

Scoop



Chalfont St. Peter

Hockey Club

Volume 14 No. 1

Dec 1998

Scoop : Volume 14 No 1

Scoop was edited by Peter Colwill of Chalfont St. Peter, a bachelor of this parish and was published by Andrew Watts a bachelor and hotelier of this parish.

Scoop gratefully acknowledges the efforts of all contributors especially those of Catherine Watson, a spinster of various parishes who had absolutely no connection with Graham Greene.

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 Simon Seabrook
 Mike Snell
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Editorial

Scoop is back arising Phoenix like to haunt the unwary. Twenty years after Chris Clarke thrust the Club's "Official Organ" at unsuspecting Hockey folk, Volume 14 stutters into life.

Coerced by Andrew Watts and bullied by Catherine Watson, I announced the Organ was making a comeback. "Yerwhat" came the erudite reply from the assembled. A simpler statement that SCOOP was going to appear met with an equally baffled response.

It is only 24 months since the last edition of SCOOP but the times are a changing. Annie Brothwell has been deported but allowed back into the country now making twice as much noise. Catherine Watson has reached middle age, Mike Snell commutes from Germany, the E.H.A. web site has come and gone, Andrew Earnshaw fled to the North after writing pertinent profiles of the men's second team and is now playing for Carlisle, and Dave Peters and Jo Barrow got married, twice, on opposite side's of the world.

There is of course much else to record, we hope to cover much. If it is not in this edition it is probably because you didn't write it. Articles and letters for the next edition much sought so please get the quill pen out.

VERBA VOLENT SCRIPTA MANENT

A View from the Chair

Giles Payne Likes What He Sees

It is with great pleasure and surprise that I write my "View from the Chair", having been co-opted onto the committee as pseudo-club coach, I now find myself strapped into the high chair. A number of people who have seen my table manners may think that this is very appropriate and others will consider it a suitable place from which to throw my toys.

It is good news for the club that our venerable mouthpiece "SCOOP" is back in print. Many thanks to Beanie and Watsy for their efforts. I hope that no one will resort to contacting their lawyers to bring actions against the perpetrators of the half truths and innuendo that I hope the other contributors have penned.

Firstly, I would like to welcome all the new members to the club and thank them for their efforts to join in not only on the pitch but also in the social and organisational side. In particular, Helen Kitto for the mixed team with Clodder, and James Heath for his hands on approach to youth development.

This is made much easier by the organisational efforts of Catherine - her events are thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. I also believe that everyone's recollections help Catherine to piece together each of the previous evenings.

Thanks should also go to Neil for his sterling work as men's 1st XI captain and fixture secretary. The men's sides would not function without his efforts. Charles Barrowcliffe also made great steps in his hard work putting together a Third XI who are coming on well!

Congratulations to the ladies for the position of the 1st XI and the new 2nd XI who are now playing every week. This is down to the great commitment shown by Jo and Dave Peters and Sarah Birger.

The committee has other new members doing fine work for the club, Sarah Ottaway as Secretary (unfortunately she hasn't dressed appropriately yet!) and Alison Spicer as Press Liaison. We shouldn't forget the effort Heidi has put in to ensuring we have umpires in the right place at the right time (Neil please take

note for the 1st XI games against NPL!!)

Finally, and most importantly, everyone should be aware of the enormous amount of work put into the lottery grant application to build a new club house. We are indebted to Geoff Bullock and Simon Seabrook in particular. I am sure that they can continue to rely on the support of the club.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas party on December 18th.

Congratulations To:

Ladies 1st XI	Who won and were promoted from Division 4 last season
Ladies 1st XI	Who this season in Division 3 played local rival Gerrards Cross (who came down from Division 2) and beat them 3-0!!!
David & Honor Galletly	On the arrival of a girl, Gemma
Mark & Lorna Pearce	On the arrival of their twin boys Finlay and Gregor
Mark & Kate McCree	On the arrival of a boy, Nicholas
Julie & Simon Seabrook	On the arrival of a boy, Ben
Michael Lawson	For purchasing a property in London, therefore keeping Annie Brothwell out of South Bucks during the week days (giving our ear drums time to recover from the weekend onslaught!)
Heidi Jones	On qualifying as a level one umpire
Pippa Brettle	Scoring six goals against Boyne Hill

Ladies

Mike Snell : A View from (not so) afar!

1998 has been a successful year for the ladies.

The 1st XI came into the new year lying in fourth place of Division 4 of the Trysports Three Counties League, but with the situation within our control to clinch at least second place – all they had to do was win each of the remaining seven games!

In the lead-up friendly games the ladies had a good set of tough fixtures, losing only once (to Gerrards Cross 1st XI – see sequel later on in the year) and coming out on top against two teams from higher leagues.

Chalfont did not lose another fixture for the rest of the season, and indeed did win all seven of their remaining league games, scoring twenty-four goals and conceding only two.

Promotion was assured with one game still to go, and with the pressure off, Chalfont travelled to City of Oxford and secured the division title with a comfortable 3 – 1 victory.

Over the whole league season of fifteen games, Chalfont only conceded six goals, which was the best defensive record of any league side, with the next best already into double figures.

Those who attended the Club Supper in April will know that the winners trophy was presented during the evening (it is normally only collected at the league meeting in June) and the ,management‘ were pleased to be able to arrange this so that the achievements of the ladies could be recognised by the club.

The ladies also took part again in the Cressex Summer League, and although not qualifying for the later stages, enjoyed their first victories in the league, where we normally play against sides who are at least two divisions higher.

Although playing on average a game every fortnight throughout the summer, the ladies maintained their consistency of performance, despite the usual situation of variable team availability.

When this season’s fixtures came out for Division 3, the game we were all looking for was the first league match against Gerrards Cross 1st XI, who had been relegated from Division 2 at the end of the season. The match was to played in the middle of November.

The ladies started the 1998/1999 season with some initial friendly matches before embarking on their first season in Division 3 – and made a ,flying start‘ to their first

league match. Taking the initial centre-pass, Chalfont went straight down the pitch and scored after only 22 seconds, which paved the way for a resounding 6 – 0 victory.

Of the other seven league matches there has been one defeat, against a very good Oxford University side, while the rest have all resulted in victories, including a comfortable 3 – 0 success against Gerrards Cross.

Two of the games have however been disappointing, in that the opposition were only able to field a reduced strength side which resulted in easy victories.

However the benefit of this is that coming into the Christmas break for the league fixtures (they resume in February), Chalfont sit at the top of Division 3. The situation is not unlike this time last year, and we shall have to see how different the pressure is with being chased rather than doing the chasing.

During the start of the year it was decided to make the establishment of a second team a high priority, and to this end a full set of friendly fixtures was arranged with the aim of having a target to go for rather than waiting to see what would happen at the start of the season with regard to numbers and availability.

So far each of the second team fixtures has been fulfilled and it bodes well for the progress of the ladies section if we have a second team coming up behind the first team. Well done to those who have put a lot of effort into achieving this.

The support the ladies matches have received from the sidelines has been excellent, with club members being prepared to come along and watch regularly and even attending at some of the away games. This support is well appreciated and it works both ways, with ladies going to watch some of the men's games.

Finally the coverage received by the ladies matches throughout the year in the local Buckinghamshire Advertiser has been excellent. We now have large reports every week with photographs appearing now and again to supplement them.

Alison Spicer is now the Press Officer and is doing an excellent job in maintaining the high profile of the club in the sports pages.

Girls on Film - See the full video footage!!

Chalfont St Peter Ladies away at Pilgrim Ladies and was one of the seven straight league wins in the second half of the 1997/ 98 season. The result was 4-1.

Stupid Old Dotards

Many people had come to visit Onion. So Onion went out to find food and drink for the guests. Whilst she was out she telephoned home. One Touch answered the telephone

“Hello” said One Touch

“Hello” said Onion “Is Chris there?” she asked

One Touch surveyed the assembled who included many people she did not know. Then One Touch had an idea! “Is Chris here?” she asked Onion’s friends. One of Onion’s friends was Pilchard, who helpfully contributed the information that Chris had not yet arrived.

One Touch repeated this to Onion. When One Touch had replaced the receiver she became troubled and turned to Pilchard “Isn’t your name Chris?”, she asked Pilchard slowly. “Yes, I do believe it is” replied Pilchard “perhaps Onion wanted me.”

Stand Up

ANNIE BROTHWELL S.O.D.

CATHERINE WATSON S.O.D.

CHRIS PRITCHARD S.O.D.

SCOOP’S OWN DASTARD (1)

You cannot, of course, score an own goal in hockey. As our better informed readers are aware, the ball must be touched in the circle by an attacker, and the last attacker to touch the ball is credited with the goal.

Try however to explain this to Doug McColl the men’s first team goalkeeper.

Doug had the recent experience of lying stranded on the ground whilst sweeper James Heath carefully dribbled the ball into the goal.

That the ball had been hit by a forward in the circle was not in dispute, but James, a schoolmaster who claims to have a preliminary umpiring qualification, was under the terrible misapprehension that the shot from the attacker had to be goalbound for a goal to be registered.

In the words of Captain Alberto Bertorelli “What a mistaka to maka”

JAMES HEATH S.O.D.

SCOOP's OWN DASTARD (II)

Daniel Lovelace, a local youfff who sports fluffy dice in his Mini, was in attendance as the men's second team took a penalty corner.

Geoff Bullock stops, switches to Andy Cartwright. Trotter's shot takes a wicked deflection, ballooning into the net leaving the goalkeeper stranded.

Enter stage left Desperate Dan, who aims an overhead at the ball that would not have looked out of place at Roland Garros. Umpire Beanie on the point of awarding a goal has no hesitation awarding a free hit to the defence.

Daniel Lovelace S.O.D.

Post scriptum : SCOOP would not dream of mentioning the two chairs which Dan broke in the house of James Heath.

More Questions than Answers

Who mistook Catherine Watson for a traffic warden?

Who mistook Giles Payne for Marge Simpson?

Who considered Chris Pritchard on the dance floor to be an AIDS risk?

Which occasional goalkeeper requested their team mates refrain from calling the 'keeper's name in case there were police amongst the opposition?

1st Team Men

Neil Turner recounts the perils of captaincy

I can already feel the pressure. When asked to write a summary of the Mens 1st team season so far for this edition of Scoop I thought, fine, I can do that. But then Watsy handed me a pile of old editions of Scoop dating back to when Beanie was a lad (you know the period just after the last ice age) it suddenly dawned on me that this report could come back and haunt me for years to come. Oh... my... God. Right-oh, deep breath and away we go...

We came into the season on a bit of a roll (well I thought so anyway) from the summer league, having not lost since June (good considering we had lost the influential Watts and Wooler to Aylesbury), and were looking to continue the good form through the pre-season and into the league. So the season started on September the 5th at Cressex, or it did for Daffy anyway, who was the only player on the home side to turn up for a game against Amersham. Just a bit of a cock-up between myself and the stand-in captain... a sign of things to come? The following five or six pre-season games suggested not. Pre-season brought us one win, three draws and only two losses, and we were playing well, scoring goals and finding new players. The most notable performance being a 3-2 win away to Thames Valley in a slightly (yeah... right!) bad tempered game. We even had Watsy back... what more could we want?

So dawned a new league season... I even got a bit nervous on the first morning knowing Payne and Pearce were going to be missing. But by game time panic was over, BUC turned up with only nine players and no umpire. I did the only decent thing to do... I made one of them umpire (what do you mean that's not very sporting of me). Job done, 10-0 victory under our belts, 3 hat-tricks on the day... boy we were really going to get smashed that night. Well, we would have done if the they hadn't been scored by Watsy, Dan and Salsy who between them had about 15p!

So we were flying high at the top of the league when we left to play Mike Lawson and the boys at NPL the following week. It turned out Watsy and Mike had been winding each other up about the game for weeks on email, but hadn't actually mentioned the time of the game... doh... So anyway moving quickly on...

Following a good performance in the Bucks Cup on the Sunday (OK, it was a 2-9 loss, but it was against a Richings Park side who had a centre forward Daffy will have nightmares about for years to come), we handed Creightonians a 4-1 loss in a monsoon at Cressex. Martin Cartledge looked more than useful up front scoring his first two goals for the club. Hang on... I don't remember a jug for this one either... what is going on? We were still riding high at the top of the league... amazing... this captancy lark was getting easier by the week.

Then the wheels came off in quite spectacular fashion. Meredith was settling into the side quickly and scored his first goal for the club at Reading University (Still no jug), but it didn't help us as we took one point out of the next three games, the last of which was a heavy defeat to a bunch of farmers from Aldermaston. Next game up was Sulhampstead, a game best remembered (apart from the goal I roofed from a ball taken at waist height from three inches out) for the pre-game warm up. The idea was to meet at 9am and have a lengthy warm up. I arrived at Cressex to find Martin sat outside the gates of Cressex thinking he was locked out... not... Watsy just strolled up and pushed them open (How long had you been sat there Martin?). OK, the changing rooms weren't open... so we were forced to stand out in the cold for half an hour. Luckily time was passed by Watsy telling us about the goings on back home overnight between the French student lodger and her friend...details from Watsy

So, following a draw against Birkbeck where Watsy scored a hat-trick... and wait for it... bought a jug, we are now up to date.

Record To Date : Played 14, Won 3, Drawn 5, Lost 6, Goals For 35, Against 40

	Fines	Goals	Games		Fines	Goals	Games
Doug MacColl	£ 2.00		9(6)	Paul Meredith	1(1)	6(6)	
David Dunford	£ 3.00		13(6)	Richard O'Boyle	1	1	
Chris Blamey	£ 3.00		11(6)	Charles Barrowcliffe		1	
Andy Pearce	£ 1.00		9(5)	Chris Pritchard	£ 1.00	3(1)	
Alastair Wertheim	£ 2.00	1(1)	11(6)	David Scott		3	
Neil Turner	£ 2.00	6(3)	13(7)	Dave Peters		4	
Giles Payne	£ 1.00	3(1)	11(6)	Charlie Wooler		2	
Tim Brooker	£ 3.00		8(5)	James Sorby		2(1)	
Mark McCree	£ 2.00		7(3)	Nick Taylor		1	
Andrew Watts	£ 2.00	10(7)	12(7)	Dan Lovelace		3(3)	1(1)
Chris Russell-Jones		1	4	Steve Salsbury		4(3)	2(1)
Peter Colwill			3	Dave Emery	£ 1.00	2(2)	
James Heath	£ 4.00		7(5)	Simon Gooch		1(1)	2(2)
Martin Cartledge	£ 7.00	4(4)	4(4)				

Letters to the Editor

Dear Beanie

Was it the gremlins in Banner - Boy's computer or the red ink of the editor's pen which curtailed "Second Hand News", my humble offering for the last publication. Sadly the resurgence of Jim Bridge has gone unmarked in your columns. His entry should have read:

JAMES BRIDGE (Jim) A former Chairman and captain of a second team which was promoted. Allergic to plastic and away matches. Offside abolition has given him a new lease of life. "Get it in the circle".

Your round *Andrew Earnshaw*

Blind Man's Bluff - Guess Who

Has anyone yet noticed this vision impaired player on the pitch of the mens 1st XI, who takes his flannel onto the pitch with him, wrapped up in union jack material and folded and placed to cover not only his forehead but 1/2 his face including his eyes!!! Surprisingly, the ball is still creamed (apres helicopter wind up swing) straight to the opposing centre forward's stick!!!

Letters to the Editor

Have you spotted an error in this edition of Scoop. If so, get writing and you could be featured in the next one. Here are two letters regarding errors in the previous Scoop:

Dear Scoop

I would like to point out an inaccuracy in "Quotable Quotes" (Vol 13 No. 1). I never said "Stand aside, our Jaguars are coming." I believe you must be referring to an occasion when I followed the Club Secretary* out of Kudos Exclusive Dance and Snog Fest, into the nearest kebab shop at 2.00 a.m. one morning.

With typical efficiency, the Club Secretary had taken the precaution of securing a small fleet of minicabs to meet us apres-boogie. As a man of discernment, the Club Secretary had insisted upon Jaguars and had sought assurance from the telephonist at "Chalfont Executive Cars" that we would be greeted by nothing less.

Now seeing in front of him a kebab shop bursting with Watford's most hideous oiks and tikes and simultaneously conscious that our rendezvous time avec Jaguars was approaching fast, our illustrious Club Sec. demanded unhindered passage to the counter of this greasy emporium. He added in assertive but reassuring tones, "We have Jaguars waiting". The Black Sea parted and we were served.

Outside, now equipped with chicken kebab and extra chilli sauce, our estimable Club Sec. found himself faced with the prospect of no Jaguars. Instead what stood before us all, was a common mini-bus of European manufacture, piloted by an outsize African apparently with a bowling ball in place of a head.

Immediately our loquacious and diplomatic Club Secretary took control of the situation, shrieking in clear ringing tones, the following not unreasonable question, "Where "the ***** Jags."

Yours *Chris Pritchard*

*Club Secretary at the time being Andrew Watts

Mail from America

Clive Bearman, US bound comments on US "Field" hockey

Hello All,

As you may or may not know I've now moved out of goal keeping and migrated. In fact I haven't just moved to right half or right wing, I've moved all of the way to the United States. If any of you had seen my "skill" with a stick you probably think I've made the right choice. Luckily though, with the aid of technology I can still keep up to date with the latest and greatest club news and gossip via the web site and email.

I'm really finding out what it's like to be an ex-pat. You don't notice the big differences so much, just the little things. Take for example the word "Hockey". Now you and I both know what we mean by hockey. Astro-turf burns, stitches in the head, drunken tours, oh and that running around thing we do with a ball and a stick when it rains.

But over here "Hockey" takes on a different tone altogether. I'd say to people that "I was a hockey keeper" and their eyes would glaze over with awe and wonder.

"Wow!" would come the reply. Soon followed up with "but doesn't the puck hurt?"

Now you see where the confusion lies. I'd attempt to clarify the situation with

"Ah no, you mean ICE hockey. I play FIELD hockey."

"But that's for GIRLS!" would come the reply.

It seems that the only people to play hockey in the states are girls. I've searched all over the state and a men's club is impossible to find.

With that in mind I've decided to make it my mission to convert the U.S. into a male hockey nation. I'm not sure how to complete the task, but I think I should start with an established club.

So with my best Leslie Phillips accent "Hello Girls can anyone else play?"

The umpires view (even if he's blind!)

Having been asked to put pen to paper for scoop from the umpiring prospective, it's difficult to make it amusing.

Now that the club has 4 level one umpires (Beanie, Mike Snell Heidi & of course yours truly) we are dispatched at times around the county scene or at the club. Ours is a heavy load explaining to all and sundry why we made certain decisions in a particular match.

Umpiring is always easy when you are playing because you are in the midst of the action, the poor umpire can be 50 yds away if he's slow as Beanie!!

At our level the umpires are told if you achieve 60% to 75% you've had one hell of a game, not blowing any trumpet, but I'm very happy if a captain comes to me to say, "well ump, I thought you had really good game but I do disagree with that ONE decision in the 1st half." YOU WHAT I'M ***** DELIGHTED SKIP!!

The International umpires from my understanding are also told that they should aim for 80%, again I feel that some of the umpires I have seen do not come anywhere near this and some do, but again that relates to the level of the game you are umpiring.

I was the worlds worst complainer believe it or not, I know I'm usually a very quiet person not saying much, but as soon as I crossed that sideline I became a wild abusive animal who was always right. Not much has changed I here you cry but hang on we are what we are, we only want to win for the team and the club, just because some blind plonker has made a crap decision has turned us into a heavy breathing fire snorting beast, (sorry I brought in the mother-in-law again), but no the umpire can only make a decision he believes is correct. Yes I know there are many who are bloody awful!

But it is up to you guys and girls who are the current players, the game needs more level one umpires and as the game becomes more professional like other

sports, umpires will have to attain a certain level of competence, that is why the more people take the written exam and then umpire regularly they will see the difficulty in this part of the game.

On my final note to present this wonderful side of the game, the umpiring can dictate the level of the game speed etc.... But yet again if the ball speed and the general level of the game is poor then you will hear the whistle more than not. This is where your training is important for passing, control and ball speed.

The more people who take up umpiring to a improved standard can only improve the whole game, so why not have a go on a Sunday at a mixed game, see what it's like, you might enjoy sending off Neil, Beanie and Giles!!

That's all from me, but I'm quite happy watching anyone in the club who would like some tips, I'm not the best yet and I'm certainly not the worst either.

Mines a pint skipper.

Simon Seabrook

Mixed Up Team

I, Helen Kitto, am a wicked wench. I have failed to satisfy the world wide demand for news and scandal of the mixed team. I have been far too busy keeping the Editor and Paul Meredith in a pub in Hayes all afternoon and watching a pantomime at Aylesbury Hockey Club (that's what it is called these day - publisher).

I have also been extremely foolish in not checking directions to away matches and allowing Alastair Wertheim to lead the convoy. My indiscretions do not go unnoticed as there is a regular fines committee to which team baby Dan Lovelace also contributes heavily, as well as providing an Australian commentary that sounds more like Chris Pritchard than Pritchard himself.

XX

Helen Kitto a lady with a shady past, played for Marlow before seeing the error of her ways.

Views from the Bar

Since taking over the bar in March 1998, it has been an eventful time for all three of us. Most of the time it has been great fun staying sober and watching the rest of the club get on with the fun and enjoying a new found atmosphere.

Running the bar has also meant being inextricably linked with the Sports Club, Simon helping Geoff with the lottery application whilst Watsy has been fixing the club roof and general DIY (with great help from Mr Banner and Mr Blamey).

We would like to think there has been a considerable improvement behind the bar and in the catering, since the takeover last March, such as; the reintroduction of draught lager (particularly fine export, ask Chalkie (cricket)), getting the safe working, fine teas (Julie, definitely not Watsy or Simon), increased revenue to the club through the percentage of the takings, increased squash meter revenue, organisation of mid week matches with local companies.

Particular events which were very pleasing include the organisation of the cricket vs hockey cricket match, which finished at around 2.30am (apparently), the opening party and the recent 18th birthday party which was held for Geoff Bullocks daughter. Being behind the bar has also meant that we are able to help bring the three sports sections closer, which will be increasingly important in the new club house to support a viable future.

On the disappointing side, we had hoped more of the hockey section would use the facilities given the much improved teas and bar supplies, however, hopefully this will change when the new club house is built. Also, who nicked the satellite dish??

On a final note, if anyone ever wants the bar open, be it for a private function or simply for a sports event, we will always try our hardest to provide the best facilities at our disposal.

Thanks for your support.

Simon Seabrook, Julie Seabrook and Andy Watts

Ladies Second XI

Sarah Birger who plays centre-back in the first team describes her double life.

The ladies second team have enjoyed the first 10 games of their second season as a full side, already exceeding the number of games played during the whole of last year.

I confess that this is quite a surprise to me, as when Mike Snell first showed me the 23 fixtures he had carefully chosen for the second team at the end of last season, I did not believe it would be possible to make them all. I have been proved wrong (so far!) and the side is going from strength to strength with new players joining the team each week - in fact the squad will soon be bigger than the 1st XI!!

I will not dwell too much on the results other than to say there have been some very close matches with the team taking great strides forward with each game. Top goal scorers are Helen Kitto and Sarah Daughtry with Hanna McCoy, Judi Burrows and Al Spicer not far behind. Katy McCoy has also made some great saves in goal. I am pleased to report that there are a number of youngsters showing splendid promise and I hope they will soon get the chance to gain more experience playing for the first XI.

Thanks to Mike, Heidi, Catherine, Neil and Annie for helping out with the umpiring - their efforts are much appreciated, David Peters for his coaching and Jo for her continual support and recruitment strategy - I understand we will soon be getting sponsorship from Maritz as full members of their sports and social club!!

Happy Christmas!!

Quotable Quotes

"There were four bodies but I only saw two of them" - Sarah Birger

"Beany, have you got any jump leads in your bag for the goalkeeping kit?" - Chris Pritchard

"Werty do up the central locking because I'm drunk and I might fall out" - Catherine Watson

"Catherine comes with a government health warning" - Charlie Wooler

"Giles, next time I go to the Swan with you, I'm wearing my wellies" - Chris Pritchard

"Pilch, you must find a hockey club in Bristol with fifteen teams, so that one of them will have you" - Mike Burge

"None of Rob Machin's passes went astray" - Neil Turner

"Breed them while they're young" - Giles Payne

"Married our team captain and ruined her" - Annie Brothwell

"I'm about sixteen pints short of a kebab" - Chris Pritchard

"Earnie looks better in suspenders than I do" - Sarah Birger

"Pat Knight is a different shape from Pat Nagle" - Chris Pritchard

Second Men's

I, John Stuart Obey, am a poor wretched creature. I have failed miserably to write a men's second team match report for this esteemed publication. Not that we have exactly played a lot of hockey, the weather causing a string of postponements and the rearranged fixtures having played havoc with the Christmas shopping.

Furthermore, I have restricted the Noble Editor's outings to two. The first of which saw the team supplemented by a New Zealander and three women from Thames Valley. The second match was abandoned after approximately four minutes when a Witney player took a rather nasty tumble. Editor's sole contribution was to hit the ball to me, and I missed it!!

Chalfont St. Peter H.C. Awards

The Gareth Bullock award for prematurely going to sleep

This award goes to three distinguished members of various men's teams who collectively with 10 other members decided to crash new member, Caroline Armit's party at midnight, annoy her friends who left, and then fall asleep, stand up Mr Chris Pritchard, Mr Simon Gooch and Mr Andrew Watts.

The Mick Jagger award for dancing prowess

Hot contenders for this included Gareth Bullock and Beany, but winner by a mile is obviously Mr Rob Arthurton (Clodder), his display at NPL's beer festival was legendary.

Lord Lucan / Shergar Award

This is one of the most tightly fought awards, with disappearing acts aplenty within the club, where have they gone.....Matt Kirby, spotted once on the North Circular since Club Supper, Steve Salisbury - a houdini extraordinaire, Dave Galletly - one years temporary retirement, Simon Shipley - allegedly watching the Gooners but fortunately sighted at social evenings, Mark Pearce - new job in Newcastle, Andrew Earnshaw - last seen Club Supper 1997!!, Derek Brameld since Simon Seabrook took him under his wing 18 months ago (he was only 14 doh!!), Fiona Cunningham - popped in in September, Maria Cooper and Jane Hunter - babies.

The Awards for Club Supper 1998

Nope, better not, could get into too much trouble....just good job Katie Baker stopped photographing when she did....

The Nick Wolfe Hockey Warm up and Down award

Charles Barrowcliffe, esteemed third team captain, leading his troops as the consummate professional that he is in a few bottles of Stella and a packet of light fags - Camels...

The Andrew Earnshaw Welcoming award

Charlie Wooler and Andrew Watts who had taken great care to take out new members for a quiet Saturday night drink, including James Heath and Mark Jenns, only we haven't seen Mark Jenns again. The same night Gareth Bullock promised to play two games next day and wasn't sighted for another four weeks.

The Paul Gascoigne Award for Unobtrusive Alcohol Intake

The launch party of the new bar was marked with the presence of a certain Adrian Halliday. The challenge of the evening was the Chumbawamba (Lager, Cider, Whisky and a vodka drink). Not only did he down this once, but proceeded to complete it a further two times..then went to Winkers. Perfect.

Ridiculously Hot Curry Award

The 1997 end of year curry for the Men's first XI saw Phil Stewart with an aforementioned ridiculously hot Prawn Phall. Chris Blamey and Andrew Watts stood testament to the heat whilst trying to join the goldfish in the Tripti's fish tank in attempting to cool their mouths down.

The Werty award for erratic driving goes to, consider these.....

Steve Salsbury - Having his car smashed in Oxford when playing for the seconds against Headington and on the way home having to stop and pull out the wing with his and Watsy's hockey stick as it was rubbing too much...

Werty - For reversing back along the A40 (as spotted by Andrew Earnshaw)

Werty - For getting caught turning right through some red traffic lights outside St James Palace, also in the car was Sarah Birger, Catherine Watson, Andrew Watts and Christopher Pritchard

Werty - For doing a u-turn on the A40 - again spotted by Andrew Earnshaw

Werty - "The way to avoid being caught speeding through a traffic speed camera is to drive on the opposite side of the road"

Werty - Driving through temporary red traffic lights under the M40 bridge (Stoke Poges), causing passengers to freeze with fright "It isn't actually illegal to drive through temporary traffic lights"

Werty - Parking his car in the Sports Club car park - Ever seen it?

Werty - Stopping in the outside lane of a dual carriageway after Ms Watson's metro had broken down in a lay-by causing 70mph traffic to move into a single lane and avoid Werty's stationary car who then proceeded to drive across to help Catherine, by which time the passenger, Simon Gooch had gone exceedingly pale.

Is It True?

Simon Shipley smashed his head on a goalpost during a third team warm up?

Giles Payne bought a Calum Giles stick and carefully obliterated the first name?

Chris Blamey & Sarah Birger communicated by mobile phone whilst in the same pub?

David Shipley was promised a new train set if he removed Annie Brothwell's shirt?

Andy Watts practises his drag flicks in his dining room and nearly removed Charlie Wooler's head?

Annie Brothwell attempted to collect an ordered curry from the wrong Indian restaurant?

Elaine Hunter mistook Catherine Watson's mince pies for rock cakes?

Sarah Birger trains in a yashmak?

Mark Pearce reached the half-way line at Altwood School before realising he had left his sticks behind?

Giles Payne was seen hand gliding over Norwich?

Catherine Watson brought dinner in a bucket?

Sarah Ottaway advertised her presence at a Barn Dance by attaching two red balloons to her person?

The World Wide Web

So the Chalfont St. Peter Hockey Club has a web site, what the hell does that mean in real money??

After starting the web site to test my toe in the water of new technology over two years ago, we have had some amazing results, and in the last year have been indulging in annoying some of the larger hockey clubs around the world. Awarded Hockey Site of the month last February, the site has gone from strength to strength.

To date, we have had numerous Pakistani and Indian internationals, quite literally begging to join our club, a Spanish youth player wanting to join us this summer and a few new members have joined through seeing the web site, and set panic at Gerrards Cross over the success of our web site (it is now good to see they have a web site, though their photos do look disturbingly familiar!!).

The chat site was probably the best feature on the web site to date, however, pressures of work meant we had to take it off before not having any pressures of work at all. The record was seven of us at once exchanging comments mid afternoon. Neil and I have also won a \$350 goalkeeping helmet through a spot the ball competition on another hockey web site, which we er did not quite er win er fairly.....

The web site is now being used by ex members, and current members to see results a day or two after they happen (depending on my diligence and not running out of space), so visit now if you have a few free minutes. You will also see loads of photos which tell various stories.

www.watsy.u-net.com

Talking Points

Chris Pritchard graced a fancy dress mixed match wearing a netball skirt and was heard to comment “I know how to take one of these off, but I’ve no idea how to put one on”.

Dr. Richard Barnes, a former Chalfont Colt, was also playing in this match for Amersham. He spotted Andrew Watts dressed as a nurse and panicked. “It’s really worrying he looks like some of the nurses I work with”.

Imagine the surprise of Giles Payne when Alastair Wertheim playing golf on the old course at St. Andrew’s played two beautiful approach shots only to arrive at the wrong flag.

During a discussion on the number of blondes in the Ladies first team, the Bean sought clarification on the various shades on offer such as strawberry, ash, silver and golden. How unkind of Sarah Birger, the only brunette present, to describe Catherine Watson as a Dishwater Blonde.

Perilous it is to turn your back on the pool table when Catherine Watson is in action. Ask David Shipley who was peacefully minding his own business when he received a cue ball between the shoulder blades.

Picture the scene. First team men assembled in changing room pre match after the warm up. Joint coaches Andrew Pearce and Giles Payne are exhorting the team to give their all whilst fine tuning the tactics when they are rudely interrupted by Chris Blamey’s mobile telephone emitting “Jingle Bells”.

Fun Fun Fun

Charles Barrowcliffe relishes life among the desperadoes

Okay, first a disclaimer, as most of you are probably aware, I drink far more than is good for me and my memory went west several years ago, so much of this is likely to be either vague or inaccurate. If you want to know the correct scores / dates / opposition ask someone else.

26th September - Yately 4ths at Home

What a surprise, shortly before the game, most of the new players I was promised for the season suddenly became either unavailable or 1st team players, so we ended taking the field with 6 outfield players and your truly in goal.

The game started off with a flowing 90 year passing move involving all 6 players and about 20 passes from which Dave knocked the ball just wide. "This captaincy larks pretty easy" I thought sitting on the goal line sipping my beer. Unfortunately, that was about as good as it got. The rest of the game was memorable for very little apart from Del lifting the biggest divot I've ever seen (I was raised on a sheep farm in Sutherland which was slightly smaller). Lost (0-2)

3rd October - Henley Hare / Hounds away

After a promising start featuring some lovely interplay in the midfield between James Sorby, Clodder, Goochie, Dave and Pilch and several outstanding saves from our now ex goalkeeper Mark Jenns, we fell away a little at the end. Lost (0-7)

17th October - Aylesbury 5th at Home

A classic, pulsating encounter between 2 of the counties finest teams. In the first half some rumbustious defending from Mike and James Lee kept out of the opposition and Simon playing his first game of the season scored a cracker from the edge of the "D" after a lovely flowing move involving Dan, Pilch and James Sorby. I was back in goal again and pulled off an outstanding diving save from a penalty flick....oh alright, he hit it at me and I wasn't quick enough to get out of the way.

At half time we adjusted the team slightly, Neil went in goal and I filled in at the back to allow us to unleash the pace of Pat and Mark on the wings, and we created a few chances with Dan and Simon going close and Derek having a perfectly good goal disallowed just because Larry had kicked the ball.

We were looking relatively comfortable until my team mate (and ex friend) James Sorby decided that the best place to direct the hardest hit of the day was straight

at my knackers and I had to limp off.

Things were a bit dodgy for the last 10 minutes with Neil making some fine saves and an outstanding stop on the line from Pat (forward defensive I think) but we held on.

Afterwards in the bar Mark rang one of his drinking buddies to find out what he had been up to the night before. The full story has never been revealed, but the phrase "What, not the really ugly one?" was definitely used. (Won 1 - 0)

31st October Harrow 4th Away

A game without goalkeepers, and the umpire made the mistake of telling us they were not going to award any short corners. Not that James, Mike, Derek and myself are the sort of people to exploit something like that.

Dan posted good efforts for both the shortest appearance of the season award and the silliest trousers award - though I still have a velvet tartan pair up my sleeve.

A fairly evenly matched game, they went ahead, but we responded with a well taken goal (Dave I think) and with James Sorby and Mike playing so well the opposition centre forward looked likely to start crying at any moment, the game looked destined to end in a rather dull draw.

Enter the villain ... one of our defenders (I'll leave you to guess who) picks the ball up from our goal line, and goes for a wobble ... he beats the first man easily ... he beats the second, but is beginning to lose control of the ball ... the third man is beaten with a little lift over his stick, but the ball is a long way ahead now ... are we in trouble now ... no he gets to the ball just before the fourth attacker and in the nick of time slips the ball past him on the weak side ... surely the job is done now, we have the ball in midfield with 9 players against 5, and a simple pass inside to Pilch will take out the next defender ... will he play the simple pass or try to beat one more player? Lost (1 - 2)

7th November - Newbury 3rds Away

No goalkeeper (again!) this time he didn't bother cancelling at all and while we tried to drag Dave Scott out of his sick bed, there just wasn't time to arrange a replacement.

Possibly our best performance of the season to date with new boy Joe slotting into

defence as an auxiliary centre back and Mike and Del pushing up to link with Pilch, Goochie and Nick Woolf who had temporarily been promoted from the 2nds. Both teams scored once in each half (Dan got both for us I think) and quite frankly if we had had a goalkeeper they wouldn't have come close. Draw (2-2)

14th November - West Herts 6/7s Home

With their esteemed captain on holiday, the 3rd team decided to play brilliantly. Won (7-0) Bastards!

The Credits

Rob Arthurton (aka Clodder) - inside forward and deliverer of astute team talks - doesn't like astro

Simon Seabrook - occasional centre forward and far more importantly husband of Julie who makes the teas - so we have to play him

Dave Emery - forward - alas now graduated to the 2nds - likes astro

Larry Smith - occasional wing - far too young

James Lee - ex left half - again far too fit

Chris Pritchard (aka Pilch) - centre half and official team comedian and Richie Benaud impersonator

Mike Brown - right half / right wing - always late for meets, but popular because he has a 4 seater car

Joe Davis - wing / half - only played one game so I'd better not take the piss out of him yet

Charles Barrowcliffe - Captain, Centre Back - part time punk - notorious alcoholic - still officially recognised as the worst player in the club

Pat Nagle - wing / centre back and occasional goalie - team wide boy and pony tail possessor

Mark Payne - wing - possibly the fastest and fittest player in the team - but then again possibly not - wicked tattoo

Mark Jenns - ex keeper - mad as a bag of frogs and very unreliable

Derek Munns - left half / left wing - Del actually is the antichrist - he was born on the 6th of the 6th 1966 and his name is D. Munns - scary - but possibly not as scary as some of his swishes - possessor of the 2nd best sideburns in the team

James Sorby - Vice Captain, Sweeper - ex friend of Captain "I'll forgive him if I ever manage to have children" - hits the ball very hard

Dan Lovelace - centre forward - possessor of the teams leading sideburns - most retrograde taste in music - back up Richie Benaud impersonator - just in case something happens to Pilch

Festival Frolics

After a one year blip when the tour wagon diverted to Bournemouth (probably Alastair Wertheim's navigation - Ed). Chalfont St. Peter return for their 14th visit to the Folkestone Festival, a four day event at Easter (April 2nd to 5th).

Mens, women's and mixed fixtures are on offer and Alastair Wertheim has even managed to get us back into the Southcliff Hotel.

Who's running the show you ask?

Well, there is a gang of five. Remarks like light bulbs and Californians spring to mind but perhaps you will understand when you see who they are.

Charles Barrowcliffe	Fitness and Dress co-ordination
Alastair Wertheim	Transport and Navigation
Neil Turner	Diplomatic relations
Helen Kitto	Trade and Barter
Catherine Watson	Charge d'affaires

XX

James Heath will be travelling with the party this year for the first time (a tour virgin I hear you cry), and it is his birthday on Maundy Thursday, and there is allegedly a party intending to make sure the Friday won't be a good Friday...good luck James!!