

21 January 2015

Dear members and friends,

Here is a New Year's A-Z of information about the club, following the combined Board and Management Group meeting on 19 January 2015.

- **Annie Barratt, Club Treasurer.** Head of the Finance Division, Jenny Birch, is delighted to announce that Annie Barratt is now officially the "*Club Treasurer*" within the Division, with day to day responsibility for keeping the books. Our thanks to them both.
- **Beanie Blitz.** My new personal Presidential campaign is to promote *The Hockey Centre's* fantastic SAHC beanie hats for members, friends, colts, parents and the tangerine army. "*I have a dream ...*" Whether you are warming up, spectating, coaching or commuting, they look great and promote the club. Please email me if you would like one (mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk) or buy one from me as I peddle them around the club at £6.50 each.



Do please keep supporting the club clothing range, including the beanies and – for example - SAHC Hooded Top: £25.00; SAHC Training Top: £18.49; SAHC Rain Jacket: £19.00; etc. These and all club kit, together with general hockey kit (10% discount to club members) are available from *The Hockey Centre* at 200 Beech Road, St Albans, Herts AL3 5AX. www.hockeycentre.com (01727 865264 or 01727 226128). You can order club kit and clubhouse clothing (click "St Albans Leisurewear") online at:

http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page_19294/Club-Shop.aspx

- **Camp Ellie: Easter 2015.** The next youth holiday hockey camp at Oaklands organised by our own (England and GB's) Ellie Watton will be on 8th to 10th April 2015. Please book the dates and spread the word. Camps are open to young players, whether or not they are members of the club. The Wednesday and Thursday camps (8th and 9th) will be all-inclusive for ages 8-16, including

goalkeepers, of any level or experience. Friday 10th will be just for more advanced players ages 14-19, playing adult league hockey or at JAC level or above, including goalkeepers. In due course, there will be more information at:

http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page_27604/Junior-Summer-Camps.aspx

- **Disability Hockey Initiative.** Our thanks to England and GB manager and SAHC men's 1st XI head coach Andy Halliday who has kindly stepped in to move this important initiative forward. We have access to a potential grant and a regular slot at Westminster Lodge. Our thanks to Sarah Mobbs whose work commitments mean she has had to step down as coordinator but who will continue to be involved. We are now urgently looking for a new project coordinator, and lots of volunteers, including colts and parents, to work with Andy on this project. Please contact andyhalliday1@me.com if you are interested.
- **EuroMasters Hockeymakers.** So, thirty-two international Masters men's teams will descend on the club in the week 21-18 August 2015. This will be a huge event. The delivery committee for this event needs to recruit lots of us as 'Hockeymakers'. Please volunteer by contacting Matt Leedham at matthewleedham@btconnect.com.
- **Fixture Card.** Don't forget that the 2014-15 Fixture Card is online at:
<http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/clubs/65/docs/SAHC%20Fixture%20Card%202014-15.pdf>
- **Great Photos: Hobson Chooses.** We have commissioned Club Photographer Chris Hobson to select from his wonderful collection, more SAHC photos and montages to further enhance our clubhouse. Meanwhile, enjoy them here:
<http://www.chrishobsonphotos.co.uk/section760192.html>
- **How We're Organised.** The Board and Management Group are writing a *How the Club is Organised Booklet* to go on the website, describing how they and the Club's four Divisions are run and what are the delineations and divisions of responsibility.
- **Indoor.** Well done everyone for the midwinter progress in the indoor hockey competitions, and to our own Matt Jobson for landing the job of US national indoor manager and assistant coach. Special congratulations to Hannah and our Ladies 1s indoor squad, to coach Steph Port and manager Dawnie Forshaw, for getting through to the Hockey 5s Div 2 Championships finals weekend at Nottingham Trent on 31 Jan and 1 Feb. Good luck!

- **Journalism.** You may enjoy looking at the set of Press Releases so far this season, now in this booklet:

<http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/clubs/65/docs/PRESS%20RELEASES%20BOOKLET%202014-15%2019.1.15.pdf>

We do still need to find someone to take this on for the future. Please contact me if you are interested. Here's the webpage which we update each week containing the press releases which are the basis for the coverage we get in two local papers:

http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page_27973/Press-Releases.aspx

- **Key Partners.** Massive thanks to all our First Team Partners and Youth Hockey Partners. Can you join them? The *Members and Partners Booklet* and all relevant forms are accessible on the website here:

http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page_27775/Members--Partners.aspx

Our *Partners* make a special financial contribution (£9 per month) to help our initiatives with the first team squads and/or youth hockey. We would love to welcome new Partners. The current list appears at the end of this letter.

- **Local Authority.** Issues regarding the council-owned Pavilion at Clarence Park have arisen and been discussed within SACHA (St Albans Cricket and Hockey Association). CEO Andy Forshaw is handling this for SAHC. When we have a clear picture and decisions are needed we will ensure members are kept informed. Meanwhile, you may wish to be thinking about how you see the future so far as CP and the Pavilion are concerned.
- **Mugs on Sale.** Alex Spencer's brilliant limited edition SAHC mugs (only 100 made) are on sale from behind the clubroom bar at £7.50 each. To see a mugshot: <https://twitter.com/StAlbansHC/status/544146904561750016/photo/1>
- **News of a May AGM.** Here's an early heads-up that we are intending again to have the AGM in May, date to be confirmed. We will be encouraging reports from officers to be in writing circulated in advance, to maximise the time available on the night for you to have your say about your club.
- **Operation Subs-Cleanup.** Thanks to all who paid subs so promptly, and to the Membership Secretaries and Finance Division for their work in collecting and following up. I have, as promised, written personally to the few who our systems record as still owing subs from last season, to clear these up.

- **Paid Positions Review.** CEO Andy Forshaw will be leading on a review with Andy Bowskill of those jobs within our club which are paid positions. At the same time, Andy Bowskill is conducting a review of the role of the Director of Hockey.
- **Quiz Night: This Saturday!** This event is kindly organised by Cath Hart and takes place at the Club this Saturday 24 January 2015 from 730pm. It's £5 per head, and max 8 people per team. Contact the Social Secretaries on epoc88@msn.com or soph999@hotmail.com or just turn up.
- **Results Service.** We know lots of people would like it if Saturday's results promptly displayed in the clubhouse and on the home page of the website. So would we. We are working on it, but we would still like someone to step forward to be an overall *Results Coordinator*. Please contact me if interested.
- **Schools Project.** Calling all SAHC members with coaching qualifications. The Club intends to pay £25 for each visit to a local junior school to do a QuickSticks PE lesson or coaching session. Our Schools Project is generously sponsored by Maureen Roe and is coordinated by Lottie Porter. To sign up as a SAHC Schools Ambassador, or suggest a contact with a local school, please contact lottie.porter@googlemail.com.
- **Tangerine Army.** Thanks to everyone who has signed up for our free social membership as members of the TA. All friends of the club are welcome. Sign up is here:
http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page_27549/Tangerine-Army.aspx
- **Umpires Coordinator.** We urgently need to find an *Umpires Liaison Officer* to take over from Andre Hugo at the end of the current season. Without this, we perish. Again, please contact me if you are interested.
- **Venue Hunt.** Holly Parsons is now on the hunt for a 200+ seater venue to hold our Club Dinner and Ball in summer 2015, Oaklands having proved to be unaffordable. Please help by giving your suggestions to Holly at holly_parsons@hotmail.com.
- **Who's Who.** Thanks to everyone (more than 120) who have participated so far. Please join in with this if you haven't already. The information sheet and first edition (soon to be updated) will be found here:
http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page_28122/Whos-Who.aspx

- **X-Factor.** How's this? The first two England women's goals and two of the first three England men's goals at the December 2014 Champions Trophy events in Argentina and India were scored by players who had coached our St Albans juniors at our half-term holiday hockey camp the previous month.
- **Yesteryear.** I have gathered some materials and information about the history of our club: documents, photographs and reminiscences. Is there someone who will help by compiling and typing things up for a new "Archive" section of the SAHC website? Please contact me if interested.
- **Zenith.** Finally, if you look up at the highest point of East Division 1S there sit our Ladies' 2nd XI, currently 9 points clear and glowing with tangerine pride. We wish all of our senior and junior teams a successful and enjoyable second half of the 2014/15 season.

As always, the CEO, Board and Management Group join me in thanking everyone who continues to help our club in any way. Please do not hesitate to raise, with me or Forsh or any of us, any feedback or offers of help.

Mike Fordham QC (President)

mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk

21 January 2015

FIRST TEAM PARTNERS

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|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Anon G | 11. Mike Fordham G | 21. Linda&Norman Macleod |
| 2. Anon | 12. Mike Grainger G | 22. Phillip Martin G |
| 3. Dorothy Allistone G | 13. Peter Halliday | 23. Kate Rudlin |
| 4. Peter Beard | 14. Geoff Hayward G | 24. Mike Skittery |
| 5. Harry Birtley G | 15. Peter Hazell G | 25. Alex Spencer |
| 6. John Blain G | 16. John Knight G | 26. Adrian Stephenson G |
| 7. Dave Burns G | 17. Mark Lavers G | 27. James Tompkins G |
| 8. Andy Connop | 18. John Layfield G | |
| 9. David&Rosemary Davey | 19. Matt Leedham G | |
| 10. Nick Edmonds G | 20. Mike Lloyd | |

YOUTH HOCKEY PARTNERS

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|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Anon G | 9. Mike Fordham G | 17. Mark Lavers G |
| 2. Dorothy Allistone G | 10. John Garner | 18. John Layfield G |
| 3. Ed Bevin | 11. Mike Grainger G | 19. Matt Leedham G |
| 4. Jenny Birch | 12. Geoff Hayward G | 20. Phill Martin G |
| 5. Harry Birtley G | 13. Peter Hazell G | 21. Maureen Roe |
| 6. John Blain G | 14. Annie Hems | 22. Adrian Stephenson G |
| 7. Dave Burns G | 15. Quentin Keeling | 23. James Tompkins G |
| 8. Nick Edmonds G | 16. John Knight G | |

G = Gold Partner

