nations' second teams and teams from outside Europe, as well. All of the tournaments were run under the auspices of the International

Masters Hockey Association, IMHA (Over 40s to Over 55s) and World Grand Masters Hockey Association, WGMA (Over 60s to Over 75s).

Over 40

The Men's Master's Over 40 Cup competition was held at St Albans Hockey Club between 22 and 28 August 2015. In Pool 1, England headed the group with maximum points. Germany were second with 6 points and Ireland managed one point, with Italy pipping the Welsh on goal difference. In Pool 2, the Netherlands topped the group with maximum points and a goal difference of 13. Ireland Scotland and Spain each won once and had to be split on goal difference. In the final, the Netherlands defeated England 4-1 and then Ireland beat Germany 2-1.

Former Hampstead players Mark Crowley and George Bretten were selected for England. Mark scored two goals and George managed one. Each played in five games. (Top scorer for England was Paul Livesey, with four.) Bobby Boghal represented Scotland and scored one goal in his first appearances.

Over 45

The Men's Masters Over 45 competition was also convened at St. Albans. Pool 1 was won by the Netherlands, followed by Germany, Scotland and France. Pool 2 winners were Spain, who won all three matches. England were second, then Wales and Italy.

The final was won by Germany, who defeated the Netherlands by a score of 3-1. Spain beat England into third place after a 3-2 win in their play-off. Scotland beat Wales 9-0, to clinch 7th place.

Hampstead's Ian Hammond represented England and participated in the shootout in the semi-finals against the Netherlands after a 1-1 draw. Ian also scored in the 5-0 defeat of Wales on 23 August 2015. Steve Menzies, who had coached the H&W women's 1st XI to their league success, represented Scotland and converted three penalty corners against Germany (that was lost 3-1) France (in 1-1 draw) and in the 9-0 defeat of Wales.

Over 50

The Men's Over 50 Cup was won by Germany, who beat England in the final by a single goal. The Netherlands were third, after their 5-0 defeat of Italy. In the preceding pool matches, England were on top after three wins, followed by Netherlands, Scotland and France, who failed to earn any points. Germany headed Pool 2, also with maximum points and a superior goal difference of one over England in Pool 1. Italy won twice and ended in second place. Spain were third and Wales fourth, without a win.

Over 55

In the Men's Over 55 cup competition, the pools were larger. England headed Pool 1, with five wins out of five and a goal difference of 22. They were followed by the Netherlands, Scotland, Italy, Germany and Wales.

Over 60

The Men's Grand Masters' Over 60 Cup competition was held at Southgate Hockey Club, also between 22 and 28 August 2015. After the pool matches the standings were:

England
Netherlands
Spain
Scotland
Ireland
Germany
Belgium
Wales
France
Italy

England defeated the Netherlands in the final by 2-1 in the shootout, clinched by Henry Robinson, having drawn 1-1 in ordinary time. Spain defeated Scotland 3-0, Ireland beat Germany 2-0 and Belgium won 5-3 in their game against Wales. The competitions did see some high scoring, for example Ireland's 15-0 defeat of Italy, England's 11-0 win against the same opponents, Spain, too, having also scored seven without reply by the Italians. England did not concede a goal until the final and the 1-1 draw against the Netherlands.

Former Hampstead 1st XI skipper Dave Dixon appeared for England (but as modestly as ever).

Over 65

The Men's Grand Master's Over 65 Cup was also contested at Southgate HC. It was won by England, with Germany in second place, the Netherlands in third, followed by Wales, Italy and finally Belgium.

Hampstead's Richard Chapman played in all the games for Wales and against Germany scored from a penalty corner in the 65th minute.

Over 65 Trophy

The Grand Masters Over 65 Tournament Trophy featured an LX Red and LX White team from England, a Netherlands A and B and an antipodean Southern Cross XI, with an Alliance XI. The trophy was won by England LX Red, with Netherlands A in second place., England LX White were third, Southern Cross next, followed by the Alliance XI and Netherlands B.

England LX Red won all their matches (including a 2-0 defeat of the LX White) bar the last, which ended in a 1-1 draw against Southern Cross. England LX White managed to defeat Southern Cross 2-1 but lost to England LX Red and drew 0-0 with Netherlands B and 1-1 with Netherlands A.

Hampstead's former player Mike Patton represented England LX White and played in all five games, with four starts. Goalkeeper John Ingram-Marriot played for the Alliance and started in their five matches.

Over 70

The Men's Masters Over 70 Cup was taken by the Netherlands, following a 1-1 draw with England, won on a shootout by 2-1. Scotland were third and Germany fourth. England had earlier defeated Germany 9-0 and drew 1-1 with Holland. England scored eight unanswered goals against Scotland and then beat them 2-1 in the semi-final. Scotland recovered to defeat Germany 2-1 in the 3/4th play off.

Hampstead's Rod Cochrane played for England and scored penalty corner goals in the games against Germany and Scotland in the pool matches. He also had to suffer the trauma of the shootout in the final that the Dutch won 2-1.

Over 70 Trophy

In the Grand Masters Over 70 Tournament Trophy, Southern Cross finished in first place, followed by England LX after a 1-0 win in the final. The Alliance team and the Netherlands were third and fourth respectively.

Women's Over 40

In the Women's Masters Over 40 Cup, at Old Loughtonains Hockey Club, Pool 1 was won by England, followed by Spain, Wales and Italy. The Netherlands headed three teams in Pool 2, followed by Ireland and Scotland. The final was won by the Dutch by 5-3. Ireland took third place after a 4-0 defeat of Spain and Scotland beat Wales 4-0 to take fifth place.

Women's Over 45

The Over 45 Women's Master Cup was won by England, with three wins out of four. The Netherlands were second, in spite of a 4-0 defeat of England and Ireland were third.

Women's Over 50

England were successful, too, in the Women's Over 50 Cup, having beaten Ireland 3-0 in the final. The Netherlands defeated Scotland 4-1 to take third spot. This was after Ireland had pipped England in the pool matches, having been undefeated but scoring three fewer goals.

Women's Over 55 & 60

There were three teams in the Women's Over 55 Cup. England beat the Netherlands 4-0 to take the cup, being unbeaten. England won all four matches in the Women's Over 60 Cup, with a goal difference of 18, without having conceded a goal.

Kettner's

Kettner's at 29 Romilly Street London W1 features prominently in the entertainment annals of Hampstead and Westminster Hockey Club.

It was therefore with much regret that it was learned that the restaurant was to close in January 2016. This was to allow for redevelopment that, by several accounts, was unlikely to return it to what it was and, in particular, its upper storey rooms, in which many early season Newcomers' Welcome Drinks events were convened by the Club, thanks to the generosity of the owner and Club President at the time, Peter Boizot MBE.

It was also used for fortnightly Monday selection meetings and for the preparation and copying of team sheets, still then sent out by post, generously, again, the club being provided the office facilities of Peter's businesses housed there. The Men's 1st XI coach, Greg Carr carried out his responsibilities for PizzaExpress and Peroni beer and in promoting the hockey club to schools from Kettner's. When Peter acquired *Hockey News* the magazine was also run from Kettner's. It became the place to be able to meet Peter and to conduct important club business.

Kettner's was opened in 1867 by Auguste Kettner, the chef to Napoleon III. Originally comprising four Georgian townhouses, it was one of the first French restaurants in London and commonly regarded as exceptional in the quality of its food.

It also soon became associated with Lily Langtry. She was celebrated as a young woman of beauty and charm, who later established a reputation as an actress and producer. Her looks and personality attracted interest, commentary, and invitations from artists and society hostesses.

In 1877 the Prince of Wales, Albert Edward or Bertie, later King Edward VII, arranged to sit next to Lily Langtry at a dinner party given by Sir Allen Young. Although the Prince was married to Princess Alexandra and had six children, he was a well-known philanderer. He became infatuated with Lily Langtry and she soon became his semi-official mistress. She was later presented to the Prince's mother, Queen Victoria. Eventually, a cordial relationship is said to have developed between Lily and Princess Alexandra.

The affair lasted from late 1877 to June 1880. It was widely accepted that the Prince courted Lily Langtry at Kettner's, although this was not regarded as an exclusive venue for their liaisons. Nonetheless, it was reported that a secret tunnel was commissioned, to be built between Kettner's and the Palace Theatre, where Lily Langtry performed. Rumour was that the tunnel was used to facilitate clandestine rendez-vous during intermissions.

By 1881, Lily had become an actress and starred in many plays, including *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Lady of Lyons*, and *As You Like It*, eventually running her own stage production company. In later life, she performed "dramatic sketches" in vaudeville. She became known for her relationships with noblemen, including, as well as the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Prince Louis of Battenberg. She was the subject of widespread public and media interest.

Oscar Wilde was another prominent guest and regarded Kettner's as his venue of choice.

In the twentieth century, Kettner's remained open during both World Wars and survived the Blitz of the 1940's. Agatha Christie and Bing Crosby became regulars. This generated a growing fashionable crowd who frequented it. It gained a reputation as an establishment for an affair! The Cocktail and Champagne Bar had an enormous range, with in excess of 100 champagnes on offer.

In 1980 Peter Boizot acquired Kettner's from Paul Raymond, the well-known owner of substantial parts of Soho. Peter said that Paul was a good friend of his and told Peter that he was tired of running Kettner's and asked if Peter was interested in talking it over? Peter was staggered by the suggestion and the opportunity it gave rise to. He grasped it without hesitation.

Peter regarded Kettner's as "a restaurant of great splendour, garnished to the rafters with remarkable trinkets" but saw that it had "fallen into disarray in recent years". Despite "its undoubted quality, it had sadly become a bit run down." Peter said that the thought of Kettner's "becoming somewhere that a waiter dressed as a pirate served you the daily *buy one get one free* cheeseburger specials filled us both with repulsion."

Thus, Peter agreed to buy Kettner's for what he described as a "modest fee" and decided to retain it as it was, rather than absorb it into PizzaExpress "out of respect for Paul's hatred of chains". It was therefore acquired under newly formed Peter Boizot Franchise Limited that was independent of PizzaExpress.

However much of Peter's experience with PizzaExpress found its way into the day to day running of Kettner's. The basic idea was to serve *downmarket* food with *upmarket* drinks, that is, Pizza and Champagne. Peter's hunch was that being in the heart of Soho, surrounded by the film, music and television businesses, with the curiosity that a creative mind possesses, there would be a welcome for the purposeful contrast in cheap food and expensive drinks.

The wood-panelled reception area was retained with a door installed to the left with a completely refitted Champagne Bar that encroached on one half of the mirrored gold red and cream coloured dining room that housed a painting of Auguste Kettner.

The restaurant opened on a strict *no-booking* policy, Peter's aim being to make it a place at which people were happy to queue whilst waiting to enter.

Chandeliers were installed with laurel wreaths attached to the walls. There were 100 tables, including seats on pink banquettes that stretched around the walls in a style similar to the first PizzaExpress layout. Long tables were placed in rows in the centre of the room to seat 16, to accommodate a birthday party.

The second and third floors were painted in duck egg blue and silver.

The opening night was held on a Friday and despite a good number of celebrities in attendance in the presence of the *paparazzi*, Peter was disappointed that not a single photograph appeared in the national press next day.

However, on Sunday Kettner's featured in all the gossip pages. On being pressed by Peter, a photographer admitted that he and his peers had ditched their equipment in the cloakroom and retreated to the Champagne Bar, where they made a pact not to sell their photographs until the next afternoon so that they could enjoy a Friday evening and early Saturday morning.

Kettner's quickly became a popular spot for celebrities in central London. One high profile customer was Lady Diana Spencer, who attended with Princess Anne, a regular customer, in the winter before her marriage to Prince Charles.

Whilst sitting in the Champagne Bar with a group from Hampstead Hockey Club (as it then was) Peter recalled "an almighty cacophony in the hallway" and on investigating, standing there was none other than Marlon Brando. But he was soon ushered out before an introduction could be

effected. In Peter's eyes, this merely emphasised that Kettner's "had a magnetic pull on celebrities".

PizzaExpress had started to supply the restaurant at the outset. Kettner's served a similar but extended menu, with large, more luxurious pizzas at slightly higher prices. It became the first restaurant in the PizzaExpress group to serve dough balls, not a product that Peter had initially regarded with great enthusiasm.

In 2002, PizzaExpress, then no longer owned by Peter, acquired Kettner's for £1.95m and it became fully incorporated in the PizzaExpress group. A new first floor Champagne Bar was launched. In 2008, the restaurant was refurbished and became a French brasserie, described by food critic, Jay Rayner, as "an act bordering on vandalism". It was still popular but to many did not enjoy the same caché it once enjoyed.

In 2015, Kettner's was acquired by Soho Home & Co. The buyers run the Dean Street Townhouse and Pizza East, as well as a number of private members' clubs. Its proposals for Kettner's include other adjacent land and buildings comprising 15 townhouses, of which 11 are listed. The buyer intends to create a Kettner's Townhouse, with a high quality restaurant and the reinstatement of the Champagne Bar. Included, too, is the refurbishment of the external vertical sign naming the restaurant on the corner of Romilly Street and Greek Street contained in the listing.

Stan Elgar

A question arose a few months back, asking, who was Stan Elgar?

Space available will hardly allow us to do justice to the response. Stan joined Hampstead Hockey Club and was elected a member on 3 October 1955. As the rather grainy photographs *below* confirm, as a player, he was a goalkeeper. He played for the 1's and 2's. In 1958 Stan was selected for the 1st XI against Hounslow and what was called the *Hounslow's scoring machine* "was checked for the second year in succession by Hampstead, who held them to a 1-1 draw at Boston Manor on Saturday. This was the first hockey match Hounslow had failed to win this season. In the first ten minutes, three or four shots were well saved by Elgar in the Hampstead goal and, all in all, he was about the only player to emerge with any credit from the game"

Later, Stan played for virtually every team including the Vets, joining Peter Boizot and Guy Mayers. Stan skipped the 2nd XI in 1961 and the Vets in 1986. At the latter year's AGM he reported that results had not been as good as in previous years and there had been a large number of injuries. He thanked everyone, particularly Dick Cresswell, for their work so far for the Vets' World Cup and urged everyone to come and see some good hockey. The Chairman thanked Stan for his leadership of the Vets and mentioned the good impression of the Club given by the Vets' team

Stan had become the Club's Treasurer in 1958 and held the post for four years. Stan went on to be President of the Club at the time it officially joined the Hornsey Club under an arrangement that prevented the separate appointment of a president by the hockey section, thereby abbreviating the usual three year stint commanded by that post. In 1982 Stan was a prime mover in what was a second attempt by the Club to negotiate the prospect of Hampstead playing hockey on the grass at Lord's. This was by means of an approach to the then Secretary of MCC, Jack Bailey. Stan also undertook negotiations for the possible joinder of Hampstead Hockey Club with West Hampstead Cricket Club in the early 1980's after long term discontent over the playing surfaces at Hornsey had arisen once again.

Stan was also the primary organiser of the Club's centenary celebrations at the Hurlingham Club in 1994. He donated the Sam Taylor Memorial Award, a silver plate, currently held by Peter Boizot, for exceptional service to the Club that was awarded in memory of the Men's 1st team manager during the first two seasons in the National League. Jenny Taylor (as she then was) collected the Award on its very first presentation.

1955-56



WIMBORNE II v. HAMPSHIRE II

S.N. Edgar (G.), A.F. Wickham (C.) and B.J. Whitlock (A.)

S. Edgar in goal crouches low as he prepares to meet an attack endangering Hampshire's goal. In front, B. Wickham dives to tackle with outstretched stick.



Team XI

Back Row: L.R. G.W. Smith, S.N. Edgar, B.F. French, J.T. Searley (G.), P.M. Brown, D.J. Oakley, L.A. Allchurch,

Front Row: A.F. Wickham, D.B.W. Gysdorn, G.R. Porter, I. Suter, P.H. Matthews

Stan also provided a replacement for the Barnard Cup, first donated to the Club in 1937 by Laurie Barnard, in memory of his wife. This disappeared in mysterious circumstances one evening after being on show at the Carlton Tavern and is now presumed to have been stolen.

Stan later became the chairman of the Associate Members of the Hockey Association until it was disbanded. He had thereby become a useful source of hockey intelligence for the Club. Sadly Stan died in 2007. He lived in Stock in Essex. As with Peter Boizot, it was rare not to see Stan on hockey business without wearing his Hampstead club tie.

From yesteryear

60 years ago

From the Manchester Guardian edition of 15 March 1956

The changing fortunes of one of London's oldest hockey clubs came to light recently when a former secretary of Hampstead discovered the earliest records, which had long since been considered lost.

These show that the club was started in 1890 as a section of the Hampstead Cricket Club at Lymington Road and joined the Hockey Association in 1893. During the following year, the ground at Hampstead proved too wet and a new ground was found at Acton. Unfortunately this ground was not satisfactory and in 1895-6 a move was made to the Richmond Athletic Ground and the club played there until the outbreak of war in 1939.

In the early days many well-known Hampstead and Middlesex Cricketers were associated with the club. The most famous of these were A E Stoddart, an international cricketer and rugby footballer, H D Hayman, S S Pawling, E L Marsden, F W Orr, and F R D Munro.

The earliest fixtures were with Staines and Ealing and these were followed by games against Bromley, Tulse Hill, Teddington and Southgate in 1894. In the days of Staines's supremacy, Hampstead became their great rivals and defeated them in the season of 1901-2. From that match Staines remained unbeaten until December 1905, when Hampstead won again.

In 1899 S H Shoveller, who won 29 caps for England joined the club and the succeeding 10 years were the most glorious in its history. In 1903-4 only one match was lost and in 1907-8 and 1910-11 Hampstead was undefeated by any other London club. In 1910-11 there were five English internationals in the side: G R Ashton, J H Bennett, C H Eiloart, Shoveller, and G Logan. J H Bennett, who was secretary from 1919 to 1924 won 31 caps for England. In 1920, Hampstead achieved the record of having four¹ representatives who won gold medals in the Olympic Games at Antwerp. Shoveller (who had with Logan played for England in the 1908 Olympic Games' final) Bennett, C S W Marcon and C T A Wilkinson.

Almost every member of the club was engaged in some form of active service during the Second World War. Though an attempt was made to continue by amalgamating with Teddington, hockey had to be abandoned for the 1940-44 seasons. During the war it was not possible to rent the ground at Richmond and at the beginning of the 1945-6 season, Hampstead were without a home.

In an endeavour to keep together and eventually re-form the club, a number of members joined Purley Hockey Club and in fact in the 1946-7 season R L Milsted and J C Sankey were captains of the Purley first and second elevens respectively.

These two players, together with S J Saunders, were instrumental in re-forming the club in the 1950-51 season at the old home in Lymington Road. From one team, amid innumerable

¹ In fact, it was three: C S W Marcon joined Hampstead after the Olympic Games

difficulties, the club expanded and for the 1954-55 season moved to the Brondesbury Cricket Ground at Harman Drive, Farm Avenue, Cricklewood. The move to Brondesbury was necessitated by the old trouble of wet ground at Lymington Road.

A number of members have given invaluable service to the game off the field and these include Bennett, Shoveller and Wilkinson, Vice Presidents of the Hockey Association and K H Ingledew, late Secretary of the British Hockey Board and international umpire. R L Milsted was for many years treasurer of the Southern Counties Hockey Association and is now vice-president.

Now in 1955-6, Hampstead members can reflect with pride on the achievement of their predecessors. The club is most grateful to its pre-war opponents for restoring old fixtures, and this has been justified by the impressive record so far this season. With five teams in the field each week the results to the end of January were:

1 st XI	15	12	0	3	57	18
2 nd XI	15	10	1	4	41	26
3 rd XI	15	10	1	4	52	26
4 th A XI	15	10	1	4	61	34
4 th B XI	14	8	1	5	34	27

55 years ago

The AGM was held at 33 Grosvenor Place, London SW1 on Friday 6 April 1961.

Finance

The Treasurer [E J Thatcher] reported that subscription income had reached a new peak at £277² and that there had been a net surplus for the year of £51. He pointed out, however, that the accounts again contained several special items, some of which would not recur and others on which we should not depend, namely (a) a rebate on rent for the 1960/61 season of £11 (b) subscriptions paid in arrear for the 1960/61 season of £8 (c) profits from the *Grand Fund* dances - £32 and (d), in particular, donations from the President, Vice-Presidents and other old members - £36. Bearing these special items in mind, he thought the surplus was no larger than it should be.

Subscriptions

The General Committee had proposed in view of

- A rent increase to the Horney Club of £25 per season
- The likelihood of having to find and pay for a 5th XI pitch; and
- The charge of £15 approximately to the club funds for entertaining guests at the Annual Dinner,

that the Full Subscription be increased from 4 guineas to 5 guineas; and
that the Junior Subscription be increased from 2 guineas to 2½ guineas.

Captain's Report

Mr J Griffiths, the captain of the 1st XI, reported that though it had not been a great season by any means, it had been encouraging in several ways. The mole drainage installed at Hornsey had proved effective, the results, particularly for the 1st XI, had very much improved in the second half of the season and a 5th XI had been run consistently after the new year.

He mentioned international and county honours gained during the season: W N Livingstone (Scottish captain) J F A Deegan (England) and F C Welles (Scotland), J R Matthews-Lane (final Welsh trial) P D Bell (Buckinghamshire) D Austin-James (Middlesex) and A Stranger (Hampshire) as well as several other appearances for the Middlesex A sides.

The President then presented the Barnard Cup to Mr Griffiths as the captain of the XI with the best playing record for the season.

Other Business

² The equivalent today of £4,310

The Treasurer suggested that in an effort to lessen the burden of the cost of club shirts the club might care to consider simplifying the design stipulated in the Rules. The general feeling was against this step and it was agreed that the General Committee should investigate other methods of making the initial purchase easier for new members, particularly younger ones.

50 years ago

The AGM was held at the RNVR Club, 38 Hill Street, London W1, on Friday 1 April 1966.

Messrs H F Wickham (Vice President) and P G Mayers (Treasurer) attended the bar before the meeting but were unable to stay. Other highlights included:-

Accounts

The Secretary [Colin Greenhalgh] presented the accounts in the absence of the Treasurer. Subscription income had reached another peak at £396³. The new match fees had raised £96 and donations had increased as much as to £62, thanks to the generosity of Messrs Bierum, Cummins and Parker, especially and other Vice-Presidents and Hon. Members. As a result, there was only a deficit of £18 on the season, despite the £200 increase in rental and capital payment to the Hornsey Club and other increased expenses. The meeting passed a particularly hearty vote of thanks to the Treasurer for his imaginative efforts during the difficult financial year.

Captain's Report

Mr Yeger (1st XI vice-captain) presented the Captain's Report on behalf of Mr Conway. The season's results had been as follows:

1 st XI	19	6	4	9	19	22
2 nd XI	18	3	6	9	22	33
3 rd XI	18	7	6	5	39	34
4 th XI	17	8	3	6	34	21
5 th XI	16	7	4	5	49	24
6 th XI	8	2	1	5	15	20

The Barnard Cup had been won by the 5th XI with the narrowest possible margin over the 4th XI and the 3rd XI and the three XI's were to be congratulated on very good results from November to the end of the season. Mr Tom was to be thanked for his efforts on behalf of the 6th XI. The 1st XI, after a very good start, had had a very disappointing second half to the season and the number of goals scored was particularly regrettable.

He wished to mention Messrs Seaker and Jamieson for their consistently good play and noted the following representative honours; J P S Jamieson (England U23 and Essex) D A T McCammon (GB trial and Wiltshire) A L Stranger, S T P Lunn and R G Williams (Middlesex) and other appearances for Middlesex A.

Mr Yeger mentioned the value of training evenings throughout the season and after a long discussion, it was agreed to investigate the possible venues seriously during the summer.

Officers

Mr R J Potter was elected President for the 1966-69 seasons. Mr Brooks expressed the club's gratitude to Mr Sankey, the retiring President, for all his efforts during his term and over all his years for the club.

Other Business

A long discussion on the club's lack of social activities resulted in no clear-cut decisions but a general feeling that things like a regular training night might promote the sort of fellowship which was necessary for other functions to be successful and that the Committee should proceed with its plans for a function along the lines of a wine and cheese party with dance.

³ £6,850 in current values

The meeting concluded with the recruitment of a working party under the new Match Secretary⁴ to remove the tip at the Hornsey Club necessary for extending the second pitch.

[15 years ago](#)

Award Winners for the 2000-1 season.

Barnard Cup

(Best Playing Record in the Club)
Veterans' XI

Woodpecker Tankard

(for long service to the Club)
Helen Burn
Rob Critchlow

Greg & Tracy Carr Cup

(Best Women's Player)
Nicki Chennels

Nick & Sally Openshaw Cup

(Most Improved Women's Player)
Rachel Dugdale

Dave Dixon Cup

(Best Men's Player)
Andrew von Mayer

Jeff Gibson Cup

(Most Improved Men's Player)
Matt Hetherington

Women's Goldensticks Trophy

(Leading Women's Goalscorer)
Sam Hughes

Men's Goldensticks Trophy

(Leading Men's Goalscorer)
Duncan Bendall

Sankey Siffleurs

(Umpiring Services)
Oz Rankin

Third Half Jug

(largest social contribution to the Club)
Men's 1st XI

[Final Minute dot com](#)

News from Canberra on the 2016 FIH Masters World Cup is that Australia came top in the Over 40 division, with England second and New Zealand third. These same standing were repeated in the Over 45 division (of five competing teams). In the Over 50 competition, England overcame Australia to top spot, leaving the Australians in second and New Zealand again in third. England edged Australia in the Over 55 competition, with Scotland taking third place.

All senior eyes will now on Newcastle, New South Wales, where the 2016 Grand Masters Hockey World Cup will be played between 2 and 13 May, with more than 800 players, 25 umpires, 25 officials, 30 medical personnel, 43 managers and supporters from over 16 countries

[Next edition](#)

This will aim to cover developments over the summer and to look forward to the start of the 2016-17 season. If you have any news or comment, please direct it to mail@velwell.eclipse.co.uk.

⁴ Robin Henderson