

Welcome

This Supplement is largely to provide a correction to the date of the annual Memorial Match that is to be held on **Sunday 4 September 2016**.

As mentioned in the main Newsletter, plans are still being formed for the weekend but there will be a formal black tie dinner in support of the Men's and Women's 1st XI's at the Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly London W1J 7PX in the evening of 3 September 2016. This is to include a charity auction and fund raising events.

It is hoped to arrange matches to support the event and the Memorial Match on the Sunday involving the top teams and to give an opportunity to meet the current players. More news on this will follow, probably via Will Saxby.

The **Cavalry and Guards Club** has an intriguing history. The site is known to have been occupied by a watchmaker in 1715. It was later used by an auctioneer. By 1823, the house had passed into use as a lodging-house until demolition in 1875. The new dwelling erected on the site was sold to Sir John Puleston, who for 18 years from 1874, sat as MP for Devonport, losing his seat in 1892.

In April 1890 the owner, Captain Weatherall of the 20th Hussars, offered the premises to the Club. The leases of both 125 and 126 Piccadilly were acquired and in 1907 extensive refurbishment began that was completed in 1909.

In 1975, the Guards Club gave up its nearby premises and merged with the Cavalry Club. In 1984, the freeholder sold all its West End properties, including 127 Piccadilly to an overseas buyer, who immediately sold them on to Stockley plc. Stockley drew up plans to convert the premises into a hotel and desired to terminate the Club's Lease that was due to expire in 1988. However, the Club resolved not to leave what had been its home for a century. It raised sufficient funds to enable it to buy the property from Stockley in April 1987. Since then more than £3m has been spent on refurbishment and redecoration.

Grand Masters

It has been suggested that the earlier report concerning the last Grand Masters Over 65 Tournament Trophy failed to give due prominence or recognition to Mike Patton, who was representing England LX White. In attempt to remedy that we need to recollect that Mike was willing to captain the Hampstead 1st XI at a most difficult stage in the mid 1970's. In the 1976-76 season the team failed to win a London League match and drew three. As pointed out, we should have nothing but admiration for those who put their hand up for captaincy and all it entails. Particularly when the going gets tough.

Cup Competitions

There was insufficient room in the Newsletter to report on the Club's progress in the various Cup competitions. The Mixed XI were unable to repeat their success of last season at the finals and fell to 4-3 to West Herts in the second round. This followed a 4-2 win on penalties against Tulse Hill/Dulwich in the first round, after it finished 2-2 in ordinary time. The quarter finals of the competition take place on 15 May 2016 and the semi-finals at Lee Valley on 4 June 2016, with the final on the next day.

The Women's 1st XI equally, but perhaps not surprisingly, could not match the heroic feats of an appearance in the final and were beaten by Premier League opponents, Buckingham by 3-1. This was after a first round win in Lincoln against the Lindum Club, by three goals to none.

In the Men's competition, Brighton & Hove were beaten 5-2 and then history repeated itself when the 1st XI were beaten by Chichester in round 2 by a score of 4-3. Chichester were struggling in

the National League Conference, attempting to stave off relegation. And yet in the Cup, they were a transformed team, such that they went on to beat Havant in the quarter finals and then held on to beat Surbiton in the semi-finals after an immense example of intrepid goalkeeping to thwart almost 20 short corners from a leading Premier League team. Their 1-0 win takes them to the final against Beeston, whose record in the Cup is well-known to H&W...



The Vets wanted to offer a proverbial wave as they successfully fought off concerns of relegation with a surge of results at the end of the season

Junior Section

There has been a resurgence in junior hockey at H&W and it has been remiss not to have recorded it earlier. Admittedly H&W are some distance from the levels of success enjoyed by the likes of Southgate and Surbiton. But the perceived problem of the Club's location appears to be left behind, as the teams grow. The Club now runs Boys' teams at under 10, under 12, under 14 and under 16 levels, This range is repeated with four Girls' teams. There is also an under 8 Mixed team that has played in 7 a side festivals.

The youth section is for ages 5 to 16. Players can play senior hockey when aged 14 and the Club encourages those of that age to integrate into the senior club before becoming full time senior members at 16 years.

Training is on Sunday mornings at PRG and there is an evening session on Thursdays between 6.00pm and 7.20pm. The season is from September to July, in four to six week sessions, avoiding half terms and school holidays. The Club has a Welfare Officer for the Junior Section, Alex Smart, to whom enormous credit goes. An inordinate amount of work and commitment are required and there is, of course, much responsibility at its core.

From Yesteryear

90 years ago

The Committee learned on 4 March 1926 that "a communication had been received that there was a possibility of sharing a ground with the Old Felstedians situated near New Eltham Station at a rental of £50 for the season but that it required re-draining and the changing accommodation increased – it was stated to be generally rather wet.

A general discussion ensued and it was decided to ask Mr F R Eiloart if he would visit the ground with Mr Falke. If their report was favourable, the Hon Sec was instructed to get in touch with Mr B S Evans of the Old Felstedians and ask if (1) that rental would be asked, £30 being the limit that the Club could afford (2) if it could be rented on an annual basis (3) if the Club could have an option for renewal at least one year ahead. If it was seen that a satisfactory agreement could be arrived at, the Hon Sec was further instructed to arrange fixtures for a 4th XI.

A further discussion took place as to how the additional income would be obtained if the ground was secured – the general feeling being that the annual subscription would have to be slightly increased, with possibly an entrance fee for new members – but no definite decision was arrived at"¹

80 years ago

On 2 April 1936, a Committee meeting was convened at 78-79 Leadenhall Street London EC3, the solicitors' offices of the then Secretary, Kenneth Ingledew, who after his later move back to Wales, became a leading administrator in the game (and, by reports, having been left unable to play after a bad accident on the field of play).

The Secretary was instructed to write again at the end of the summer term to the Sports Masters of Marlborough, Wellington, Charterhouse, Cranleigh, St Lawrence and Greshams enquiring as the possibility of obtaining recruits from these schools for next season.

The Chairman read a memorandum prepared by Mr Sankey as to the method of selecting teams and the entertainment of visitors. Considerable discussion took place on these matters and after the views of the Committee has been fully expressed, it was decided to appoint a sub-Committee, consisting of the Chairman and Messrs Milsted, Sankey, Hayward, Mawer and Ingledew to draft recommendations to be laid before the next Annual General Meeting.

Mr Sankey proposed that the subscription should be raised to £2-2-0 in order to cover the cost of teas for visiting teams. It was decided to ask the Treasurer to report as to the financial effect of such a change and, subject to his report being favourable, to recommend the alteration at the next General Meeting.

Captain Mawer presented the Report and Accounts of the Dance Committee, which showed that 158 tickets were sold and that the probable loss was £1-7-8. A vote of thanks and congratulations to the Dance Committee on the arrangements was carried unanimously.

Messrs C L H Darby, L C Hatt, A M Ormsby, T Mead, R Tucker and O H Sykes were elected full members.

The sub- Committee subsequently drafted the following statement to be issued to all members with the Notice of the Annual General Meeting:

"At a special meeting held on 2 April 1936, it was resolved that the following recommendation be put before the General Meeting in September:-

- 1 That a Selection Committee be formed consisting of the captains and vice-captains of your teams together with one other representative of each team
- 2 That this committee shall meet in London each Saturday night to select the teams for the following Saturday
- 3 In the event of a member not having notified his ability to play by Wednesday evening, he shall be deemed not to be available for the following Saturday."

Next edition

As mentioned last time around, the next main Newsletter will aim to cover developments over the summer and the fixtures for the 2016-17 season. New opponents in the National League will then be known. If you have any news or comment, please direct it to mail@velwell.eclipse.co.uk.

¹ There is no evidence that this opportunity was ever taken up