



Vauxhall Chiltern Newsletter



November 2011

Members!

I am writing to give you an update of what is happening in the club. But first of all may I offer a warm welcome to all the new members and some who have returned. It is brilliant to see so many new and not so new faces. It feels like the 'old days' when we have a great team spirit and the friendly club that we know and love! Numbers turning up to training are good...so keep up the good work everybody the fitness is getting better - albeit slowly in my own case!

We had a great start to the season, once again running the 7-a-side tournament which we have managed to continue and let's hope it becomes like the Vauxhall sixes of old days. Lots of people helped especially with the umpiring – Ilona, Helen Neil and Loraine and the catering always supported by Wayne – so thank you for that.

Our good news is that we have 3 teams running in the leagues, which is absolutely fabulous and I would like to thank the captains who do a sterling job. Sam Clark has taken over from Nicarra for the firsts and Bev has continued with the seconds and Chris Chapman joining the captain's crew! We all enjoy playing on a Saturday so make sure you make it easy (or at least easier) for your captain to do a good job by letting them know ASAP your availability. We would love to have good availability all the time, but it is not easy.

We also managed to nearly get everybody kitted out in a great new top and socks and some skorts. The jury is out on the skorts but I guess it says it all when I came home in mine my hubby said I looked like a proper hockey player! (What have I been all this time??!) A very big thank you to Nicarra for all her hard work to get the kit ready and delivered...even while pregnant. But having being involved with the kit I realise what a hard job it is. I know change is difficult so people will take a little time to get used to it and I am sure that any problems will be ironed out. We will be sorting out an order soon so get thinking about what you would like to order for Christmas...the hoodies have been particularly successful.

The other bit of news is that we have been approached by Luton Town Hockey Club to consider joining with them. It is true that Luton Town really can't take 2 clubs and we had a meeting recently to talk about what the implications were. To join together would mean that we could pool all our resources to maintain the highest level of hockey in the town. But the biggest impact, if we joined together, would be to get an astro pitch with clubhouse attached to it. There are some people trying to do that at the moment and it would mean that we could have a say in how things are developed. Of course nothing will change if we don't have the say so of the club and I would like you to take a moment to think about this. We think the best way of you telling us is to have a referendum whereby you can say yes, you agree in principle to Luton Town and Vauxhall Chiltern joining at some time in the future, or you can say no. We will

be having a meeting in early November to discuss any results of your votes so I would ask you to fill in the reply slips and return it to your captain, or reply anonymously returning the reply slips at the reception at VRC. **Please note we need your votes in by Wednesday 9th November.**

Dates coming up!

27th November: Vase competition venue tbc

4th December: Vets Plate Round 1

10th December: Karaoke Night and festive frolics...all families welcome so bring everybody and make this a fun night to remember.

1st Team Notes

The first team have had mixed fortunes this season. It has been a shock going into the Premier Div. and at the same time losing a couple of players. So the results have not started well, but the good news is that the team have started scoring and with luck they will start winning soon.

2nd Team Notes

The team managed to stay in the 3rd Division this season, but it has meant that there is quite a bit of pressure for a new team. It has not been the best start to the season when looking at the results but the team is starting to play together more and it is looking more positive each week. (*We have a few new players and it is good to welcome them to our mad team says Hilary*)

3rd Team Notes

The third team have entered a mixed 6th and 7th Division so there are some different levels of teams, but it has been exciting to see that they have been winning most games, or at least drawing, resulting in a good position near the top of the league. It is the friendliest team, just like the old days! It is a mix of ages with the youngest being 13-year-old Chelsea, and we won't say how old the oldest player is. We have even seen Gill Sentinella gracing the pitch and seeing her run down the wing smiling brought back many memories!!