

KHC NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2016

Ladies O45 at the National Finals

As someone new to the managerial side of the game I couldn't have had a better initiation than our lovely O45 ladies.

What a great bunch. An Autumn trip to Bedford (comfy 3-0 win), a chilly winter trip to Timperley with just 11 players, an opposition who thought they would win the Cup, and a great trip home with a semi final berth booked. 3-3 and 3-2 on pens doesn't do the game justice. Brilliant stuff. A spring semi final that went from a struggle to a stroll saw Chester dispatched 5-2 and a trip to Lee Valley beckoned. Cambridge City the opposition.

Hey hey, a bus trip. Priorities sorted - a case of bubbly in the boot. 6 o'clock leave, fans on board, nervous chatter. We should travel by bus more often to games! Very pleasant. The stadium was a case of the haves and the have nots. Fans banished to the stands while players and management had hands stamped to get into the changing rooms and pitchside. We arrived in plenty of time for a look at the pitch - much bluer close up than it looks on the telly. The ladies got ready while I milled around obviously banned from the changing room. Shez conducted her radio interview with Radio Northampton. Will Kirsty arrive from Florida in time? Yes, with 45 minutes to go! Shez team talk all about how she knew we would do well in the competition but were here now to win. My part all about



giving players self belief. Unlike games at KLV there is a whole page of protocol to read to the team about how to walk out onto the pitch, wave to the crowd etc. Short warm up, everything is timed to ensure no delay. Back inside, big walk out, names on the big screen, Kettering flag (thanks Jack) tied to our dug out, cheering fans.

The game? A bit attritional and as you know we lost 2-1. Guttled doesn't quite cover it. Everyone got a run out except the injured Mary. Bar the result everyone had a great day. Interestingly everyone said they would rather have lost on the show pitch than won on the second pitch. The ladies were a great advert for the club and really raised the profile of Kettering HC. Rumour has it Sue is still wearing her medal! Well done to England Hockey who really did make everyone feel special. Entering next year? You bet. Barry

LX LIONESSES AUSTRALIA WORLD CUP REPORT 2016

Jan's Trip to Australia

Like many of my fellow LX team mates I played my first game of Hockey over 50 years ago, at a time when players were generally invited to play for a club rather than clubs having to get out there and actively try to recruit new members. Everything of course was in Black and White in those days! And yes so many of our juniors still believe that!!

We all remember when warm-ups involved clearing the leaves from the pitch and deciding how much mud on the pitch was acceptable before having to cancel a game. And training sessions? What training sessions!!

Remember the three touch bully-off to start the game and the "roll-in" to re-start the game when the ball went off the pitch? There was the long corner bully which took place on the "25yard line" and of course the off-side rule. Remember always having to face the goal we were shooting into and never turning our backs to the goal? Does anyone else still struggle to ignore this ancient rule or is it just me? And would our 1960's hockey sticks with their very, very long heads have passed the extremely rigorous stick tests we were subjected to at the 2016 World Cup?

How times have changed from those early days and how many of us would ever have dreamt of playing in a World Cup and in Australia of all places.

There was the initial excitement when it was first suggested that we might be able to form a team followed by the doubts " Would I be good enough" "Can I really afford to go" "Who else will be there" "How will our other (sorry – better) halves cope, whether at home or out in Australia with the team"

Worried – Yes, but then the decision was made and at our first and only get together and practice before the tournament, we gelled as a squad. There was an immediate understanding between the players, a positive and encouraging atmosphere on the pitch and a great many laughs off the pitch. Players relaxed and we all really enjoyed playing the game that has been part of our lives for so many years.

Particular thanks go to Sue Myers and members of Wolverhampton & Tettenhall Hockey Club for providing us with a great opposition for our practice fixture. We were made to feel so welcome and the hospitality and fantastic refreshments went down very well after the game.

We travelled to Australia as the “LX Lionesses” and we wish to thank the “LX Men” for their support, help and encouragement. We are the first ladies team to play under the LX banner and following on from the hard work put in on our behalf by Linda, Anne and Jackie who are preparing a constitution we hope to officially form the LX Ladies later this year.

The team arrived in Canberra during the weekend prior to the tournament and it was fun catching up on all the news. Players travelled to Australia from all parts of the U.K. and could now be considered firm friends as well as team mates. A lot of sight-seeing and then down to business with our first trip to the stadium for our allocated practice session. A big change from our wonderful council pitches with one man and his dog looking on and often usually only the dog.

We soaked up the atmosphere as we prepared for our first game the following day. We played well but unfortunately were no match for the long established England team. As the week went on however we got better and better with improving results against Australia, New Zealand and then the Wattles (Australia “B” team). A narrow loss to the Alliance saw us in the play-off for 5th and 6th place. A draw in the final match of the tournament with the Alliance was probably a fair result giving us 5th place overall. We played some great Hockey at times and maintained a positive, supportive and encouraging attitude throughout the tournament. We had fun and enjoyed each and every day.

Sightseeing was a must in Canberra and I still remember the slight look of concern or maybe it was more of a look of horror from our team coach when a few of us walked up Mt Ainslie, followed by a long trek around the lake to the Sunday market and then the equally long trek back to the hotel. It was an exhausting walk with our very own walk leader Linda leading the way. It was the day before one of our more difficult matches and yes he was probably right we were a little tired!! (The views however – wonderful and the bargains in the market not to be missed !)

Beth (Anne’s daughter) was soon appointed as our “carer” and who knows how we would have got on without her help. She got us onto the correct buses at the correct time, sorted out our tickets, found restaurants that would seat up to 16 and generally made sure we didn’t get into too much trouble. Not only that, Beth was also our team manager and made sure everything went smoothly throughout the tournament. We totally relied on her and she didn’t let us down!!

We must also mention the support team of husbands and partners who were brilliant: so supportive and encouraging and wonderful providers of beer after the games! Finally thanks to Anne for sourcing great playing kit as well as our fabulous tour shirts

It would be too difficult to mention individual players but Di, our goal keeper, who had not played in goal before the tournament, was awesome and kept us in many games with her totally brilliant saves. Our mid-field players were fantastic, they ran and ran and ran and were ably supported by our solid defence. We have to mention Annie’s goals of course and the support she received from our forwards.

.Finally Jackie: What can I say? Probably the best captain I have ever played under. Cool Calm and Collected. Always encouraging, always on top of things, always with a kind word to say even when you’ve done something really stupid on the pitch, or even off the pitch.

Jackie made Australia happen and I for one cannot thank her enough.

Jan Randle

K-Mexit not Brexit

The men's section of the hockey club voted to leave the Midlands hockey league and join the East League.

Kettering HC Prime minister Cox called a snap referendum at the AGM after the K-Mexit campaign gained the requisite momentum and led strongly in the polls. The Leave campaign was led by the Scottish MSP hard left voice of Neil Manley who has campaigned for KMexit since Christmas after



falling out with the EM's (East Midlands) non movement on a number of issues such as open leagues, uncompetitive matches & travel time. Chancellor Sellers and Website minister Coe investigated and declared the East League offers less travel time & hopefully more competitive matches vs Peterborough, St Neots & Cambridge. The East's open league (not open borders) system was more favourable to the standard of Kettering hockey as well.

The newly elected MP for the 2nd team Jason Clarke commented it was a 'no brainer', whilst the Skymoos MP Oliver Smith was quoted as saying 'why hasn't this been done before?'

It should be noted that this KMexit doesn't affect the women's section of the club who remain in the Midlands & Northamptonshire leagues respectively.

The KMexit campaign celebrated into the night at our parliament (the clubhouse) after the announcement and everyone is looking forward to the new challenges ahead - a promotion may even occur next season.

X Runner run

Club members get your training gear on, there's a obstacle course to run.

The general idea of this is to get the club together for a bit of fun. I've (Ricky) run a few of these types of courses over the years, and a few other club members have run either with me, or on similar runs.

So I'm proposing that we get as many club members as possible together in a couple of months for the X-Runner obstacle course run (not race!). Times aren't



important, and the only goal is that everyone that starts finishes. We'll all run together (at the pace of the slowest person), so we'll all finish together.

Information on the X-Runner itself can be found at <http://xrunner.co.uk/events/water-wipeout/>

It's a nice course, as the initial lap is only 5k (3.2 miles if you prefer), which isn't far! There is then the option to finish there, or those that want to run a second lap to make it 10k can do so. So what I'm planning is we'll all run one lap together and then those that want to carry on can do so, whilst everyone else can enjoy a rest and wait for everyone else (with a beer of course).

Those that ran the Winter Wolf Run 18 months ago and those that ran the Race For Life muddy runner last year should all be able to vouch for the enjoyment of these!!

Its Looking like £60.00 per person at them minute, which we'll get everyone to pay into a single account, and then we'll sign up everyone in one go. The remaining money can be put towards transport or whatever else. If people can also email either myself or their captains , so we can organise to transfer the funds, I can keep track and contact them directly for more information when required!

Its in about 8 weeks this Saturday, so anyone thinking that they won't be able to complete, trust me. In 8 weeks you can train for almost anything (you can train for a full marathon from scratch in 15 weeks!!). Plus, there's Monday sessions for those that can get to the clubhouse from 7-8 (we can move day/time if required). And there is also a fairly over-used concept that "every-one can run 5k" (though I don't strictly believe this, I guarantee that every member of the club can complete a 5k course, as they are all active people!!)

The only requirement is that anyone interested needs to be 15 years old as of the 9th July (the day of the run). Being able to swim would also be helpful, as there is a lot of water! Finally from me, I'm happy for anyone not directly involved in the club to come along too (family, friends, whatever). If it's going to encourage more people to join then that's great.Thanks , Ricky

Please email Ricky on rpayne88@live.co.uk to get his bank details in order to transfer him the money.

Dinner Dance Evening

A great night was had by all at the clubhouse with the party going long into the night. If you weren't there (why not?!) or if you can't remember the winners - the list is below. Well done to everyone for a very enjoyable evening.

Ladies 4th team - most improved Katie Devine Ladies 4th team - Player of the Year. Sophie Guyett

Men's 3rd team - most improved Ben Smith Men's 3rd team - Player of the Year. Matt Coe

Ladies 3rd team - most improved Caitlin Curran Ladies 3rd team - Player of the Year. Sam Bedford



Men's 2nd team - most improved Jack Bridges Men's 2nd team - Player of the Year. Tom Ward

Ladies 2nd team - most improved Alexa Webb Ladies 2nd team - Player of the Year. Helen Keyworth

Men's 1st team - most improved Lewis Pywell Men's 1st team - Player of the Year. Paul Donnelly

Ladies 1st team - most improved Sienna McNeil Ladies 1st team - Player of the Year. Harriet Graham

Team of the Year - Ladies 2nds

Jamie Cox Umpiring Award - Claire Jones

Annie Goodchild Ladies leading goal scorer - Kirsty Smith (23)

Men's Leading Goal scorer - Ant Paton (not 23)

Marie Phillips Goalkeeper of the Year - Amy March

Jean Smith U18 Player of the Year - Emma Storey

Michael Wren U18 Player of the Year - Dom Cusk

Fran Davis Award Clubwoman of the Year - Louise Storey

Clubman of the Year - Ricky Payne

Pitch News

Whilst on your travels to away matches up and down the country, what has impressed you about other team's astroturfs regarding training equipment, dugouts, signs etc?? Please get in touch with a committee member so we can consider what we would like on an Astro.

Eight things you won't hear on the pitch at KLV, but you will hear when we get a new pitch...

" don't these goals move smoothly"

" it's effortless moving the goal to the far end"

" crikey, those floodlights are bright"

"Goal for Kettering"

" those showers are far to hot"

"Isn't the pitch playing well today"


" is that Kirsty training over there?"

"Can someone collect the footballers pitch hire money?"






Claire Voyant brings KHC your Hockey Horoscopes

 **Taurus - Apr. 20 - May 20** You'll be seeing stars all right when you find yourself flat on your back after a gruesome tackle. Take the advice of Club Elder, Tony. Get your retaliation in first.


Lucky beer: Elgoods Cambridge

Lucky Stick: Grays GX8000 Pro Bowl

 **Gemini - May 21 - June 20** Fortune favours you. Tom hasn't realised you've not paid your subs. You will find yourself popular around the bar. You share centre back duties with Benedict Cumberpatch.


Lucky beer: Sharps Doom Bar

Lucky ball: Kookaburra Elite Dimple (but we can't afford them)

 **Cancer - June 21 - July 22** Sat Nav confusion reigns when you find yourself lost in Buxton when we are playing Bourne. Don't panic. Follow the nearest tractor to get back on route.


Lucky beer: Old Speckled Hen

Lucky Tractors: John Deere 7R Series

 **Leo - July 23 - Aug. 22** The Lion. Brave, strong, a hunter. Asleep in the day. That's why you getting roasted by an ancient St Neots winger. Come on - get a grip.


Lucky Beer: Singha

Lucky half time snack: Haribo (but not the sour ones)

 **Virgo - Aug. 23- Sept. 22** You are unstoppable. You are absolutely buzzing this week. It's probably due to the three cans of Monster you drank on the way to the game.


Lucky Beer: Hobgoblin

Lucky Tea: Sausage and beans (with chips if you're really lucky)

 **Libra - Sept. 23 - Oct. 22** Being stuck on the A14 may seem like a curse but see it as an opportunity to hone your ability to recognise root vegetables from distance.


Lucky Beer: Woodforde's Wherry

Lucky Vegetable: Turnip (or Swede if out of season)

 **Scorpio - Oct. 23 - Nov. 21** It seems a disaster when you forget your towel but all is soon well when you borrow someone elses. It becomes a disaster again when you find their condition is contagious.


Lucky Beer: Ruddles County

Lucky Pitch: one with a blue outside and nice goals

 **Sagittarius - Nov. 22 - Dec. 21** You feel that no one cares about you. Is that because you are doing teas and washing up and manning the bar. All at the same time while trying to get the TV to work.


Lucky Beer: Peroni in a bottle

Lucky Shin pad: an old Mercian pair with canes (you remember)

 **Capricorn - Dec. 22 - Jan. 19** The House of Mars enter the fourth quarter of Venus. No, not a clue either but it will rain and you lose 2-1. You don't score.


Lucky Beer: Jennings Cumberland

Lucky Paint: Farrow and Ball Duck Egg

 **Aquarius - Jan. 20 - Feb. 18** Your game will be halted by a stampede of geese. Bill Oddie will be umpiring. A strange day all round capped by Quorn burgers for tea.


Lucky Beer: Theakston's Old Peculiar

Lucky Lottery Number: 4

 **Pisces - Feb. 19 - Mar. 20** Remember to pack your shorts. You caused a stir in Louth last time by wearing a ladies skort. The locals still talk about it but at least your face was pixelated on the front page of the Louth Observer.

Lucky Beer: Charles Wells Bombardier

Lucky Road Kill: Badger

 **Aries - Mar. 21 - Apr. 19** You're so good in front of goal you're on fire. Fortunately, teammates have an extinguisher on hand. Don't keep a lighter in your pocket when you play. Top safety tip from Claire Voyant.

Lucky Beer: Nethergate Growler

Lucky Snack: Pork Scratchings (from an unlabelled bag)

Interview with a KHC legend Series

Neil Freeman

We start with a gentle question, what's your favourite film? its difficult to decide between Escape to Victory (bad film but the cast includes 5/6 of the early 1980s Ipswich Town team all of whom are my heroes), Zulu (the British at their bloody minded best) or Glengary Glen Ross - but it has to be the later. If you've never seen it, try and get hold of a copy, it features Al Pacino, Alec Baldwin, Jack Lemmon Kevin Spacey, Ed Harris, Alan Arkin and Jonathan Pryce, all at their very best in a story about the cut-throat world of real-estate sales in the US. Its brilliant.

Favourite Food? Easy, fish and chips eaten al-fresco somewhere by the sea.

Favourite Opposition? It used to be Grantham with their roll over and die approach to the game, more recently maybe Newark, they play hard, its normally a close game and they are not a bad bunch.

Favourite ground? - Ive always liked to see how the other half live when weve played at Oundle or Uppingham Schools.

TV show? Currently it would be Family Guy or Sherlock (with the exception of the recent Christmas special which was self-indulgent nonsense), from the past I find it hard to miss an episode of Bilko

Favourite Tea? - has the be a curry from the McDowell family, simple!

Best Kettering Player? - a really difficult one, Ive played with so many over the years, for experience and game management Phil Harte springs to mind, Rob Earle had wonderful skills and could score from anywhere, John Stables with his desire to run at any defence and shoot as soon as he could see the goalie but if Im really pressed to name a favourite it would probably be Dave Hone - he was generally there to sweep up after my mistakes and he read the game so well.

Best ever match? is probably from the mid 2000s, away at the table topping Sutton Coldfield on an astro near to Birmingham City football club that had an incredible slope from goal to goal. Against the slope we were 3-0 down and then 4-1 down, the language at the half time team talk can only be described as industrial but we won the game 5-4 with the slope. The opposition refused to speak to us after the game, nobody told where the teas where laid on (generally a good sign that youve had a good day) so we made the 10 mile journey to their clubhouse on the outskirts of Birmingham, no opposition where in sight but there was some food so we tucked in only to be told it was for the ladies when they finished their National League game. Happy days!

How many games have you played for KHC? - no idea! Ive been playing since 1995, if you take an average of 20 games per season thats 400 games (ish) Others will have played more.

Where will KHC be in 5 years time? Just speaking for the mens section,there we will be 4 teams playing attractive, confident hockey in the East league having had a couple of successful seasons. The link with schools will provide a pool of enthusiastic and skillful talent which weve been missing for a while. For the whole club, there will also be a lot of discussions about the need to a new trophy cabinet in the clubhouse to display all the newly acquired silverware.

Thanks to Neil Freeman there sharing some deeply personal information. Can you spot him in the picture from the men's 1st team in 1999...



BACK L-R: Dave Hone(c), Joe Hart, Jon Stables, Tim Middleton, Neil Freeman, Simon Warren, Laurie Linnell FRONT L-R: Jaimie Fowler, Simon Stringer, Chris Randle, Gary Hennell, Mark Coles

Skymoos Mixed Hockey

As we go to print , the mixed team won their first game 6-0 with goals from Jess Austin, Jill, Lewis x 3 and Dom. They also won their 2nd

game 8-0!! At last the gents can say they have won some hockey matches in 2016.

However, could the 2016 Skymoos team beat this bunch below from May 1985?!



BACK L-R: Dave Douche, John Cox (not Barry!) Dave George, Chris Hales, Greg Wines, ??, Graham Smith L-R: Liz Finlayson, Claudia Macagnino, Shez Joyce, Erica Smith, Jean Smith, Lucy Snelson, Julia Telford

One final point, Remember:

Email: ketteringhc@gmail.com

Website: www.pitchero.com/clubs/ketteringhockeyclub

Follow Us on Twitter: @kett_hc

Follow Us on Facebook: Kettering Hockey Club

And your new committee for 2016/7 is:

Position	Officer
President	Jean is happy to con
Chairperson	Jaime Cox
Vice Chairperson	Barry Coe
Secretary	Liz Metcalfe
Membership Secretary	Tom Sellers
Treasurer	Tom Sellers
Vice Treasurer	Louise Storey
Fixtures Secretary (Men)	Tim Coleby
Fixtures Secretary (Ladies)	Laura Newlyn
Umpires Co-ordinator	Vacant
Webmaster	Barry Coe
Social Secretary	Ant Paton
Marketing/Sponsorship	Sian Hughes Jones
Junior Rep (girls)	Emma Storey
Junior Rep (boys)	Dom Cusk
Child Welfare Officers	Nigel Parkes
KTCSC Main Club Reps	Eddie Walker
Ladies 1 st XI Captain	Laura Cave
Ladies 2 nd XI Captain	Shez Coe
Ladies 3 rd XI Captain	Vacant
Ladies 4 th XI Captain	Sig Foreman
Ladies Vets Captain	Shez Coe O45s
	Michelle Tanser O35s
Men's 1 st XI Captain	Anthony Paton
Men's 2 nd XI Captain	Jason Clarke
Men's 3 rd XI Captain	Neil Manley
Men's Vets Captain	Tony Heath O50s
	Mark Hawkins
Skymoos Captain	Ollie Smith
Junior Manager	Louise Storey
General Rep	Jan Randle
General Rep	Amy March
General Rep	Kate Randle