



At last! Struggling Saints prove point

This is how Cambridge Evening News headlined our M1's winning their first league points on 21st November

THE champagne flowed in St Neots after the men's first team earned their first league point for nearly two seasons.

They scraped a 1-1 draw with fellow Division Two strugglers **Cambridge University III** with Chris Slatcher,

returning after a four-week absence scoring the all-important equaliser.

However, they had to do it the hard way, withstanding severe pressure from the youthful students, who went ahead when a hopeful reverse stick shot from a forward bobbled over the leg of advancing keeper Ian Worsfold.

And they had chances at the end to win it. After Slatcher's saver, the students forced a smart reflex save from Worsfold, and with only two minutes left, a penalty corner was forced onto frame of the Saints' goal. Saints responded with a Slatcher shot from a penalty corner which was cleared off the line.

Paparazzi press-looking for more

The Hunts Post know St. Neots Hockey Club exists!

Unfortunately match reports were being emailed to the wrong address at the beginning of the season, but it's now sorted out, resulting in four pictures from a Ladies 2nd's match gracing the pages last week. I'm trying to get hold of the photos for the website (see opposite),

Keep the match reports coming into either Steve Moore (colts@stneotshc.co.uk or saturdaynight@yeoldesun) or to Ros Twemlow at secretary@stneotshc.co.uk - by Sunday evening to get in the papers for that week.

We regularly make Tuesday's Cambridge Evening News (& website) and St. Neots Evening News, Wednesday's Hunts Post (& website), and Thursday's Town Crier and Weekly News.

Match reports also go on the website, as do goalscorers. But they only go in if you tell us. A few bullet points written in the bar afterwards is all that is needed. We'll then put the waffle around it!

Carole Perry's feet don't touch the ground



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**Note change of phone number
from the Club Handbook**



Clothing to keep you warm

Our club clothing is still going down a storm, keeping you warm at training and at matches.

On the back of all jackets, fleeces and sweatshirts is an embroidered light blue "SAINTS" with a light blue/white halo included in the cost.

On the front you can have for an extra **£3.50** an embroidered "St. Neots

- JACKETS**
£22-23 depending on size
- SWEATSHIRTS**
£15-19.50 depending on size
- FLEECEES**
£23
- FLEECE HATS**
£10
- CLUB SOCKS**
£4

Hockey Club around a crossed sticks" logo (LHS), and for another **£3.50** your name (RHS).

See Ros Twemlow to make an order or email secretary@stneotshc.co.uk. Orders can be taken at any time, and take 2-3 weeks to be delivered. Payment on arrival, with cheques payable to St. Neots Hockey Club.

We have the technology

A new **FLASH** front page is the latest development on the St. Neots Hockey Club website.

As well as a link to the most recent news and fixtures from the club, it has a picture of junior Garth Mooney (7), grinning as he runs with the ball with adults all around.

Recently I received an email from Holland from a club much the same size as us(?) Their site describes the hockey section of their 2500 member sports club as "Victoria Hockey (established in 1899) has about 1200 players in some 80 teams, about equally divided between men, women, boys and girls." Obviously news of our website has got out, and they all want to know how it's done!!

Dear fellow hockey webmaster!

This is to inform you that we're building an organised collection of world wide hockey links on our site <http://embark.to/hockey> (Victoria JC2 - The Ultimate Hockey Web Guide). At present we've already collected over 800 interesting and/or amusing links. You may be interested in putting up a link to our site in your links pages, which we would appreciate very much..

We also just started a Hockey SiteRing of hockey sites from all over the globe (details on the site), and we cordially invite you to join it!

We love to receive "hockey surfers" from abroad, so please drop us a line in our guest-book (and/or in our forum) when you visit; almost any language will do!

Naturally suggestions for more interesting links (and other suggestions for the site) are welcome. We're looking especially for more Asian, African and Eastern European sites, and for sites in the following categories:

- Indoor hockey (rules/umpiring, coaching/tactics etc.)
- "Moving pictures" (video clips, animated drills etc.)
- Hockey humour
- Hockey ICT (software, wallpapers, screen-savers, clip art/hockey GIFS etc.)
- Printed matter
- Forums
- Tournament lists
- Games
- Fan sites & player profiles
- Camps & clinics

Know of any? We're also trying to find some hockey related music in cyberspace! Hockey greetings from a cold, wet and windy Rotterdam, Holland

There's a prize for anyone who can come up with a good description of "Hockey humour" or "hockey related music in cyberspace!", and what's "Printed matter" - sounds pornographic or could it be pictures of Boynie on her way to Belgium???



Sidelines

Welcome

Now we are well into league hockey welcome to all those new members to the Club this season.

Mandy Rogers joined from Manchester in the Ladies side. Tim Clapp arrived from Cambridge City, James Cahill was sent by Alan Knox, Arron Swales came from Bedford, and we finally found another goalie with Paul Riddy. Juniors have come out of the woodwork—or is that Ernulf and Longsands, and have taken over the M4's and M5's - Michael Wilderspin, Daniel Roland-Cox, George Billings, James Thorpe, Andrew Smith and Ben Whitbread to name a few.

Goodbye

The L1's lost their midfield at the beginning of the season with Jo McCulloch deciding the trip from Newark was a bit silly, Vicky Lines going off to St. Albans during the week and Derby at weekends to play football, and Claire Humphreys moving to London with Steve Simes.

Gaynor Howe (L3) went back to Australia, and two of the men's goalies changed jobs and left St. Neots—Chris Howes (M1) and Giles Morgan (M2).

Married

And congratulations to Nathan Read (M1) and Bev Sanderson (Huntingdon Ladies) who got married during the summer.

Young talent

Colts to keep an eye on—word from the ladies 3rd's is that Emma King is improving with every game, despite being made to run around in midfield. Emma was also recently asked to attend Cambs U17 training, along with Sarah Crabtree and Nicole Bailey, after a good performance in a school competition. 15 year old Wayne Tunnah is the youngest regular men's 2nd team player by a long, long way. Although occasionally going up to the 1st's, Wayne is gaining excellent experience with the oldies.

Apologies

Sorry to Katie Warmington for calling her Katie Williamson in the last issue of The Saints. So to correct—Katie Warmington has been successful in the Cambs County U15 team.



Mixed hockey—a whole new experience

Mixed hockey is alive and kicking—at Bedford!

Dave Bailey runs a Saints mixed side in the Wednesday night league at the Bedford Hockey Centre. But he is lacking enough women, and is always happy for any volunteers.

The mixed league also plays throughout the summer. Interested—give Dave Bailey a ring on 01480 395626

Slim & goal hungry

And to give you a taster—here is an unbiased match report from Phil Sargeant from a couple of weeks ago.

“Let me talk you through my game.....especially the

two stupendous, one on one with the goalie, goals.

The first, after a well worked move in the centre of the circle the ball is passed out to big Kev on the right.

Big Kev cuts inside, and makes a neat little flick to Ig-gie, who dinks the ball to the slim(!) 6'3" roving player finding himself one on one with the keeper, looks up, and slots it between the GK's legs for the opening goal.

After several laps of celebration, moving on to the second goal of a inspirational night of hockey (after acting as chief medical officer escorting Sam off the pitch).

The ball was hit out of defence, linking up with Emma J, who released to Big Kev, who in turn sent a little ball inside to Gary C.

Meanwhile steaming up the centre was the hard working

(!) midfield player who screams for the square ball, cuts across the chasing defender, steps left, one on one with the keeper, and slots the ball into the far left corner.”

However, Phil was on the end of a ball kicked up from Gary in goal last week. And now sports a superb row of stitches on his chin—in contention for ‘injury of the month’.

Future mixed fixtures

17th Jan @ 7 pm

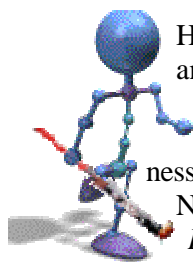
31st Jan @ 7 pm

7th Feb @ 8.30 pm

21st Feb @ 7 pm

28th Feb @ 8.30 pm

Spotlight on Men's 4th XI



Hopefully a regular new feature for newsletter and website, outlining who the team is, where they are, and how they all play—can either be humorous or sensible! First off—Barry Harness aka Uncle Bazza takes us on a tour of St. Neots' development squad.

Relegation at the end of last season was a blessing in disguise for the team as we now find that, apart from the much strengthened Cambridge City, teams we now face are of a similar standard to ourselves in Division 6 NW.

Having now been relegated to our level of incompetence (the reverse of the Peter Principle), the younger members of the team are finding it easier to compete with, and beat their rivals.

The older members of the team also feel the benefits of being under less pressure. At this early stage of the season we have as many points as we earned throughout

the whole of last season, and are firmly placed in mid-table. Goals are being scored by several different players, including their first league goals for a number of the younger players.

Many of the team have come up from junior training on a Sunday, and are only just starting at senior training.

Injuries this season are few, but drivers to away games all complain of damage to their hearing from the constant barrage of questions from Chris Moore, and the arguing about any, and every subject, by Ryan, Keiran, Daniel and Robbie.

Regulars in the team include the oldies—Barry Harness, Maurice Young, Billy Wood, Steve White and John Brierley. The rest of the team include James Cahill, Daniel Crook, Ryan Gillett, Keiran Williams, Chris Moore, Robbie Grabarz, Michael Wilderspin, and George Billings.

Coaching

Martin McLeod is our new senior coach for those who haven't made it down to training yet.

Martin is also assistant manager at the Bedford Hockey Centre. His responsibilities include coaching local schools, and trying to sell us lots of nice new hockey equipment. Martin also coaches at Bedford Hockey Club and De Montfort Uni.

As well as occasionally turning out for our men's Indoor team, Martin plays hockey for Eastcote HC on Saturday's, and brings a wealth of experience of playing at national league level to training sessions on Thursday evenings.

So Iggie—he does know better than you.



Merry
Xmas
and a
Happy
New
Year

We three Kings.....

The men's section may boast a few father and son couples in the senior teams (Gillett's, Edwards', Anderson's and Moore's), but the Saints Girls U15 team have the upper hand when it comes to families.

Emma (15), Laura (13) and Hannah (11) - the three King sisters- made their mark in the team recently in East League U15 matches. Other sister pairings in the team include Sarah (15) and Amy (10) Crabtree and the Moran sisters—Stephanie and Lindsay (13). St. Neots seem to excel in producing hockey families, particularly in the current junior section. Brother and sister combos include the original Farrer's, Matthew & Zoë Hains, Andrew & Kirstie Eldridge, Keeley & Garth Mooney, Oliver, Luke & Lucy Bailey, as well as brothers Leuty, more King's (another family), McGlashan and Grabarz. And in the past the families Normanton, Slack, and Owen.

How long is it before mother and daughter play together? We wait with baited breath for Lesley and Leanne Staddon, and Bev Allgood and Phoebe Ireland.



Emma, Laura and Hannah

Girls U15

St. Neots Girls U15 team played their first matches on 29th October and came away winners.

The Saints were playing their first two games in the East Girls U15 League against Royston and March Town. The team won both 3-0, with Emma King scoring one against Royston, Sarah Crabtree scoring two against Royston and one against March Town and Nicole Bailey scoring two against March Town.

The youngest members of the team were Keeley Mooney (9), Danielle Shipley (10), Amy Crabtree (10) and Ami Stanley (9) - playing in their first full hockey matches. And coping with adult hockey shirts that reached down to their knees.

More games

The game against Cambridge City on the 12th November was harder, with the team losing 4-1, the Saints goal from Emma King. But, another game against March Town saw a 2-0 win, with goals from Nicole Bailey.

The St. Neots U15 team were over the two dates: Charlotte Gillam, Jessica de Bois, Sarah Crabtree, Nicole Bailey, Katie Warmington, Emma King, Laura King, Hannah King, Sofia McKenzie-Reid, Charlotte Hall, Amy Crabtree, Ami Stanley, Keeley Mooney, Danielle Shipley, Catherine Barrett, Francis Alder, Lindsay Moran, Becky Young, Emma-Jane Cody and Caroline Osborne.

The next games are at St. Neots on Sunday 10th December, starting at 12.00 v Saffron Walden and 2.00 v Royston. Supporters are welcome, especially to keep answering questions from the subs!!