

## Hampstead & Westminster Hockey Club

Newsletter April 2023

*Keeping Vice Presidents and Friends in the know*

### Welcome

This is the thirty eighth Newsletter in the current format. It covers the conclusion of the 2022-23 season, including the Women's 1<sup>st</sup> XI adventures in European competition and success at national level for two of the Club's youth teams, as well as a debut in the Men's Great Britain team in New Zealand in the FIH Pro League competition.

In further tabloid highlights (and in no particular order) are:

- The Boys Under 14 win the national Boys U14 Tier 2 Cup at Nottingham
- The Boys Under 16 narrowly miss out in a sudden death shoot out in the final of the national Boys U16 Supra League, also at Nottingham
- The Women's 1<sup>st</sup> XI win a bronze medal in the European Trophy Tournament in Switzerland
- James Oates makes his debut for Great Britain in a competitive match and scores the team's second goal in a win against New Zealand in Christchurch
- Four Club players uniquely appear in the Great Britain Men's team for the match against New Zealand and combine for three of the side's five goals
- Three Club players appear for Great Britain in the corresponding Women's tournament
- The Women's 1<sup>st</sup> XI win third place at the Premier Division finals at Surbiton
- The Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI secure fifth place in the Premier Division following the various play-off matches
- The Women's 2<sup>nd</sup> XI finish in third place in the National League's East Conference
- The Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> XI maintain their place in the East Conference after a difficult season
- Simon Letchford resigns as coach of the Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI
- The Women's 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> XIs win their respective Divisions in the London Area
- Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI's captain Sam French's goals put him third of the Premier Division's list of leading goalscorers
- The mystery of Hampstead hockey first having been played in 1874 may be resolved

### Youth Success

#### *Tier 2 Cup Final*



U14 Boys Draper met North Norfolk in the National Final of the England Hockey Tier 2 Cup competition on 23 April 2023. Despite dominating from the start, the team took their time to get on the scoresheet. North Norfolk responded with some strong counter attacks and the score at half

time was 3-2 to Hampstead. The boys put in a great effort and took a strong lead in the second half, taking the gold medal with a 6-2 victory.

Captain Lewis Papworth led from the front with two goals in the 51<sup>st</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> minutes. Earlier Jack Fadel had opened the scoring in the 14<sup>th</sup> minute, to be pegged back two minutes later. Sammy Michel made it two in the 22<sup>nd</sup> minute and Philipp Heinlein added another after 34 minutes, which was also when North Norfolk scored their second, both their goals coming from Luca Newbury. In the second half, Prasad Sahil scored between his captain's goals in the 63<sup>rd</sup> minute. As Tier 2 league winners, the team's season will end on Sunday, 21 May 2023 at the League Finals, where they will be looking for a second medal. In the Tier 1 Cup Final, Belper U14 Boys beat Wimbledon U14 Boys 4-1.

### ***Tier 2 Supra League***

U16 Boys Shipperley competed at National Finals in Nottingham, having won their Tier 1 Supra League this season. On Saturday morning they faced Old Loughtonians and were disappointed with a 1-2 loss. They picked themselves up for the second match in the afternoon against Cheltenham and won 4-1. The crowd and subs' bench were eagerly keeping an eye on the adjacent pitch where Old Loughtonians lost to Brooklands, meaning that the top group spot was still within reach.



With some rest and recovery, a group stretch session, foam rollers, pizza and a bit of GCSE revision, the boys came out fighting on Sunday morning. In wet conditions they dominated their match against Brooklands, finishing with a 6-2 win. Cheltenham beat Old Loughtonians that placed Hampstead at the top of their pool, with six points.

The team then met Trojans in the final, playing for the National Championship title. Trojans had won all their pool matches, topping their table, with Cambridge City in second, Guildford in third, followed by Harrogate. Hampstead were aware that they needed to leave nothing behind on the pitch. The match was *end to end* with the score remained tight throughout.

Both teams were locked in a 3-3 stalemate at the end of the regulation time, courtesy of goals for Trojans from Sam Hargreaves in the tenth and 36<sup>th</sup> minutes and Draysey Kaden in the 39<sup>th</sup>. Captain Max Griffiths scored for Hampstead in the 15<sup>th</sup> minute, with Freddy Pettifer adding the second three minutes later. Max then scored Hampstead's third in the 48<sup>th</sup> minute. The U14 Boys had arrived in

time to add some volume in the crowd and encourage the equaliser, scored just before the final whistle.

In the shootout, the score was 3-3 after five rounds. It therefore went to *sudden death* when Trojans came out on top. Kaden converted his attempt and the Trojans' goalkeeper Archie Chapman-Sheath stood tall to thwart Lucas Smart from scoring.

The final standings were (1) Trojans (2) Hampstead & Westminster (3) Cambridge City (4) Cheltenham (5) Guildford (6) Brooklands MU (7) Harrogate and (8) Old Loughtonians.

In other competitions:

U18 Boys Tier 1 Cup Final, Repton beat Old Loughtonians 3-1.

U18 Boys Tier 1 Plate Final, Sutton Coldfield beat Reading 3-2.

U18 Boys Tier 2 Cup Final, North Stafford beat Eastbourne 4-2.

U18 Boys Tier 2 Plate Final, Leeds beat Wycombe A 8-2.

U16 Boys Tier 1 Cup Final, Trojans beat Guildford 5-2.

U16 Boys Tier 1 Plate Final, Old Georgians Dragons beat Cheltenham 3-2.

U16 Boys Tier 2 Cup Final, Bromley and Beckenham HC beat Ashby 7-1.

U16 Boys Tier 2 Plate Final, Manx beat Hampton in Arden 6-1.

## **European Action**

### *EuroHockey Club Trophy 2023*

On Wednesday 5 April 2023, the Women's 1s travelled to Zurich to represent England in the EuroHockey Club Trophy, the second time this has occurred for England. The tournament took place over the Easter weekend and the teams faced a full schedule of four games in four days.

### **HC Rotweiss Wettingen 5-0 W**

The opening game saw Hampstead take on the hosts of the tournament, a team they knew little about. Any nerves were quickly put to one side as Grace Balsdon scored from a penalty corner in the second minute. This was soon followed by a goal, smacked in on the reverse, from Sarah Robertson four minutes later. Both went on to add their second goals and Lauren Hunt later joined them on the scoresheet, making the final score 5-0 to Hampstead. This was a dominant performance for the women on their European debut.

### **Mannheimer HC 0-2 L**

As this was a European tournament involving Hampstead, it was almost inevitable that one opponent would be Mannheimer and so it proved. As with the Men in previous campaigns, this second game was always going to be the toughest. Mannheimer included a cohort of Spanish, Argentinian and German internationals. They had been tipped as one of the strongest teams and, as it turned out, this match was the ultimate decider between first and second in the group.

Hampstead played well and it was *neck and neck* until the 53<sup>rd</sup> minute when Mannheimer converted the first short corner of the game. Kate Richardson-Walsh then withdrew the Hampstead goalkeeper in an attempt to secure an equaliser but Mannheimer pushed on, took the advantage and scored their second goal. It was a valiant effort from Hampstead with many positives to take from the match.

### **IH Lambersart 12-0 W**

After the disappointment of the loss on Saturday, it was important that Hampstead came out

strongly against the French team, IH Lambersart, to build momentum before the final placing game on the following day. And that is exactly what the team did.

Sarah Robertson opened the scoring in the eighth minute. Anna O’Flanagan and Mel Wilkinson then scored in the second quarter, giving Hampstead a comfortable 3-0 lead at half time. A flurry of six goals was scored in the third quarter, including two from both Anna and Grace Balsdon. Three further goals from Saran Robertson, Lauren Hunt and Liv Hamilton in the fourth quarter took Hampstead to a total of 12 goals. The team therefore finished second in the group and were to face the Ukrainian team, MSC Sumchanka, in the bronze medal match on the final day.

### **MSC Sumchanka 1-0 W**

The match for third place was a tense affair that kept the spectators on the edge of their seats. Grace Balsdon scored the winner in the 47<sup>th</sup> minute with a penalty stroke directly into the bottom corner. It proved to be the only goal of the game and meant Hampstead took the win and came away with a European Bronze medal – a considerable achievement on the team’s first foray in European competition.

Reporter Holly Hunt added, “the journey that the team have been on over the last few years has been remarkable. It is truly amazing to see so many faces in this squad who were integral to the Women’s 1s getting promoted to the Women’s Vitality Premier League back in 2019. With the addition of several quality players since then, the women have shown that they are a force to be reckoned with, not only in the English domestic league but also on the European stage. Hampstead and Westminster HC are proud of our Women’s 1s and the wonderful management team behind the players. The team and staff were very grateful to all of the travelling fans and to everyone that watched the live stream back home. The support was fantastic and they had an incredible experience out in Wettingen. Bring on the 2023/24 season!”



### **Group A**

KHC Dragons (Belgium)	3	3	0	0	28	0	15
MSC Sumchanka (Ukraine)	3	2	0	1	9	7	10
HF Lorenzoni (Italy)	3	1	0	2	2	12	5
HC 1972 Rakovnik (Czech Rep)	3	0	0	3	1	21	0

### **Group B**

Mannheimer HC	3	3	0	0	28	0	15
Hampstead	3	2	0	1	17	2	11
HC Rotweiss Wettingen	3	1	0	2	5	14	5
IH Lambersart (France)	3	0	0	3	1	35	0

### *Final*

KHC Dragons 1 Mannheimer 0

### *Bronze*

Hampstead 1 MSC Sumchanka 0

### *Previous Winners*

2022 KHC Dragons

2021 Gantoise

2019 Campo

2018 Holcombe

2017 Munchner

2016 Köln

### ***EHL Finals – Men***

[\* indicats a shoot-out win]

### Q8 [quarter finals]

Bloemendaal 7 Harvestehuder 2

Pinoke 2 Royal Racing Club de Bruxelles 3

Hamburger Polo Club 4 v Rot-Weiss Köln\* 4

Atletic Terrassa 2\* Gantoise 2

### *Ranking*

Gantoise 2 Hamburger Polo Club 2\*

Harvestehuder 4 Pinoke 5

### Q4 [semi-finals]

Bloemendaal 4 Royal Racing Club de Bruxelles 1

Atletic Terrassa 3 Rot-Weiss Köln\* 3

### *Bronze*

Royal Racing Club de Bruxelles 3 Atletic Terrassa 0

Three penalty corners from Tanguy Cosyns, two of them in two minutes each side of half time, were decisive and a third in the 47<sup>th</sup> minute, all directed into roof of the goal. This was the first medal at this level for Royal Racing Club de Bruxelles.

### *Final*

Bloemendaal 1 Rot-Weiss Köln 0

This was Bloemendaal's third win in succession (the first occasion on which this has been achieved in the EHL) and for the second consecutive time against Rot Weiss Köln. The goal was a 21<sup>st</sup> minute penalty corner converted by Teun Beins after five corners had been awarded in quick succession. Despite pressure Bloemendaal's defence held firm and they did not concede a single corner.

### ***EHL Finals – Women***

[\* indicates a shoot-out win]

Q8 [quarter finals]

Pembroke Wanderers 0 Sanse Complutense

Gantoise 0 Club de Campo 3

Surbiton 1 Dusseldorfer HC 1\*

HC's Hertogenbosch\*1 SCHC 1

### ***Ranking***

Gantoise 4 Pembroke 1

SCHC 3 Surbiton 1

Q4 [semi-finals]

HC's Hertogenbosch 2 Dusseldorfer HC 1

Club de Campo 2 Sanse Complutense 0

### ***Bronze***

Dusseldorfer HC 3 Sanse Complutense 0

### ***Final***

HC's Hertogenbosch 1 Club de Campo 0

### **And next season in Europe?**

East Grinstead, Surbiton, Old Georgians and Holcombe will all take part in next season's Euro Hockey League following the conclusion of the season. On the women's side, East Grinstead's ending of Surbiton's winning streak, going back to the 2013-14 season, means that they will take the top European spot in the EHL Women's Q8. Surbiton will play in the EuroHockey Trophy. For the men, Old Georgians will once again be England's premier seeded team in next season's EHL, with Holcombe as the second seed.

### **EHL Ranking List**

#### ***Men***

The Netherlands will remain top of the men's EHL Ranking List following HC Bloemendaal's gold medal and Pinoké's fifth place ranking in their debut season. Germany stay in second after Rot-Weiss Köln finishing runners-up, with Hamburger Polo Club and Harvestehuder THC in a share of seventh place. The big move sees Belgium climb one place from fourth to third place, increasing their quota to three teams in the 2023-24 EHL season. This comes courtesy of Racing Club de Bruxelles' first EHL bronze medal and Gantoise's fifth spot.

Spain drops from third to fourth. Atlètic Terrassa ended in fourth place, Real Club de Polo in ninth and Club Egara 13th. They will have two places for next season along with fifth-ranked England and sixth-place France.

Austria (7th), Switzerland (8th) and Scotland (9th) will have one team in the EHL. The remaining two places will be determined on the completion of the EuroHockey Club tournaments in May 2023.

### Women

The majority of the make-up of the 2023-24 EHL season has been determined, with the Netherlands remaining on top courtesy of HC s'-Hertogenbosch's second victory in the past three seasons, along with SCHC's fifth place. Spain stays in second place, following Club de Campo's run to the Grand Final and the fourth place of Sanse Complutense at the Wagener Stadium. Both nations will receive two spots next season.

Germany moved back up to third place following Düsseldorfer HC's maiden European medal, supported by Mannheimer HC's runners-up spot at the EuroHockey Trophy in Wettingen. They swap places with Belgium, for whom Gantoise took fifth place and KHC Dragons were winners of the Trophy in Switzerland (reported above) that leaves Belgium in fourth. England are in fifth following Surbiton's seventh place at the EHL and Hampstead's bronze in the Trophy. Germany, Belgium and England all receive one EHL place.

That leaves one place to be determined on the conclusion of the other European club competitions that run until 29 May 2023.

### National League Play Offs

At the Premier Divisions' season break in December both Hampstead's teams qualified for the top six play offs that began in February 2023. To these top six were then added the teams ranked seventh and eighth, for the Division Play Offs, each with two pools.

### Men

A

Old Georgians	3	3	0	0	8	9
Holcombe	3	2	0	1	5	6
Hampstead	3	1	0	2	-3	3
Beeston	3	0	0	3	-10	0



A walk on at Beeston in the final match of the season

Old Georgians 4 Beeston 1  
 Holcombe 1 Hampstead 0  
 Holcombe 6 Beeston 1  
 Hampstead 0 Old Georgians 4  
 Old Georgians 3 Holcombe 2  
 Beeston 2 Hampstead 4

**B**

Surbiton	3	3	0	0	2	9
Wimbledon	3	2	0	1	9	7
Oxted	3	1	0	2	-4	3
Reading	3	0	0	3	-7	0

Wimbledon 5 Reading 0  
 Surbiton 3 Oxted 2  
 Reading 0 Surbiton 1  
 Wimbledon 6 Oxted 2  
 Oxted 3 Reading 2  
 Surbiton 4 Wimbledon 4 (3-1 shoot-out)

**Women**

**A**

Surbiton	3	3	0	0	7	9
East Grinstead	3	2	0	1	-2	6
Univ of Birmingham	3	1	0	2	-6	3
Beeston	3	0	0	0	-3	1

Surbiton 4 University of Birmingham 0  
 East Grinstead 3 Beeston 2  
 Beeston 1 Surbiton 3  
 East Grinstead 3 University of Birmingham 1  
 University of Birmingham 2 Beeston 2  
 Surbiton 2 East Grinstead 1

**B**

Clifton Robinsons	3	3	0	0	2	9
Hampstead	3	2	0	1	6	6
Wimbledon	3	1	0	2	1	4
Univ of Nottingham	3	0	0	3	-9	0

Wimbledon 2 University of Nottingham 0  
 Hampstead 1 Clifton Robinsons 2  
 Clifton Robinsons 1 Wimbledon 1 (3-1 shoot-out)  
 Hampstead 7 University of Nottingham 0  
 University of Nottingham 3 Clifton Robinsons 4  
 Wimbledon 1 Hampstead 2

**SEMI FINALS**

*Women*

Surbiton 5 Hampstead 3  
 Clifton Robinsons 3 East Grinstead 3 (8-9 shoot-out)

*Men*

Old Georgians 0 Wimbledon 0 (4-3 shoot-out)

Surbiton 1 Holcombe 2

3/4

*Women*

Hampstead 4 Clifton Robinsons 2

*Men*

Wimbledon 2 Surbiton 4

FINALS

*Women*

Surbiton 2 East Grinstead 3

*Men*

Old Georgians 5 Holcombe 1

### **Surbiton 5 Hampstead 3**

In the first semi-final, the home side Surbiton got the better of Hampstead with a 5-3 win. The two teams started brightly in attack. Giselle Ansley opened the scoring for Surbiton in the fifth minute from a penalty corner. Hannah Martin added a penalty corner goal and then scored again from open play to extend Surbiton's lead to 3-0 in the second quarter.

Hampstead fought back with a goal from Philippa Lewis to make it 3-1. Then Surbiton's top goal scorer Sophie Hamilton added to her tally, two minutes later. Anna O'Flanagan scored Hampstead's second, to make it 4-2. In the third quarter, both teams scored again: first, Surbiton's Martha le Huray in the 43<sup>rd</sup> minute and then Anna O'Flanagan put away her second. It was not enough, sadly. Surbiton remained resolute in defence in the fourth quarter to clinch a 5-3 win.

### **East Grinstead 3 Clifton Robinsons (9-8 shoot-out)**

In the second semi-final, East Grinstead edged past Clifton Robinsons 3-3 (9-8 in the shoot-out) in a thrilling match, to advance to the final. The first half saw plenty *end-to-end* action, with both teams trying to make inroads. East Grinstead broke the deadlock at the start of the second quarter, with Tess Howard's field goal in the 18th minute. Clifton Robinsons equalised through Izzy Webb's field goal in the 30th minute to leave the score 1-1 at half-time.

Clifton Robinsons took a 2-1 lead through Phoebe Richards' field goal in the 46th minute. However, East Grinstead responded with two *back-to-back* goals in the final seconds of the third quarter. Howard scored her second goal from a penalty stroke in 52nd minute and Sophie Bray found the back of the net from a penalty corner to give East Grinstead a 3-2 lead at the end of the third quarter. Clifton Robinsons's persistence to find an equaliser was rewarded with a remarkable field goal from Sarah-Jayne Thorburn in the 65<sup>th</sup> minute to leave it drawn 3-3 draw at the end of the regulation time.

The penalty shoot-out also ended in a stalemate at 4-4, both teams failing only once in the first set of five. It took another nine nerve racking penalties before the sides could be separated. Finally on the 20<sup>th</sup> penalty, Clifton Robinsons blinked first in sudden-death as East Grinstead goalkeeper Isabel Field came up with a fine save to deny Abi Porter.

### **Old Georgians 0 Wimbledon 0 4-3 shoot-out)**

In the men's first semi-final, Old Georgians booked a place in the final. A slow start saw OGs and Wimbledon cancelling each other's attacks with some good defending. Both teams' defence looked

compact as they managed to clear the danger, keeping the score line at 0-0 in the first half. It was a similar story in the second half. Both teams tried to create goalscoring chances but failed to cash in on the opportunities and it remained scoreless in regulation time.

With another semi-final heading to a shoot-out, Old Georgians emerged victorious, thanks to George Pinner in goal, who blocked Wimbledon's first two penalties. By contrast, OGs only failed to convert one penalty. Their captain James Albery, Josh Pavis, Tom Carson and James Tindall were all on target. Tindall's finish to seal the victory was emphatic, choosing to undercut the ball past the 'keeper as he ran in, rather than a close-in finish. The final score in the shoot-out was 4-3 to Old Georgians.

### **Surbiton 1 Holcombe 2**

In the final match of the first day, an all-round show in attack and defence helped Holcombe beat hosts Surbiton 2-1 to advance to the final. While both teams took a while to get going, Holcombe picked up pace in the later stage of the first quarter. They scored first through their captain Nick Bandurak's fiery tomahawk strike in the 14th minute. They doubled their lead as Bandurak scored his second goal in the 25th minute. Surbiton created some potential goalscoring opportunities but Holcombe's GB international goalkeeper Olly Payne kept them at bay, maintaining the score line at 2-0 at the half-time.

Surbiton started the third quarter in attack, retaining most of the possession and often making forays into the circle in their attempt to score an opening goal. They forced a penalty corner in the closing stage of the third quarter but Holcombe's defence denied them. Surbiton's pressure continued to build in the last quarter, with plenty of possession, as they tried to find an opening. It finally paid off in the 63rd minute. Tom Sorsby's sticks skills in the circle created a chance which he finished on the reverse to pull a goal back. Holcombe's defence continued to be tested in the final minutes of the game but they held out to earn a place in the final.

### **Hampstead & Westminster 4 Clifton Robinsons 2**

In the first match of the second day, Hampstead registered a comprehensive 4-2 win over Clifton Robinsons to finish third in the League. They started the match on the front foot, creating several entries into the Clifton Robinsons' circle and troubling their defence. Having missed a series of penalty corners, Hampstead finally opened the scoring on their fourth attempt, when Sarah Robertson found the back of the net from a well worked routine in the tenth minute. The lead was short-lived. Against the run of play, Clifton Robinsons scored an equaliser through Amy Burton six minutes later.

Hampstead started the second quarter with the same attacking intent and earned another penalty corner, which Lucy Hyams converted with a deflection in front of the post after 27 minutes. Under continued mounting pressure, Clifton Robinsons gave away a penalty stroke, taken by Grace Balsdon in the 31st minute to extend the lead to 3-1.

It was a quiet third quarter. Both teams managed to keep each other's strikers out of the striking circle. Grace Balsdon scored her second goal from a penalty stroke in the 53<sup>rd</sup> minute to extend Hampstead's lead to 4-1 at the start of the final quarter. Clifton Robinsons responded with a powerful penalty corner strike from Livvy Hoskins's in the 61<sup>st</sup> minute. However, it was not enough as Hampstead took control of the game in the closing stage to secure third place with a comfortable win.

### **East Grinstead 3 Surbiton 2**

East Grinstead ground out a hard-fought win to clinch their first League title. The final started with both teams showing good attacking intent and making dangerous runs in each other's half. East Grinstead drew the first blood from a penalty corner. Laura Roper scored in the 11th minute. Surbiton had a good chance to equalise but missed out on converting their penalty corner. East Grinstead then doubled their lead in the 18th minute through a field goal from Anna Faulstich, who beat the Surbiton goalkeeper *one on one*, having found herself in space after a defence splitting pass.

The second quarter unfolded in a similar fashion. Both teams took it in turns to make inroads in each other's circle but without causing any danger. East Grinstead had a good share of possession but Surbiton closed the gap in the score with a goal from Leah Wilkinson in the 33rd minute. She deflected the ball up into the goal from a well-worked penalty corner routine to leave the score 1-2 at the end of the first half.

It was all level four minutes into the second half, thanks to a field goal from Sophie Hamilton, who made a strong run from the right wing into the circle to make it 2-2. The momentum now appeared to be with Surbiton, who attacked for the majority of the third quarter but were unsuccessful in converting penalty corners. They missed out on a couple of good opportunities to turn things around.

High on confidence, Surbiton started the last quarter aggressively but East Grinstead managed to clear the danger and then made what would prove to be the decisive counterattack. It ended with Sally Sime converting from open play to make it 3-2 for East Grinstead in the 61st minute. Surbiton continued to attack as they looked for an equaliser but the East Grinstead defence did enough in the remaining minutes of the game to clinch the title. It ended a run of eight successive titles for Surbiton and their coach Brett Gerrard (who has since decided to step down as coach).

### **Surbiton 4 Wimbledon 2**

In the men's 3rd/4th play-off, finals Surbiton came from behind with a 4-2 victory. Wimbledon started rapidly, pushing the Surbiton defence from the off and were quickly into a two-goal lead within the opening ten minutes. Ben Hooper scored an excellent field goal in the seventh minute and then Sam Hooper converted a penalty corner two minutes later. Surbiton responded with a field goal from Alex Williams, who ran from the left side of the goal to find the net in the 11th minute.

Surbiton pushed hard for an equaliser in the second quarter. A foul defending the penalty corner in the 20th minute, resulted in the award of a penalty stroke, converted by Luke Taylor to level the scores at 2-2. He then scored his second goal from a rebound at a penalty corner to put his side 3-2 ahead in the 23rd minute. Surbiton had a series of penalty corners in the final minutes of the second quarter but failed to score.

Surbiton continued its momentum at the start of the second half and extended the lead to 4-2 with a well worked attacking move inside Wimbledon's circle. Ben Park slotted the ball into the net in the 51st minute. Both teams continued to test each other but neither found the goal in the final quarter. Final score was 4-2 to Surbiton.

### **Old Georgians 5 Holcombe 1**

Old Georgians took Premier Division Championship, with a comprehensive win against Holcombe. James Tindall, Lee Morton, Chris Proctor, Tom Carson and Sam Ward scored a goal each to help Old Georgians clinch their second league title. Tim Guise-Brown scored for Holcombe.

Old Georgians raced to a 2-0 lead inside the first five minutes. James Tindall opened the scoring in the second minute and Lee Morton scored the second three minutes later, both from open play. Holcombe responded with a goal through Tim Guise-Brown's low drag flick from a penalty corner in the ninth minute. Old Georgians continued to attack and Chris Proctor added a third for OGs in the 13<sup>th</sup> minute.

By contrast, the second quarter saw no goals. Holcombe retained most of the possession and created opportunities but failed to convert them. On the other hand, Old Georgians were content to slow things down and maintain the two-goal cushion at the end of the first half.

Clear-cut chances were few in the second half. The first meaningful effort came in the form of a penalty corner in the 49th minute. Tom Carson made no mistake in converting it to take Old Georgians into a commanding 4-1 lead at the end of the third quarter.

Holcombe earned a couple of penalty corners in the last quarter but Old Georgians' defence held firm to deny their opponents a goal. Old Georgians took control of the match as the last quarter played out. Sam Ward added their fifth goal with a powerful reverse stick strike in the final minute and seal the win, with a final score of 5-1.

## Women

### 2<sup>nd</sup> XI; National League

#### East Conference

Hampstead 3 Ipswich 1  
 Hampstead 5 London Wayfarers 4  
 Hampstead 2 Horsham 1  
 Spencer 0 Hampstead 1 -  
 East London 1 Hampstead 1  
 Hampstead 0 Guildford 1  
 Hampstead 7 Bishops Stortford 0  
 Southgate 3 Hampstead 1  
 Hampstead 4 Chelmsford 0

#### Final Table

Southgate 1	18	18	0	0	56	54
Guildford 1	18	16	0	2	51	48
<b>Hampstead 2</b>	18	12	2	4	22	38
London Wayfarers 1	18	9	3	6	6	30
Spencer 1	18	7	1	10	-10	22
Ipswich 1	18	6	3	9	-5	21
East London	18	5	4	9	-10	19
Horsham 1	18	4	4	10	-17	16
Chelmsford 1	18	2	2	4	-49	8
Bishops Stortford 1	18	1	1	16	-44	4

## London Area Leagues

### Division 1: Women's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI

Barnes 2	22	17	3	2	72	29	54
Old Cranleighans 1	22	15	3	4	54	27	48
<b>Hampstead 3</b>	22	11	3	8	59	41	36
London Edwardians 1	22	10	3	9	37	39	33

West Hampstead 1	22	9	5	8	49	40	32
London Wayfarers 3	22	9	5	8	45	40	32
London Academicals	22	9	5	8	36	32	32
Surbiton 4	22	9	3	10	42	42	30
Richmond 1	22	8	6	8	34	46	30
Teddington 2	22	7	4	11	30	39	25
East London 2	22	5	4	13	28	50	19
Eastcote 3	22	1	0	21	8	79	3

#### Division 2 North Women's 4<sup>th</sup> XI

<b>Hampstead 4</b>	22	17	3	2	71	17	54
Southgate 3	22	16	3	3	64	27	51
Harrow 1	22	16	3	3	50	32	51
West Hampstead 2	22	10	8	4	40	30	38
East London 3	22	10	2	10	47	43	32
PHC Chiswick 2	22	9	4	9	56	43	31
Wanderers 2	22	8	6	8	58	36	30
Eastcote 2	22	6	2	14	31	59	20
West Herts 2	22	5	3	14	24	45	18
Wapping 3	22	4	5	13	27	61	17
Ashford 1	22	4	4	14	41	71	16
UCL RUMS <sup>1</sup> 1	22	4	3	15	33	99	12

#### Division 3 North: Women's 5<sup>th</sup> XI

Spencer 5	22	19	1	2	103	19	58
<b>Hampstead 5</b>	22	17	1	4	84	22	52
East London 4	22	12	4	6	48	31	40
West Hampstead 4	22	10	5	7	53	32	35
Richmond Ravens	22	11	2	9	50	39	35
Winchmore Hill & Enfield 1	22	9	5	8	52	41	32
Wapping 4	22	9	4	9	47	51	31
Southgate 4	22	9	2	11	47	62	29
London Royals 1	22	8	5	9	45	67	28
Old Merchants Taylors 1	22	7	5	10	28	34	26
PHC Chiswick 3	22	4	0	18	20	100	11
Eastcote 3	22	0	0	22	9	83	-2

#### Division 4 North West: Women's 6<sup>th</sup> XI

West Hampstead 4	22	20	1	1	112	12	61
Ealing 1	22	19	1	2	87	22	58
<b>Hampstead 6</b>	22	15	2	5	108	41	47
Hendon & Mill Hill 1	22	15	1	6	85	38	46
West Hampstead 5	22	14	2	6	67	28	44
West Herts 3	22	11	1	10	67	54	34
Eastcote 4	22	7	2	13	43	46	23
Old Merchant Taylors 2	22	5	4	13	51	62	19
Southgate 5	22	6	1	15	45	57	19

<sup>1</sup> Royal Free, University College & Middlesex Society Hockey Club – medical students studying at UCL

Winchmore Hill & Enfield 2	22	4	3	15	26	74	15
Old Uxonians 1	22	3	3	16	27	82	12
Imperial College SM <sup>2</sup> 1	22	2	1	19	28	228 <sup>3</sup>	7

#### Division 5 North West: Women's 7<sup>th</sup> XI

<b>Hampstead 7</b>	18	14	2	2	102	19	44	
Old Millhillians 1	18	12	0	6	72	36	36	
West Hampstead 6	18	11	3	4	39	28	36	
West Herts 4	18	10	4	3	36	14	34	
Harrow 2	18	10	1	7	43	28	31	
Eastcote 5	18	9	1	8	36	32	28	
Hendon & Mill Hill 2	18	5	5	8	30	42	20	
West Hampstead 7	18	2	4	12	24	59	10	
PHC Chiswick 5	18	2	2	13	11	69	6	[deduction]
Old Merchants Taylors 3	18	2	2	14	11	77	4	[deduction]
West Hampstead 8		0	0	0	0	0	-1 <sup>4</sup>	

## Men

### Premier Division

The teams for the 2023-24 season will be Old Georgians, Surbiton, Wimbledon, Holcombe, Hampstead, Oxted, Reading, Beeston, East Grinstead, University of Nottingham, Southgate and Cardiff & Met.

The University of Exeter and Brooklands MU were relegated. The former scored 20 points that are usually sufficient for safety but a defeat at home to BUSF rivals Nottingham made the significant difference.

The Lower Six teams ended their games in February and March as follows, with Oxted and Beeston joining the top six in the Play Offs. The results were added to the Division standings from the first part of the season (in other words, results were carried over and accumulated).

Oxted	16	6	4	6	-12	22
Beeston	16	6	3	7	-12	21
East Grinstead	16	5	3	5	-15	18
University of Exeter	16	4	2	10	-23	14
University of Nottingham	16	4	1	11	-31	13
Brooklands MU	16	0	3	13	-28	3

This led to a relegation play-off:

*12 March 2023*

East Grinstead 5 Brooklands 0

University of Exeter 2 University of Nottingham 4

*18 March 2023*

University of Exeter 6 Brooklands 5

University of Nottingham 4 East Grinstead 2

*25 April 2023*

East Grinstead 1 University of Exeter 2

---

<sup>2</sup> School of Medicine

<sup>3</sup> Not a typographical error

<sup>4</sup> withdrawn

Brooklands 2 University of Nottingham 5

These results generated the (accumulated) final standings and, in the case of the University of Exeter, meant its relegation, despite the win away to East Grinstead, when the University of Nottingham defeated Brooklands and extended its decisive unbeaten run in March to three.

University of Nottingham	19	7	1	11	-24	22
<u>East Grinstead</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>-13</u>	<u>21</u>
University of Exeter	19	6	2	11	-23	20
Brooklands MU	19	0	3	16	-37	3

## 2<sup>nd</sup> XI; East Conference

Wapping 0 Hampstead 2  
Hampstead 2 London Wayfarers 2  
Hampstead 3 Indian Gymkhana 1 -  
Spencer 4 Hampstead 1  
Richmond 6 Hampstead 0  
Hampstead 2 Guildford 3 -  
Bromley & Beckenham 1 Hampstead 0  
Hampstead 1 Surbiton 2 -  
Oxford University 1 Hampstead 2

### Final Table

Richmond	18	14	1	3	40	43
Spencer	18	14	1	3	33	43
Guildford	18	12	3	3	24	39
Surbiton 2	18	9	3	6	1	30
London Wayfarers	18	7	5	6	3	26
Indian Gymkhana	18	5	2	11	-13	17
<b>Hampstead 2</b>	18	5	2	11	-19	17
Bromley & Beckenham	18	3	6	9	-24	15
Wapping	18	3	5	10	-27	14
Oxford University	18	3	2	13	-18	11

## Other National League finishes

### Division 1 North

Cardiff & Met became the first Welsh men's side to reach the Premier Division. A hat-trick from Jack Pritchard set the ball rolling in a 6-2 victory against Belper before they defeated Deeside Ramblers. At the other end of the table, Barford Tigers and Belper were relegated.

### Division 1 South

After a decade's absence, Southgate won promotion back to the top flight in Kwan Browne's first season as men's coach. University of Bristol and Oxford Hawks were demoted, the latter in spite of Toby Roche's valiant efforts to shore up their defence after Christmas, when he returned to his family's club.

### Conference Midlands

Harborne sealed the title before the last round of matches. Lichfield and Loughborough Town were relegated.

### Conference North

Leeds and Timperley went head-to-head in the final match of the season to decide the league title. Leeds held a three-point lead and a healthy goal difference over their visitors. A 2-2 draw left them promoted. Didsbury Northern and Preston were demoted to the regional League.

### Conference East

Richmond clung on to win the East title and reach Division 1 hockey next season. They beat Indian Gymkhana 4-3 as rivals Spencer scored seven to beat Wapping. A late Gymkhana goal would have given Spencer the title. A nerve-shredding weekend at the bottom of the table saw Wapping and Oxford University relegated.

### Conference West

Havant secured Division 1 hockey for 2023-24. Welsh clubs Cardiff University and Cardiff & Met 2 were both relegated.

## London Area Leagues

### Division 1: Zak Hond XI

London Wayfarers 2	22	15	5	2	76	40	50
Surbiton 3	22	16	1	5	80	41	49
Croydon & Old Whitgiftian 1	22	14	4	4	60	39	46
Epsom 1	22	12	6	4	61	35	42
Teddington 2	22	9	5	8	62	51	32
Old Merchant Taylors 1	22	9	4	9	49	45	31
Ashford 1	22	8	6	8	52	41	30
Bromley & Beckenham 2	22	8	5	9	46	45	29
London Academicals 1	22	8	4	10	45	50	28
<b>Hampstead Zak Hond</b>	22	4	5	12	38	68	18
Wanderers 1	22	4	2	16	36	68	14
Wapping 3	22	1	0	21	24	105	3

### Division 2 North: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> XIs

Richmond 2	22	18	2	2	118	36	56
<b>Hampstead 3</b>	22	18	1	3	76	22	55
Croxtyn 1	22	16	2	4	66	25	50
West Hampstead 2	22	13	3	6	55	37	42
London Wayfarers Vikings	22	12	4	6	62	46	40
Southgate 3	22	11	4	7	60	47	37
Richmond 3	22	7	2	13	41	58	23
<b>Hampstead 4</b>	22	6	3	13	37	60	21
East London 2	22	5	1	16	24	78	16
Southgate 4	22	4	2	16	26	52	14
Indian Gymkhana 2	22	7	1	14	31	71	11 [presumed deduction]
Wapping 4	22	2	1	19	22	86	7

### Division 4 North West : Thirsts XI

Indian Gymkhana 3	18	13	1	4	84	40	40
PHC Chiswick 3	18	13	1	4	70	31	40
<b>Hampstead Thirsts</b>	18	11	2	5	72	47	35

West Hampstead 5	18	9	5	4	47	25	32
Ashford 2	18	9	3	6	49	44	30
Richmond Griffins	18	6	2	10	48	56	20
Osterley 1	18	5	4	9	45	74	19
Southgate 5	18	5	2	11	39	61	17
Winchmore Hill & Enfield 1	18	4	2	12	39	56	14
East London 4	18	3	2	13	21	70	11

Division 5 North West: Spaniards XI and Colts XI  
[several instances of deducted points]

PHC Chiswick 4	20	19	1	0	60	15	58
Indian Gymkhana 4	20	14	1	5	67	50	41
West Herts 3	20	11	2	7	62	38	35
<b>Hampstead Spaniards</b>	20	9	4	7	68	50	31
<b>Hampstead Colts</b>	20	9	2	9	47	43	29
Old Merchant Taylors 2	20	9	2	9	52	49	28
Imperial Medicals 1	20	6	3	11	44	68	19
West Hampstead 6	20	3	9	8	51	54	18
Richmond Deerstalkers	20	5	4	11	45	57	18
Brunel University 1	20	4	5	11	46	63	14
West Hampstead 7	20	4	1	15	26	80	13

South Over 40 Premier Division: Masters XI

Old Cranleigh Stormers	16	11	23	3	58	26	35
Epsom Embers	16	9	1	6	47	40	28
<b>Hampstead Masters</b>	16	7	3	5	31	35	24
Guildford Pilgrims	16	7	2	7	40	37	23
Old Georgians Fire	16	6	4	6	44	45	22
Spencer Masters	16	6	2	8	51	46	20
Reading Rustlers	16	6	2	8	36	51	20
Wimbledon Masters 1	16	4	4	8	38	43	16
Tulse Hill & Dulwich Artillery	16	5	0	10	33	35	15

South Over 50 Premier Division: Supervets XI

Reading Redsox	17	14	1	2	78	30	43
Old Georgians Phoenix	18	12	4	2	59	28	30
Epsom Old School	18	11	1	6	51	43	34
Tulse Hill & Dulwich Musketeers	17	11	0	6	46	34	33
Southgate Titans	18	9	2	7	57	40	29
Spencer Supervets	18	5	3	10	26	42	18
<b>Hampstead Supervets</b>	18	6	0	12	38	68	18
Indian Gymkhana Tigers	18	5	2	11	46	69	17
Old Loughtonians Supervets	18	4	2	12	34	66	14
Chelmsford Supervets	18	3	3	12	34	60	12

South Over 60 Premier Division: Grandmasters XI

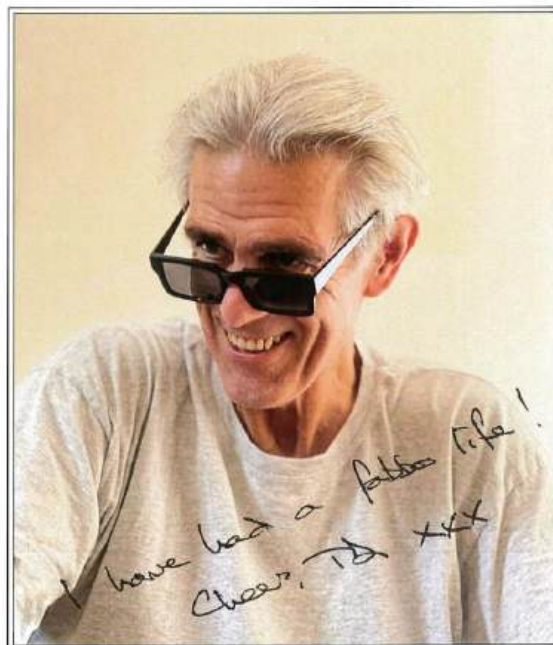
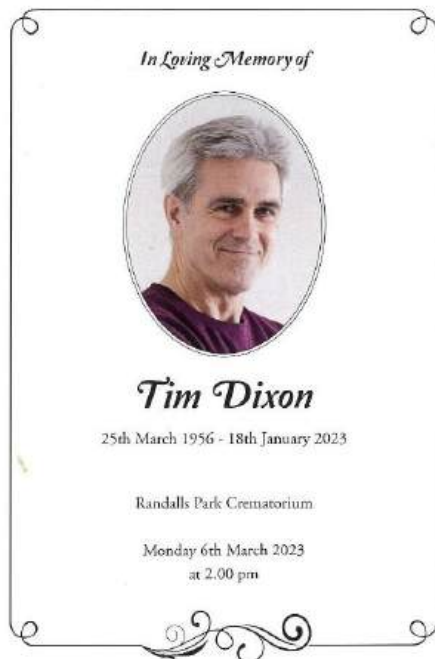
Indian Gymkhana	16	15	1	0	78	21	46
Bromley & Beckenham O60	16	12	0	4	13	44	36

Spencer Grandmasters	16	12	0	4	65	31	36
St Albans Centurions	16	8	1	7	28	27	25
Amersham & Chalfont G'masters	16	6	1	9	30	51	19
<b>Hampstead Grandmasters</b>	16	4	3	9	21	36	15
Southgate Magnums	16	4	2	10	19	44	14
Surbiton Vintage	16	4	1	10	27	53	13
Chelmsford Evergreens	16	1	1	11	11	60	4

### Tim Dixon

Tim's funeral service was held in Leatherhead on 6 March 2023 and was attended by Club representatives Jerry Stanyard, Richard Chapman, Stewart Waugh, Nick Stevens, Cyril Flajsner, Steve Pennington and Chris Somes-Charlton.

Much was heard of Tim's close-knit family and the joy that gave him, particularly with his sister and brother and their early lives on the North Kent coast at Cliftonville. His varied sporting successes were mentioned and his embrace of games as a way of bringing people together. His connection with the principles of Buddhism was another significant influence.



### Bill Felton

Bill Felton died after a sudden illness, on 13 February 2023, five days after his 83rd birthday. Bill was a very active administrator within hockey, who was recognised for his outstanding services to the sport. He was always very welcome at the Club when attending National League matches as match official or Technical Delegate (as the post was known). He was invariably at ease, charming and polite, sympathetic to the difficulties faced by the Club playing on a pitch not under its direct control. He wanted things done properly but never created any tension in bringing that about. He was a delight to work with.

In December 2001 Bill assisted, as match official, in the resolution of a potentially awkward situation, where his broad hockey experience was invaluable. There was a deep frost during the Friday night and although the sun shone on Saturday at PRG, it was having little impact on the pitch, which was as solid as rock. Our National League opponents from Loughborough University arrived following their 8 o'clock start from Leicestershire and remoter areas. Bill was sceptical that the pitch would thaw. The Loughborough Manager (and Health & Safety expert) Bob McBlayne walked to the pitch

and fortunately agreed that it would be dangerous for anyone to play on it. There was agreement that the sun's heat would not penetrate the frost, as the strong wind would more than compensate if it did. It was agreed that the match should be re-arranged and there were no recriminations.

Bill was born on 8 February 1940. He left school at 16 and worked as a shipbroker at the Baltic Exchange in London. He retired when aged 55 but continued as a consultant. Bill did not play hockey but he began umpiring in Essex in the late 1980s after his son Clive, who was a junior international, went to university. Clive played for the club's Men's first XI for at least three seasons on our re-joining the National League, under Rob Thompson and Dan Williams.

For many years in the 1990s Bill ran the Centenary Club, which organised travel for supporters to England's games away from home. Bill built a large camaraderie between those on the trips, alongside another excellent servant of the sport, Kate Billson, who died in 2020.

Bill was President of the East Region Hockey Association in 2008-09 and Chairman of England Hockey's Youth Trust. In 2007 the Hockey Writers' Club awarded him the Sydney Friskin Memorial Silver Goblet for outstanding service to the sport.

### From where we left off...

#### Indoor Premier Division

In the last Communique, timings prevented closure on the Indoor Premier Division final standings, where the second round of matches were to be played at Whitgift School. Hampstead benefitted from the return of 1<sup>st</sup> XI players and were able to stave off relegation by virtue of a superior goal difference. The final table was:

Old Georgians	8	7	1	0	36	22
Wimbledon	8	7	0	1	34	21
East Grinstead	8	6	0	2	18	18
Surbiton	8	4	2	2	6	14
Sevenoaks	8	3	1	4	-3	10
Holcombe	8	3	0	5	-10	9
<b>Hampstead</b>	8	2	0	6	-23	6
Repton	8	2	0	6	-31	6
University of Exeter	8	0	0	8	-27	0

The top four teams went before the television cameras at the Copperbox in the Olympic Park and the bottom two were relegated to Division One. Next year's Premier Division will feature Old Georgians, Wimbledon, East Grinstead, Surbiton, Sevenoaks, Holcombe, **Hampstead**, Team Bath Buccaneers and Ashmoor (of South Devon).

### 2023 Men's World Cup

The same timing issue occurred in relation to the World Cup...

#### Cross Over Games

Malaysia 2 Spain 2 (3-4 shoot-out)

India 3 New Zealand 3 (4-5 shoot-out)

Germany 5 France 1

Argentina 5 South Korea 5 (2-3 shoot-out)

#### Quarter Finals

Australia 4 Spain 3

Belgium 2 New Zealand 0

England 2 Germany 2 (3-4 shoot-out)

Netherlands 5 South Korea 1

### **Semi Finals**

Australia 3 Germany 4

Belgium 2 Netherlands 2 (3-2 shoot-out)

### **Third & Fourth Place**

Australia 1 Netherlands 3

### **Final**

Germany 3 Belgium 3 (5-4 shoot-out)

### **FIH Men's Pro League**

And, equally, in relation to the 2023 Pro League (carrying on from the Communique)...

#### *Hobart*

Australia 2 Argentina 2 (4-2 shoot-out)

Australia 2 Spain 4

Argentina 3 Spain 4

Australia 3 Argentina 0

Australia 1 Spain 3

Spain 0 Argentina 1

#### *Rourkela*

India 5 Australia 4

India 6 Germany 3

Germany 1 Australia 2

India 2 Australia 2 (4-3 shoot-out)

#### *Christchurch*

22 April 2023

New Zealand 2 Great Britain 5

(Wallace, Oates, Calnan, Bandurak, Shipperley)

23 April 2023

Australia 1 Great Britain 2

(Ward, Morton)

25 April 2023

New Zealand 0 Australia 3










### **New Zealand 2 Great Britain 5**

The Men's team resumed their campaign with a dominant 5-2 win over New Zealand on Saturday. Zach Wallace opened the scoring with a remarkable reverse stick volley in the 13th minute and Hampstead's James Oates and Will Calnan scored within a minute of one another to give GB a three goal lead. New Zealand pulled a goal back through their Captain Dane Lett's field goal in the 28th minute. However Nick Bandurak restored the three-goal lead with another remarkable finish in the 30th minute. Rupert Shipperley added the fifth to GB's tally deflecting a ball from Jack Waller in on the right hand post. The home side scored their second in the 49th minute through Connor Greentree, but GB retained control of the game to secure three points.

### **Australia 1 Great Britain 2**

This game also marked 100 combined GB and Wales caps for Hampstead's Jacob Draper. It was a comeback win for GB as they edged past Australia 2-1 in their second match of the tour. Australia took the lead through Ky Willott in the tenth minute, but Sam Ward made no mistake in converting the penalty corner to level the score four minutes later. Scotland's Lee Morton went on to score Great Britain's second goal in the 22nd minute. This turned out to be the winner. Australia came out

all guns blazing in the second half for an equaliser but the GB defence held strong to make it two wins from two matches in Christchurch, with three crucial saves from Olly Payne.

Country	Played	Wins	Draws	SO-Bonus	Losses	GF	GA	GD	Points
 India	8	5	2	2	1	31	23	8	19
 Spain	8	5	2	0	1	20	14	6	17
 Great Britain	6	3	3	3	0	14	7	7	15
 Argentina	12	2	5	2	5	19	28	-9	13
 Australia	10	3	2	0	5	20	20	0	11
 Germany	8	3	1	1	4	15	16	-1	11
 Belgium	4	2	0	0	2	8	7	1	6
 Netherlands	4	1	2	0	1	7	8	-1	5
 New Zealand	6	0	1	1	5	12	23	-11	2

### FIH Women's Pro League

#### Sydney

Australia 1 China 1 (3-1 shoot-out)  
 China 1 Germany 2  
 Australia 3 Germany 0  
 Australia 2 China 2 (4-3 shoot-out)  
 Germany 3 China 0  
 Australia 3 Germany 3 (1-2 shoot-out)

#### Wellington

New Zealand 1 United States 1 (0-2 shoot-out)  
 New Zealand 1 China 1 (1-2 shoot-out)  
 China 4 United States 1  
 United States 2 China 0  
 New Zealand 4 United States 1  
 New Zealand 2 China 4

#### Hobart

Australia 2 Argentina 0  
 Australia 0 United States 0 (1-3 shoot-out)  
 Argentina 3 United States 0  
 Australia 0 Argentina 1  
 Australia 2 United States 1  
 United States 0 Argentina 3

#### Christchurch










22 April 2023  
 Australia 0 Great Britain 1  
 (Ansley)

23 April 2023

New Zealand 0 Great Britain 2  
(Howard (2))

25 April 2023

New Zealand 1 Australia 3

#	Country	Played	Wins	Draws	SO-Bonus	Losses	GF	GA	GD	Points
1	 Argentina	12	7	2	0	3	21	13	8	23
2	 Australia	10	4	4	2	2	15	10	5	18
3	 Germany	8	2	4	3	2	17	18	-1	13
4	 Netherlands	4	4	0	0	0	13	2	11	12
5	 China	8	2	3	1	3	14	14	0	10
6	 United States	8	1	2	2	5	6	17	-11	7
7	 Great Britain	6	2	0	0	4	4	12	-8	6
8	 New Zealand	6	1	2	0	3	9	12	-3	5
9	 Belgium	4	0	3	2	1	7	8	-1	5

### Coming Up...

#### European Championships

The Women's and Men's EuroHockey Championships will take place at HockeyPark Mönchengladbach from 18 August to 27 August 2023. Eight women's and men's teams will meet in Germany's biggest hockey stadium. 40 games will be played, with the winner of each tournament qualifying directly for the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. It will be the second time the venue has hosted the competition (the last being in 2011).



Women's teams: Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, England, Ireland, Scotland and Italy

Men's teams: Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, England, Spain, Austria, France and Wales

#### The Hockey Museum

In his *Short History of Hampstead Hockey Club*, written for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1969, Colin Greenhalgh mentioned that "it is not clear when the Cricket Club's hockey section first began playing. Certainly, the Cricket Club records indicate that hockey was being played in 1890. But we are indebted to Mr K Howells of Teddington Hockey Club who, in the course of his own researches, has come across this report in the *Richmond and Twickenham Times* of 19 December 1874.

*HOCKEY - Richmond v Hampstead (return) – This match was played on Saturday in the Old Deer Park, Richmond, and resulted in a decided Victory for Hampstead, as they obtained four goals (three hit by Keer, and one by A. R. Parker) to nothing. The team was a strong one, and played well together, while Richmond, in spite of Stopford and Harmar's excellent form suffered from three good players not turning up.*

Although not definitive in having a contemporary report of the 1874 match, recent research at the Hockey Museum at Woking has unearthed a copy of the periodical *Hockey* of 19 March 1914 that states that “following the formation of Teddington came Surbiton, Wimbledon, Croydon and [East] Molesey and there was also a wandering team called *Strollers* run by A R Parker of Hampstead Cricket Club. The rivalry between clubs was great and was productive of some excellent matches but the game popularised itself slowly and it was not until ten years later that the number of clubs was sufficiently large to form a Hockey Association”. *Strollers* are referred to elsewhere in commentary of the time as a club of equal standing to the named foundation clubs.

A Russell Parker played hockey for Middlesex and captained the side in the first County game between Surrey and Middlesex played at The Oval on 25 January 1876, when Surrey won 5-0. At the first meeting of Hampstead Hockey Club at the Eyre Arms on 10 April 1894, it was proposed that Mr Russell Parker be requested to act as Vice President. Although not mentioned in the Minutes of a subsequent meeting on 13 April 1894, a following circular to members of the new Hampstead Hockey Club refers to the unanimous election of Mr Russell Parker as the Club's first President.

One conclusion is that *Strollers* were regarded as sufficiently connected with Hampstead Cricket Club as a hockey playing team that they became synonymous with Hampstead and explains the references in the article in the *Richmond and Twickenham Times* of 19 December 1874. A Russell Parker was also very influential in the early years of Hampstead Cricket Club. In an interview for the periodical *Cricket* of 1 May 1902, S S Pawling (a fast bowler and another who also played hockey for Hampstead Hockey Club) referred to Russell Parker as “one to whom the Hampstead Club perhaps owes more than any other, for he steered it through a time of great trial and difficulty.”

## **Yesteryear**

A few snippets from *The Times*...

**7 April 1913**

**Cyril Eiloart of Hampstead plays for England**

**England 1 Ireland 0**

The game throughout was very strenuously contested, the defence on both sides being particularly fine, and the combination of both sets of forwards, although very good at times, suffered to a great extent through the exceptionally keen tackling. A L F Smith at centre-forward for England proved a very capable substitute for S H Shoveller and kept his wings together well, but T F Perrin, the Irish centre half-back, marked him far too closely to allow him any scope to prove his shooting powers. S H Saville again played finely with W F Smith and the only goal of the match was the result of a fine run by these two. R G Pridmore taking W F Smith's final centre beautifully and B Dillon had no chance with his shot. A F Leighton at outside left made many fine runs and centres, and he and S H Saville were about, the best of the English forwards. In defence J A Lovell, A D Stocks and C H Eiloart were the best of a really good lot; the work of Lovell and Stocks in particular was extremely sound, and both at times saved what looked like certain goals.

[2 April 1923](#)

[Jack Bennett of Hampstead at full back for England](#)

### **France 1 England 2**

England beat France in Paris on Saturday by two goals to one. A year ago, at Beckenham, England beat France by 16 goals to none. An outstanding feature of the match was a most improbable improvement in France's half-back play. Prieur played extremely well at centre half-back. The left-wing forwards, Schneidan and Sans-de-Comte, were also very useful; the last named, who comes from Boulogne and is only 18 years of age, should develop into a very fine outside left. Salarnier, an experienced goalkeeper, was very safe and was better supported than usual by his full backs. The ground was hard, and it was some time before the English team settled down.

[19 April 1933](#)

### **Woking Swifts 6 Denmark 0**

On the Woking Football ground yesterday, Woking Swifts beat the Danish touring team in a women's hockey match by six goals to none, scoring three times in either half. This was the third and last game of the Danish team's tour. They have lost to Chiswick, who invited them to England, and beaten Wimbledon. For periods of the game the Danish team, who gave a good display in midfield, were trying hard to reach the circle, but the Woking defence was sound.

[26 April 1943](#)

### **Some hockey played in spite of the War**

Hockey Association 3 Civil Defence 1

Lensbury 3 St. Bartholomew's Hospital 2

Metropolitan Police 1 Richmond and Kingston Hill 8

Tulse Hill 7 Polytechnic 2

Chameleons 1 Old Kingstonians 3

Ashford (Middlesex) 3 Nat. Physical Laboratory 4

Kingston Grammar School 4 Raynes Park County School 0

[7 April 1953](#)

### **Festival Hockey**

The hockey festival at Folkestone was concluded yesterday in cold but fine weather and the majority of the games were again closely contested. Both Continental sides lost their final games, United Services beating Victory HC (Antwerp) by four goals to two and Llamas, who were one of the few sides to be undefeated, beating Blue Devils (France) by four goals to one.

[10 April 1963](#)

[Neil Livingstone and Jim Deegan of Hampstead are mentioned](#)

### **Great Britain v Spain**

The Great Britain hockey side to play Spain at Norwich on the evening of 4 May contains eight Englishmen, two Irishmen and a Scot. Ireland are represented in goal by Cahill, who played for Britain in the last Olympic Games and by Hennessy, a dashing but unpredictable centre forward. Watt, of Scotland, played himself into the side with a fine display at Hurlingham last Saturday. He first played for Scotland as a schoolboy some 12 years ago and he has now the experience which is so often useful on the big occasion. He, Livingstone and Scott were the best of the Scottish side against England but Scott can no longer be an Olympic prospect and there is no questioning Neil's right to one of the full-back positions. The complete English half-back line is chosen, without serious challenge, from the other countries and four of their forwards. The side reflects, to some extent, the lack of outstanding talent to have appeared since we were in Rome in 1960. That was the last time England met Spain. It was in the semi-final of the competition and Spain were the winners. Of this latest side only Corby, Cadman and Deegan have graduated to international hockey since then.

14 April 1973

*From reporting doyen, Brian Lewis*

All four home counties hockey sides will be in action at Penarth today and tomorrow. This afternoon Wales play Ireland at 2.15 and England follow on against Scotland at 4.00. The Welsh Hockey Association has been making great efforts to make the weekend a success. But the whole championship is bedevilled by two controversial decisions, both by England. First, the Hockey Association has announced that, in future, international fixtures with the other home countries will not be automatic; they must take their chance with any other countries interested. Secondly, England refused to fulfil their engagement to play Ireland in Dublin, and, as no suitable date has been found for the game in England or Wales, the match will not now be played. I consider both decisions deplorable and hope there will be some plain speaking tomorrow morning when the officials of the four associations meet. So there can be no outright home countries champion, this season.

18 April 1983

#### **Women's World Cup qualification**

England have failed to qualify for the finals of the World Cup in Kuala Lumpur. A draw or a loss by one goal would have been sufficient when they played West Germany yesterday. Instead, they lost 4- 2 (though they got the ball into the net a third time) so Germany went through with Canada, the Netherlands and Australia.

A shallow marking defence and a goalkeeper who mistimed her frequent excursions away from her goal line made England's goal an easy target for West Germany, who took every opportunity to exploit the situation and score twice in each half. Jane Swinnerton scored for England and Kim Gordon converted a penalty stroke but Miss Swinnerton was later replaced by Barbara Hambly, a link player. Throughout, England had not nearly sufficient emphasis on attack against a team as competent as West Germany.

#### ***Club Stuff***

110 years ago (*give or take...*)

#### **Beckenham 0 Hampstead 4**

Minus the trio of internationals Atkin, Stocks and Crockford, Beckenham went under to Hampstead by four goals to nil. Shoveller scored three of the winner's goals. Hampstead played a far superior game to their equally famous rivals and their four nil win was a good reflex of the game.

100 years ago

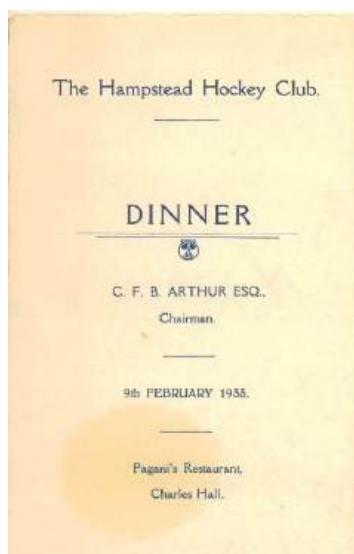
#### THUMBNAIL SKETCHES

#### **B G Lampard-Vachell**

(Wales, Glamorgan and Hampstead HC)

Has been the right-back for Wales whenever available since 1920, and distinguished himself in the big games played for his country. He has been capped on eight occasions, and on his present form, is likely to be the right-back for Wales on many more occasions. Is one of the be-spectacled brigade, but this does not interfere with his general play. Tackles finely, is fast, dashing, and hits the ball with judicious strength and cleanly. Likes playing against the English forwards because he does this in ordinary club hockey, Hampstead HC being his club. Was unfortunate not to gain his "blue" at Cambridge, but would have done so had he not exceeded the number of terms when a resumption of University hockey took place after the war. Is a member of the Cambridge University Wanderers and the assistant secretary. Born in Wales, but his practically learned the game and developed it in English hockey circles.

## 90 years ago



## 60 years ago

Bulletin for the week ending 7 April 1963

1<sup>st</sup> XI v Mid Surrey cancelled

2<sup>nd</sup> XI v Mid Surrey W 2-0

3<sup>rd</sup> XI v Mid Surrey Cancelled

4<sup>th</sup> XI v Mid Surrey W 2-1

5<sup>th</sup> XI v Mid Surrey W 2-1

Don't forget the AGM on Friday evening 6:30 PM at the Opera Tavern Catherine Street, just off the Aldwych. I omitted to mention in my AGM notice that snacks are available at the bar for those who are interested. Would team captains who have collected Olympic contributions make sure they are all handed to the treasurer or myself on or before Friday.

Hendon HC have invited us to send a team to a 6 a side they hold at their club on Sunday 21 April. The opposition includes Southgate and Tulse Hill. Would 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI players who are interested in making up a six let me know order before Friday this week, so that I can know whether or not to accept the invitation,

We are not able to borrow the Lloyds Bank pitch for Saturday morning. On the other hand Lloyds Bank are putting teams out for Saturday afternoon and since we have not had not much hockey since the new year, we have accepted two games for those who are not, as far as we know, going to the England v Scotland game. (This is in addition of course to the 1<sup>st</sup> XI game on Saturday morning). Anybody not selected who would like to play should get in touch with the team captains or myself since our availability records are a bit patchy for selecting these teams.

## 50 years ago

From Colin Greenhalgh's end of season newsletter to Vice Presidents and Honorary Members.

Not a great deal of new news to tell you. The Oxford University Occasionals and Cambridge University Wanderers had a successful game on our ground, as I wrote you about, despite a slippery surface caused by overnight hail followed by early morning frost. The result was an honourable 1-1 draw, Cambridge helped by our groundsman, Don Nute, who acted as a stand in goalkeeper for 20 minutes or so and kept the Oxford forwards at bay. The afternoon's game at Lord's produced a very favourable result, 1-0 to Oxford. The party which we organised for the teams in the evening was

alright, though, given more time to plan, we ought to be able to find more spacious and salubrious premises.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI has redeemed itself just a little at the very end of the season and with two league wins - Wimbledon and Mid Surrey - to add to their considerable number of draws, they have just lifted themselves off the foot of the table with one game – Teddington - to come. I think they have achieved one all-time record - something like 30 games played in the season, the weather having been relatively kind this year. Now they look forward to next year and to getting our second new pitch in action during the season or two.

20 years ago



Eddie O'Brien, sponsored by Steri Strip, in action against St Albans

Photo: Max Flego

10 years ago

Line Ups Beeston v Hampstead at Beeston, including a few names who later moved club....

**Beeston:** Dan Darby (England U18) Mark Wadsley (England U21) Tim Whiteman (Great Britain U21) David Ames (Ireland) Carl Smith (England U21) Martin Jones (Great Britain) James McBlane (Scotland) Stuart Pilgrim (England A) Matt Taylor (England) Stephen Lawrence (England U21) Alastair Wilson (Great Britain) Gordon McIntyre (Scotland) Joe Sharp (England U18) Chris Proctor (England U18) Richard Lawrence Sam Dixon (England U18) Tim Lewis (Ireland) Mo Ghandi (USA) Ashley Watson Dan Webster

**Hampstead:** Ian Scanlon (GK) Hamish Coates (GK) David Cooper Iain Mackay Toby Roche (c) Duncan Parnis Will Naylor David Edmonds Dani Malgosa Scott Cooper Tom Kavanagh Mike Dodd Sam Pike Chris Bowen Neil Hamilton Jack Beard. Manager, Thea Hitchcock Coach, Chris Rowoholt Physio, Luke Kellaway

**Next edition**

All being well, the next Newsletter will report on the Pro-League, thank Simon Letchford for his contribution to the Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XI and cover the start of the 2023-24 season

If you have any news or comment, please direct it to [disvelwell@gmail.com](mailto:disvelwell@gmail.com)