



PRESS RELEASES 2015-16

9 August 2015

New St. Albans captains line up for 2015/16 hockey season

St. Albans Hockey Club is making preparations for the coming season with the selection of new captains for the ladies section and the appointment of a new Club Head Coach.

England internationals Ellie Watton and Sarah Embrey have taken on the roles Ladies 1st team captain and Ladies Club Captain respectively while Martin Scanlon will be the new Club Head Coach for the 2015/16 season. Watton, who is also a GB international, is a Commonwealth Games silver medallist and Embrey has represented the England Masters since 2011.

Scanlon represented England at all junior levels and played for Great Britain Under 21s during the 2009 Youth Olympics in Australia. He won the English Premier League twice with Beeston Hockey Club. His brother Ian, who is a former England Under 21s goalkeeper, will also be joining the club this year as an outfield player.

Hannah Macleod Ladies 1st X1 Head Coach said:

“We are currently going through an exciting period of change at the club and we have worked hard in the off-season to ensure this momentum continues. Current GB and England international, Ellie Watton, has been appointed 1st team captain with Amy Kee and Emma O’Nien appointed vice-captains. With this strong leadership group driving the team forward, we are once again looking forward to challenging for the top spot in the league this season.”

Andy Halliday, Mens 1st X1 Head Coach added:

“We expect another tough year ahead, many of the teams around us have strengthened. However, the addition of the Scanlon brothers and the development of a positive culture and structure around the top of the club should see us challenging for promotion once again for that coveted National League place.”

Club training for men and ladies starts 7.30pm on Wednesday 19 August at Oaklands College and new members are welcome.



Photo caption: Ellie Watton in action
Photo credit: Chris Hobson

ENDS

2 August 2015

St. Albans Hockey Club player takes on round the world challenge

St. Albans Hockey Club player Elaine Hargreaves has announced she's leaving her home in St. Albans to take part in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race. The race, which is considered to be one of the biggest challenges of the natural world, will cover 40,000 nautical miles and will take approximately 11 months to complete.

12 70ft clipper yachts will compete against each other and all participants are amateur sailors who have completed a rigorous training course in preparation for the race. The teams will call at 14 ports around the world and should cross the finish line in Derry, Northern Ireland in July 2016.

Elaine has been a member of the Tangerine Army since 1999 and said she has thoroughly enjoyed her time at club but it looking forward to her next

challenge. She will be setting sail from St. Katherine's Dock in London on 30 August. Elaine is raising money for Help the Aged and shares her story here: <https://www.justgiving.com/elaine-hargreaves4/>

You can find out more about the Clipper Round the World yacht race by visiting <http://clipperroundtheworld.com/>

Photo caption: Elaine and Clipper Race Chairman and Founder Sir Robin Knox-Johnston.



ENDS

26.7.15

HOCKEY STAR CHRISSIE OFF TO VIRGINIA

St Albans Hockey Club striker and England Under 18 international Chrissy Horn is off to the United States on a 4 year field hockey scholarship to Old Dominion University in Virginia. Chrissy will study on a degree programme at the University, playing in the NCAA Big East Conference. She said: "I am excited to be starting on this new adventure. I hope to return in the Christmas holidays to play indoor hockey for St Albans, and I will be taking my tangerine beanie with me to remind me of my friends back at my home club".



Photo: USA-bound Chrissie Horn (photo: Chris Hobson)

Text supplied by mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk

26.7.15

19.7.15

TANGERINE BOYS FINISH THIRD IN BARCELONA

St Albans Hockey Club's Under-16 Boys team has returned from the 15th European Hockey Schools Tournament in the stunning surroundings of CD Terrassa Hockey Club outside Barcelona. One of 12 clubs competing in the tournament, the St Albans boys emerged with third place in the U16 Boys competition. Impressive build-up play and well-worked opportunities saw the Tangerines beat French side Cagnes 4-0 in the 3rd/4th play-off, the goals coming from Callum Emmerson and a superb hat-trick from Michael Voigt. Head Coach and SAHC Chair of Youth Development said: "This was a fantastic trip hugely enjoyed by the boys and successful in so many aspects: playing hockey in Europe, team building and the sheer enjoyment of touring. The boys have learned a great deal from the high levels of skill and aggression they encountered which will serve them well in future seasons of junior and adult hockey. We are building a strong relationship with CD Terrassa which we hope in future will encompass girls and boys teams and our senior teams too."



Photo: St Albans HC Boys U16 with their 3rd place trophy.

Text supplied by mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk

19.7.15

12.07.15

INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS TO LEAD HOCKEY CAMPS

England and GB international striker and Commonwealth Games silver medallist Ellie Watton (pictured below) has announced that the coaches for the mid-August holiday hockey camps at Oaklands College (St Albans) will see her joined by an array of coaching talent. Camp coaches will include Watton's international teammate and defender Zoe Shipperly, Great Britain U21 Youth Olympian Martin Scanlon and England Hockey Talent Development Coach James Bateman. Goalkeepers on the camps will receive specialist coaching from three England and Great Britain keepers with 81 international caps between them: Maddie Hinch, Kirsty Mackay and Sabbie Heesh. Other camp coaches include European U18 Gold medallist and now Queenswood School Head Coach Amy Kee, Amersham and Chalfont HC's newly-appointed Senior Head of Hockey Simon Archer, and former Nottingham Trent University captain Lottie Porter.

The camps are all-inclusive and attract aspiring players from clubs and schools over a wide catchment area. The junior camps on Monday 10 and Tuesday 11 August are open to all boys and girls ages 8 to 16 whatever their level or experience. Then Thursday 13 and Friday 14 August sees advanced camps specifically aimed at more experienced teenage players 13 to 18, playing Saturday club hockey or at Junior

Academy Centre (JAC) level or above. For information or to book places on the camps contact Ellie Watton on hockey_1e@hotmail.co.uk.



Ellie Watton coaching young players at Oaklands (photo: Chris Hobson).

Text supplied by mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk

12.7.15

5.7.15

FLYERZ HOCKEY LAUNCHED IN ST ALBANS

Last week saw the second of two successful pilot sessions at Oaklands College as part of St Albans Hockey Club's new Flyerz hockey project. The initiative has been spearheaded by St Albans HC head coach Andy Halliday, who also oversees a borough Olympic legacy project in Newham for disadvantaged children including those with disabilities and learning difficulties. While Halliday was away managing the Great Britain men's hockey team to Rio 2016 Olympic qualification through a fine showing in the World League in Antwerp, the Oaklands Flyerz sessions were led by guest coordinator Roger Lilleystone. Lilleystone is an experienced disability hockey coach who works with Access Sport, an organisation doing a vast amount of work to help develop and fund Flyerz hockey nationwide. Kirsty Armstrong, the College Sports Maker at Oaklands, said: "A big thank you to Roger and all the volunteers from St Albans Hockey Club who have given up their time to come and help out at the Flyerz hockey sessions. Two very different groups have now really enjoyed really having a go and we look forward to planning more sessions with the club for September when the students return from their summer break." Roger Lilleystone said: "It was great working with the groups at Oaklands and some fantastic volunteers from St Albans HC. I am sure this will become a really strong partnership between the club and College."



Text supplied by mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk

5.7.15

21.6.15

LOCAL PRIDE AT MACLEOD HOCKEY TRIUMPH

St Albans Hockey Club's Hannah Macleod struck gold with the Great Britain women's hockey team in Valencia at the weekend beating China 2-0 in the Final on Sunday after defeating Germany 1-0 on Saturday. Macleod was in the GB starting eleven for all GB's games, including what were for her two bruising final games. The GB team emerged with seven consecutive wins and six clean sheets and have now qualified for Rio 2016 as a result. St Albans Director of Hockey Andy Bowskill said: "Hannah Macleod has produced a string of inspirational performances which have helped guide the Great Britain team to tournament gold and automatic Olympic qualification. With her tireless running and fearless challenges she is a fierce competitor and we are all so very proud of her". Meanwhile, St Albans HC's Andy Halliday is on duty as manager of the GB men at Antwerp while John Hurst (SAHC head goalkeeping coach) continues in his dedicated role as manager of the GB women's team. Bowskill added: "All three return to club action at Oaklands in a few weeks when pre-season preparation begins in earnest but in the meantime we acknowledge with great pride their all-round selfless contributions on the international scene".



Hannah Macleod in action for St Albans (photo Chris Hobson)

Text supplied by mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk

21.6.15

7.6.15

TANGERINES' MACLEOD AT WORLD HOCKEY LEAGUE

St Albans Hockey Club's Player/Coach Hannah Macleod is with the Great Britain women's hockey team in Valencia, playing in the World League competition which takes place between 10 and 21 June. A good showing in the competition is an important stepping stone for the GB team in its quest to qualify for next year's Rio Olympics. GB start their campaign with a game against Spain and then take on the mighty Argentina. Macleod has 116 international caps for England and Great Britain winning bronze at London 2012. She has just completed her first season in charge of the St Albans HC's ladies' first team as the club expands and pushes for promotion to the National League Premier Division, a Division in which Macleod attained three championship-winning medals with Leicester HC before joining the tangerines. Alongside a busy international summer schedule Macleod has already run several summer sessions for the St Albans squad and prospective new recruits. She also took time out to lend a hand with youngsters at the recent "Club Day" at Oaklands.

Photo: Hannah Macleod gives some coaching tips to St Albans youngsters in the red team at SAHC's Club Day (photo: Chris Hobson).



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7.6.15