



# The Pre-Season Piglet!

## CLUB AGM

Wed 27TH August 2008  
6.30pm

## Junior Registration Day

Sunday 7th Sept 2008  
10.30am till 12 Noon

## Club Social



Saturday 27th  
Sept 2008.  
Further details  
to follow.....

## Leading Pakistan International joins Deeside

The Committee is glad to be able to say that it has been able to find sufficient funds from patrons and senior members of the club to allow us to be able to attract players of the calibre of Ghazanfar Ali to the Club from Bowdon. Ali is a leading Pakistan international with over 200 caps for his country and we welcome him and all the other new members to the club for the next stage in their hockey careers. Ali, in particular, is keen to be involved with the players newly out of the Development squad who will now be training on Wednesday nights at 8pm.

August 08  
Pre-Season edition

## *Features:*

- U15 Boys in finals of AE Cup—awarded BRONZE medals
- Tales from the Dug-Out
- Men's 7ths Promoted
- Ladies 3ds avoid Relegation.
- Details for pitch bookings
- Ladies Vets cause havoc in Hull
- Men's Vets cause havoc in Gib
- Kit for Sale

## 2008 - 2009 Captains & their Contact Details

<b>Men's 1sts</b>	Geoff Price	01606 836659 07711 329394	<b>Men's 6ths</b>	Ian Forster	01270 626570 07814 916337
<b>Men's 2nds</b>	David	07947 308042	<b>Men's 7th</b>	Dave Pinnington	01829 751614 07881 805808
<b>Men's 3rds</b>	Phil Winward	01829 720563 07813 173518	<b>Ladies 1sts</b>	Rachel Dathan	01244 520440 7841716040
<b>Men's 4ths</b>	Stephen Cheshire	01829 771340 07836 624728	<b>Ladies 2nds</b>	Lucy Pochin	01948 770458 07779260806
<b>Men's 5ths</b>	Howard Green	01928 740222 07802 923671	<b>Ladies 3rds</b>	Ruth Wheeler	01829 271366 07811058206

## 2008—2009 Training Details

Senior Section			Junior Section		
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ladies 1sts, 2nds, 3rds	7-9pm	<b>Monday</b>	Beavers Badgers	6.15-7.45pm 7.45-9.15pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Men's 3rds—7ths	8-9.30pm	<b>Wednesday</b>	Girls U13 & U 15 Junior boys development squad	6.30—8.00pm 8.00—9.30pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Men's 1sts, 2nds	7-9pm	<b>Sunday</b>	Boys & Girls U11	10.30-12

## Junior Girls

Hope to build on last year's competition successes by entering the U18 AE Cup competition and Cheshire U16 and U18 7s Competitions.

## Promotion for Men's 7ths

Men's 7ths win promotion to Division 9 despite numerous points deduction!

## Ladies 3rds Avoid Relegation!

Ladies 3s remain in Cheshire Division 3 after league re-structuring!



# JUNIOR STARS

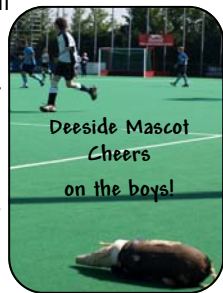


## Deeside U15 Boys finished 3rd in the National Finals of AE Cup



A squad of 14 players with support staff of Chris Helm (Manager), Phil Brown (Coach), Penny Brown (Physio) and Andy Dunbavin (team Doctor) along with parents and supports (totalling 35 in all) made the trek south to take on the mighty National League clubs in the National Finals of AE Cup at Canterbury on May 10th/11th. They came away with the Bronze medal, defeating Canterbury 2-1 with goals from Tom Hill and George Cope. They did have the opportunity to take Gold medal in the final contest with High Wycombe. It was 1-1 at half-time with a goal from Martin Lear, but two goals in the second half from High Wycombe confirmed them as worthy National Champions. The boys have done really well to get to this stage. Their defeats of Sheffield 9-1, Telford & Shifnal 6-1, and Coventry 2-1 have

made them talk of the hockey world. It is a young squad—no other side at the finals had so many U13s in their squad (we had 4). An immense effort has gone into preparing for the squad for the Finals. Chris Helm & Phil Brown have put on extra training sessions and practice matches to keep everybody match fit. There was a fantastic effort put in by all squad members, but Josh Parkinson was named Man of the Weekend by supporters. The squad included Martyn Lear (Captain), Josh Parkinson (GK), Ben Leaman, Thomas Hill, Huw Barrett, George Cope, Adam Dunbavand, Callum Guy, Josh Guy, James Hallinan, Jonathan Verity, Edward Peel, Will Leaman, Harry Dodd-Moore. The squad were a credit to the wooden shack in the middle of nowhere!



Deeside Mascot  
Cheers  
on the boys!

## CHESHIRE U15 BOYS CROWNED NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Back in April, Cheshire U15 boys hockey team were crowned County Champions at the Highfields Sports Centre in Nottingham and presented with the winner's trophy by Martin Gotheridge, President of England Hockey. The squad are drawn from a range of schools and clubs across the county, but notably consisted of **8 Ramblers** in the 18 strong squad— Ed Peel, Jonny Verity, George Cope, Tom Hill, Josh Guy, Martyn Lear (Captain), Adam Dunbavand, Danny Hancock.

Andy Lear managed the squad, and doctor & Physio services were provided by Andy Dunbavand and Penny Brown respectively. Not bad for a wooden hut in the middle of the countryside! Well done boys!



## Deeside Ramblers represent Region and UK

Deeside Ramblers' excellent Junior Section has again produced quality hockey players in Ben Leaman, Huw Barrett, Josh Parkinson and Jonny Verity seen here representing "Tensworth Academy" a representative North West Under 13 side (School Year 8) at the UK Regional Junior Hockey Championships in Nottingham, Huw Barrett, Josh Parkinson & Jonny Verity (his 2nd year) were also chosen to join the UK Lions (International Invitational Touring Side) for 2008/2009.



## Young Stars get call up for England Hockey High Performance Assessment Camp

Huw Barrett, Harry Dodd-Moore & Edward Peel metaphorically flew the Deeside Flag at the pilot of England Hockey's Single System Programme at the HiPAC Weekend (High Performance Assessment Centre) at the National Sports Centre, Lilleshall in June where 112 boys chosen from all the Regions of England met to receive some gruelling but focused coaching from some of the most experienced hockey coaches in the country. This is the route that all juniors will take in future in an effort to reach eventual England Under 16 Squad selection, these boys could achieve that in 2 years time, **Congratulations** on achieving EH Elite Athlete status and **Good Luck** over the next 2 years and beyond.

# Tales from the Dugout!

## Weren't those the days?

Back in the 60s, the Men's 1st XI had an annual fixture with Hawks Hockey Club, one of the founders of the London League and which included a few international players. We played them on the basis of here one year, there (near Working) the next year. But in the early years of the fixture, train travel was the thing and at the foot of the hill on the A49 running past the club entrance was Beeston Station, open in those days, and at which London trains were obliged to stop. One Saturday, the whole Hawks team could be seen marching up the hill carrying their kit & overnight bags prior to their matches on Saturday afternoon and Sunday lunch time. Weren't those the days? You tell me!

### Lady Vets cause Havoc in Hull

Do you ever have that dream where you are walking round a city in the middle of the night in your pyjamas? Four Deeside lady vets didn't have to write to Jim'll Fix It to make it come true! The ladies had travelled up to Hull to play in the North Vets tournament – eager to defend their title. Following a slap-up meal organised by captain Kate the team turned in for the night ahead of their games the following day. Several hours later the team were rudely awakened by fire alarm broadcasting “please leave your room immediately, please leave your room immediately.....” An obedient, but slightly naive, four followed the instructions, whilst the sensible ones sussed out the situation and carried on slumbering. The safety conscious four followed the fire exit signs all the way from the 7<sup>th</sup> floor to a concrete labyrinth in the basement. Thinking they'd taken a wrong turn they turned back only to find that the door they'd just come through had locked behind them. The only choice left was to step into the outside world. Shock, horror the pyjama-clad lovelies were now surrounded, like a scene from mission impossible, by a 9 foot high fence with no way out. A resourceful redhead found some pallets which were used as ladders. Phew, the big fence had been conquered, oh poo - a secure building site was the next obstacle. Wondering if a burley security guard and his Alsatian were about to pounce the four managed to scramble over another fence using an upturned bin and more pallets. After the 45 minute escapade the streets of Hull were a welcome sight, the intrepid adventurers hurried back to bed hoping wake up in the morning to find it all a bad dream. Next day the team left the hotel, this time as a complete unit, they arrived at the pitch and displayed some real vintage hockey scoring some classic goals. Deeside won their group and narrowly missed out on the final, being knocked out on penalties. Next year they'll back to reclaim their trophy!

### Men's Vets cause Havoc in Gibraltar

Having lately been asked to write a few words on the annual epic, I couldn't remember whether I had been in Gib this year, let alone recall issues of interest for your learned readers. But then gradually, from some deep recess in my memory bank, some titbits of information began to appear.

#### The best laid plans

Thursday, January 31st 21:30 hrs, selection meeting at the Farmers Arms

Gooders: "We'll have a great team this year, both Cheshire brothers, Greg Williams, Shedly, even Monty, and the usual rabble to make up the numbers; and with Bona not playing in goal, that will give us a chance..."

Mason: "What are the dates ? Have you checked it doesn't clash with the Chester Races ?"

Gooders: "All under control, Mr Deputy, it's the week after the races, and Fairy is ok with the dates too. We'll fly from Liverpool to Jeres, hire a few cars, the quote for a coach was too expensive, and we fly back direct from Gib to Manchester."

Heber: "Bob Unsworth has asked me to join him to drive across France and Spain in his Lotus, what do you think boys ?" Cheers all around.

#### The facts

Wednesday, May 14th 05:00 hrs, Sainsbury car park

Last one to arrive; I count them all, no stars, sorry Jeeves except you of course, but Mr Grumpy to replace them all. Good to see the President chose to fly high rather than low, Bona is telling his first joke of the tour, Stammers is rather reserved at this early hour, Lewis is excited, Fairy and the Vicar have their first smoke of the day, Harvey and Grant represent the lighter side of town, DL is unwell, Doddsy looks as classy as usual, Jonny Ray is trading roomies, Ollie is being fined and Gooders is organising. Cyril is pampered by the tour virgins. Where is Monty ?

Off on tour: coach to Manchester, flight to Malaga, coach to

# Gib Report continued.....

Gib, trek across the border, cabs to the hotel. Check-in: big question, who drew the short straw and is sharing with Pal ? Never mind, the bar is open, the sun is shining and beverages are taken on the terrace. Dutch strolls in, elegance personified. More drinks are ordered. Down to the beach for er-zats food and wine, back to the bar, Ray and Diggle are the stars and Stammers is no longer reserved.

Wednesday turns into Thursday, nothing else changes much, the pace is steady, not spectacular. Town is raided for fine cigars and liquors, and perfumes for the wags back home. Greeny flies in from Gatwick, on time for lunch at Bianca's. Time approaches for our first outing; still no Monty ! After looking at the opposition, average age 28, Mason fine tunes his selection and it works. We go 2-0 up inside ten minutes, but run out of puff and lose 6-4. Back to Bianca's to drown our sorrows and to check the record books: have we ever scored four goals and been beaten in Gib ? By the time we leave, no fillet steaks are left and the Grand Reserva stock is seriously depleted. We resume training at the hotel bar, where the Belgian plays a blinder.

It's now Friday, big day, it's the Grammarians today, now top of the Spanish 2nd division; time for R&R, a stroll to the pool, a touch of physio, a light lunch, a glass of white perhaps, a cigar, a sudoku, the cryptic crossword, a good book, a nap. Eight bottles of vinho verde later, the squad assembles, only 13 fit players, but we have heart, lots of it. The battle for midfield is key, and we edge it for a long while. Lewis scores a scorcher, we go 2 up, Lewis misses a sitter. Now it's the turn of the defense to be tested, our Maginot Line; they can't breach it in the middle, but they go round Gooders three times late in the first half. The second half is drawn one all. A traditional "banquet" follows, at

## Men's Kit

Mens kit available for sale from Tim Bearcroft Socks, shorts, polos, ties etc. etc. Phone in your order on 0151 336 3224, 07980 320 946.

## Advance Notice

### Annual Xmas Dinner Dance

To be held at Willington Hall

Saturday 29th November 2008

Not a night to be missed!

Contact Dylis Dodds 01244 300392 or

Mark Goodyer 07867975146



Dominic's, Cyril goes for a stroll, the brandy bottles come out, we sample the atmosphere at Lord Nelson, the old biddies return early, and we young ones party until the sun is up and breakfast is served.

We know little about our next opponents and in search of a win, the manager, assistant coach and chairman of selectors review tactics and are ruthless in bringing changes to the team: Bona in goal, DL is fit, the President is rested, Dutch is dropped, Mr Grumpy stands on the left wing, Doddsy and Ollie exchange roles, Jeeves sweeps, Jonny and Dr Green are the heart of the defense, the diamond is flawless in Harvey, Stammers, Fairy and Grant, Gooders talks a good game, and Miles scores, yet again ! We make hard work of it, before ending up 3-2 winners, to conclude the hockey and retain the Pedro Gomez trophy. We can now relax, enjoy ourselves and have a drink or two. Which we manage rather well, as usual, at various watering holes around the Rock, until our departure late on Sunday.

Thank you, Fellow Ramblers, for a vintage tour. Special thanks to Mrs McIntyre for reminding me that what goes on tour stays on tour, you'll thus understand, dear reader, that the above is, possibly, a figment of my imagination.

## Cottage in France for Rent

Cottage in France to rent, 3 bedrooms, two shower rooms, sleeps 5. Situated in South West Brittany.

Available April to October (not August). Any club member who books the cottage 10% of the weeks rental will be donated to club funds. Full details available from Tim Bearcroft Tel 0151 336 3224, 07980 320 946.

## Baby Talk

The storks have been busy delivering summer babies. Congratulations to;

- Jill & Chris Cutler on the birth of Ben
- Jill & Gregg Williams on the birth of Oliver, James
- Nicky & Andy Stammers on the birth of Ellie, Grace
- Graham & Gail Dick who are expecting their first child later this month.
- Wendy & Myles Mason who are expecting their second child in November.





# “PITCH BOOKINGS”



2 ROSEMARY COTTAGES  
OLDCASTLE LANE  
THREAPWOOD  
MALPAS  
CHESHIRE

Dear Rambler

For general information purposes, it is with pleasure that I write to advise that I have been invited to coordinate all non-standard pitch bookings on behalf of the good ship Rambler. I am further delighted to confirm my acceptance of this role (for I fancied not the plank walk).

The attached link will give you an up to date calendar of bookings over the internet at any time. This will also be published in the Rambler, and should in due course be available by hyper-link from the club website.

The online link is: <http://www.my.calendars.net/drhc>.



From now on therefore, if you should wish to book a pitch, please follow the guidelines below:

## **WINTER**

Q) I fancy a game next Saturday, can I book a pitch?

A) **No. Check the club fixture card, and contact the fixture secretary, a committee member, or team captain to register your availability.**

Q) I fancy a knock about with my mates/ playing a young Farmers Match, or having a general knockabout on a SUNDAY. That'll be alright won't it?

A) **Absolutely not. On each Sunday morning throughout the regular season, there is Junior Training. In the afternoon, there are invariably club games in the form of rearranged fixtures, Veterans Games, Cup Knockouts and Junior Games.**

Q) What about at any other time?

A) **Firstly check the online calendar, and if the time you wish to book appears to be free, then contact me by one of the methods listed below.**

## **SUMMER**

Q) Can I turn up and play during the long summer evenings?

A) **No. Please check the online calendar first, and check with me by one of the methods listed below. There are a lot of activities throughout the summer evenings, and all are listed on the calendar.**

Q) Is the pitch available at weekends over the Summer?

A) **Generally yes, but please check the calendar and contact me first if unsure.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY QUERIES RELATING TO MATCHES AND MATCH CANCELLATIONS IN SEASON SHOULD BE RELAYED THROUGH HOWARD DODDS, FIXTURE SECRETARY, OR YOUR TEAM CAPTAIN.**

Please note that the online calendar is a read only information calendar. Any bookings should be made through the Pitch coordinator, Miles Lewis as follows:

Telephone: **01948 770740**. Please leave messages and booking requests on this number. E-mail [mileslewis@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mileslewis@yahoo.co.uk). Please confirm by e-mail as well if available.

**Emergency Contact:** Mobile 07808 137246 Please do not leave voice messages on this number for bookings, other than emergency messages.

Finally, if you have any general queries please feel free to contact me at any time, and if the query is valid and sensible, you will probably get a prompt response! Yours faithfully;

**MILES LEWIS**



# “FRIENDS OF DEESIDE RAMBLERS HOCKEY CLUB”



Have a chance of winning a **CASH PRIZE** and support DRHC by joining

## “FRIENDS OF DEESIDE RAMBLERS HOCKEY CLUB”

You are hereby invited to join the “Friends of Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club” for 2008. This is a new initiative aimed at raising funds to help the development of the club, especially the junior section.

Last season DRHC achieved England Hockey’s Clubs 1<sup>st</sup> accreditation in recognition of its efforts in providing a safe and friendly environment for children to participate in hockey. This accreditation requires the club to provide qualified coaches as well as safe equipment and facilities for its junior members. All of this costs money, and every year the club needs to raise a considerable amount in order to finance the training of coaches and the maintenance and development of its facilities.

We are keen to keep membership subscriptions affordable for all, and rely on fundraising activities to supplement our finances. We are therefore asking as many people as possible, players (past and present), supporters and parents to support the club by joining “Friends of Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club”. Each entry costs £25 (you can have as many entries as you want!!) and each has an equal chance of winning a cash prize. The size and number of the prizes will be dependent on the number of entries.

To enrol, please complete the enclosed entry form and return it with your cheque as soon as possible to the “Friends of DRHC” Administrator, as detailed on the entry form (**closing date 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008**). The draw will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at 7.30 pm at the DRHC Clubhouse, Tiverton.

Copies of the entry form can be downloaded from the DRHC website [www.drhc.co.uk](http://www.drhc.co.uk).

We look forward to receiving your response and we thank you in advance for your support.

Best Wishes

Su Baird

Friends of DRHC Administrator

Keith Hindley

Promoter



## FRIENDS OF DEESIDE RAMBLERS ENTRY FORM



Please enrol me as a “Friend of Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club” for 2008.

I/we understand that the prizes are dependent on the number of entries into the draw

(40% of receipts will be paid in prizes allocated as follows: 25% 1<sup>st</sup> Prize; 10% 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize; 5% 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize)

Entry Number	Name	Address	Tel No	Signature
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

Please complete as many entries as you wish, accompanying each with a payment of £25. Please send your total payment by cheque (payable to Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club) and return with the completed form to the Administrator:-

Mrs Su Baird, 7, Orchard Croft, Guillem Sutton, Chester, CH3 7SL **BEFORE 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

**The draw will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at The Clubhouse, Tiverton CW6 9NA.**

Tickets may not be purchased by anyone under 16 years of age.

Draw registered under the Gambling Act 2005 with Chester City Council  
Promoter: W.K. Hindley, Meadowcroft, Audlem Rd Warrce, Crewe, CW3 9RL