



# The New Year Piglet!

## Friends of DRHC Draw

The Draw for the Friends of DRHC 2008 took place on 6th October 2008 at the Clubhouse, with the following results:-

- 1st Prize -£112.50 - Reg Price
- 2nd Prize—£45 - John Heath
- 3rd Prize—£22.50- Wendy Millard-Smith

This was the first year that the Friends of DRHC has operated, and we would like to thank all those who supported the initiative. We are hoping that even more of you will give your support this year - the more people who join, the bigger the prizes! (40% of the takings is returned in prize money). This really does represent an outstanding opportunity to support the club with a chance of winning a cash prize.

Your invitation to join Friends of DRHC 2009 is at the back of the Piglet. The closing date this year is earlier - the 31st March 2009 and the draw will take place in April 2009 at the Players Meeting. Application form can be downloaded from [www.drhc.co.uk](http://www.drhc.co.uk)

*Thank you for your support*  
*Su Baird / Keith Hindley*

January 09  
New Year Edition

## Features:

- Draw winners
- 40 Club Dinner
- Mid Season Reports
- Tales from the Dugouts
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## Grand Xmas Draw Winners

The draw took place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at a packed Clubhouse. The winners;

	Prize	Ticket No.	Winner	Ticket sold by:
1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	£500	4381	Janet Payne	Brian Swinburne
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	£150	1591	Stephen Cheshire	Stephen Cheshire
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	£100	4229	Gareth Shore	Hannah Bowden

Congratulations to the winners and commiserations to the rest of us.

Even in today's credit crunch the Draw successfully raised over £1,000 in profits for the Club. Thank you to all of you who sold tickets.  
Keith Hindley

## 100 Club Winners

Draw took place at the Xmas Dinner Dance on 29th November 2008

£1000	Geoff Shepherd	£200	Peter Cope	£200	Dave Mason
£500	Bob Casseldon	£200	Peter Wright	£200	Keith Hindley
£300	Tim Lowe	£200	Colin Pearce	£200	Ed Blake

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

We spend a lot of time looking at, and planning for, the future but we also need to remember exactly where we started from (old Chinese proverb).

Thirty years ago this Club lived in a big green hut, had three grass pitches, and four mens teams. Since then we've created a fourth pitch, a ladies section, new changing rooms at the back of the Clubhouse, a whole new astro pitch, and a totally refurbished Clubhouse. We have now got seven mens teams, three ladies, badgers and beavers squad, established school links, and a significant youth development programme.

The important thing about all these developments is that the Club, through its members, achieved all those things themselves. We did have grant assistance to some of these projects, but even for the biggest, the astro, the Club itself found over £100,000.

There are very few Clubs like us left. Almost everybody else uses a pitch which somebody else has paid for, and they if they have a Clubhouse, they share it with other people. The benefits which we have are that we are entirely responsible for what we now own, we can do what we want with it, and we can plan for our future without looking over our shoulders at other people. The other side of all that however is that we have a Club which costs us more to run than others, and that our Club members have to assume a lot of responsibility which other Club's simply don't have to worry about.

We therefore need to have different sorts of people as members of our Club, than others do. We need to have people who understand that if we want to have the same sort of Club as we have managed to develop, then we have to be ready to take on the jobs, big and small which need to be done and we need to have people who are big enough to accept the responsibilities of taking the Club forward in the future.

This Club can't thrive on people who come here simply to play hockey. Each of us has to understand what it means to be part of this Club, where the Club started from, how it got here, and how we can all take it forward. Ramblers have to be different.



# JUNIOR STARS



## Badgers come of age

The Badgers team in the first half of the season have struggled somewhat from not having a settled line-up each week but have over that period improved above expectation both individually and as a team, under the mature and skilful Captaincy of Callum Guy. The most recent game against Neston 6th Dec. saw them 2-1 down against a side strengthened by some 16yr olds, the Badgers showed resilience and great passing teamwork to bring the score to 2-3 with 2 reverse stick goals from Callum. This team shows great promise for the rest of the season continuing the great Deeside Ramblers Junior Development tradition.

## U15 Boys & Girls Continue their successes in the National Knock-Out Cup

**U15 Boys** continue to make their impression on English Junior Club Hockey with a close win over Doncaster at Worksop College captained by Josh Parkinson, with a solitary but important goal from Huw Barrett. This follows a resounding 5-0 win against Preston earlier in the season, suggesting that we like taking major northern club scalps. The Coaching Team are confident of success in the next round against Cannock and are already embarked on a strict training regime to ensure that and call upon all Ramblers to lend their support if required.

**U15 Girls** have got through to the 4th round in the HA cup - the last 16 teams after beating Alderley Edge 2-1. A real nail biting game with Deeside eventually going ahead; Natasha Slawson scored the first, Hatty Butler put Deeside ahead in the final 2 minutes with a show of skills - she went on a wobble and dribbled past a wall of defenders to find the goal. This was followed by tense moments as Alderley Edge were awarded a short corner after an interesting decision from the umpire in the last few seconds. The shot saw the ball fly past the goal keeper to be dramatically saved on the line by Hannah Brown, cue the celebrations!

4th round they have drawn away against Lytham St Annes on the 8th February.



DRHC continually works to ensure that the Club provides a fun, safe and positive experience for all people, but especially our young players. A number of our junior members play in senior teams and one of the requirements of the ClubsFirst is to ensure that Team Captains have information about the junior member in the absence of a parent/guardian. At the start of the season each Junior Member was provided with a card containing emergency contact details and medical information.

**Junior Members** please remember that you are responsible for handing the card to your Team Captain prior to each game and collecting again at the end of the game.

Many thanks for your continued support;

Alison, ClubsFirst Co-ordinator

The Club is proud of the following; **DHRC Girls Success:** Following the single system.

JAC (junior assessment centres) lead into JRPC (Junior Regional Performance Centre) which leads into Pennine Pumas which leads into England in-between age groups also have access to HIPACs (High Performance Assessment Centres).

<b>JAC Cheshire U14</b>	<b>JAC Cheshire U16</b>	<b>JAC Cheshire U17</b>	<b>U16 JRPC</b>	<b>Pennine Pumas U15 (old North)</b>
Emily Andrew	Charlotte Brown	Rebekah Andrew	Charlotte Brown	Hatty Butler
Lexi Garnet	Heidi Groom	Sophie Johnson	Katie Saunders	
Rebecca Lear	Francesca Hibbert	Kate Johnson	Heidi Groom	
Hannah Brown	Rebecca Holland	Ellie Silcock	Rebecca Holland	<b>Pennine Pumas U16 (Old North)</b>
<b>JAC Cheshire U15</b>	Elisabeth Pegg	Anna Starstadt	Hattie Butler	Katie Saunders
Hattie Butler	Katie Saunders		Natasha Slawson	Charlotte Brown
Kate Coppack	Cleo Sadler	<b>JAC Cheshire U21</b>	<b>U18 JRPC</b>	<b>Wales U21</b>
Millie Johnson		Kate Etherington	Rebekah Andrew	Sophie Molley
Charlotte Knott		Sophie Molley		
Hannah Porter				
Natasha Slawson				

### England Star

Congratulations to Josh Guy, who has made the England u16 squad. He is now his second season playing for the 1st XI.

JOHNNY VERITY, laid claim on the 1st November to being the youngest ever to play for the men's 1st XI when he turned out in a league match against Alderley Edge. Targeted with winning short corners in the 20 minutes he was on the pitch he won 3 shorts-a significant contribution in the side's 7-1 win.

The home environment is not ideal for extra work on ball control. Down at beaver level it leaves it's mark. Top scorer is Otto Clarke who has broken 3 windows at home perfecting his hitting and Robert Morris broke a window in the holiday cottage. Bedrooms echo to the sound of balls being launched against skirting boards. One junior bedroom is being re-carpeted prompting one mother to enquire if where best for it to be furnished with astro-turf?

# Tales from the Dugout!

## DEESIDE RAMBLERS 2ndXI— "THE YEAR OF THE LAW STUDENTS 1979-1980"

Christmas came early for Deeside Ramblers in 1979 when a judicious advert at the Chester college of law attracted two inside forwards and two centre forwards of a high hockey standard.

I had taken on the captaincy of the 2nd XI at a time when forwards were scarce so to see 4 young forwards turn up for training out of the blue was most welcome.

Many memorable games followed but Disley away and Macclesfield at home stand out.

January 26<sup>th</sup> Disley away

*Ramblers turned up at the Disley shale pitch with 9 players. 3 Law students missing.*

*The game started with the Ramblers 9 under intense pressure but Ramblers held out and after 20 minutes the score was 0-0.*

*On a rare sortie Ramblers entered the Disley half and around the Disley 25 Ramblers hit the ball into the circle and the Disley goal keeper (dropped from their 1<sup>st</sup> team) lifted his foot to get the 16 yard hit-unbeknown to him John Fair had raced in behind him and touched the ball as it went over the line. Deeside 1- Disley0!*

*All hell broke loose and at half time the score was Ramblers1—3 Disley but the law Students had found us.*

*With our team complete we slowly recovered in the second half and went on to win 4-3.*

November 24<sup>th</sup> Macclesfield at home. (on grass where the current astro pitch is sited)

*Bram Van Asselt the Dutch international striker had been dropped! by the 1<sup>st</sup> team skipper (Pal).*

*at the start Bram received the ball and with a point to prove waltzed past 4 Macclesfield defenders and slotted the ball in the top right hand corner. Deeside 1-0 Macclesfield and no one on the Macclesfield side had touched the ball!*

*Tactics from Deeside henceforth were simple-give it to Bram.*

*7 goals later (Bram had taken the foot off the accelerator!) the game ended and a bemused Macclesfield side retired to the bar and Bram topped our goal scorers after only 1 game.*

*Poscript: he was selected for the 1stX1 for the rest of the season.*

*Macclesfield 0- Deeside7*

*We ended the season with 11 wins 2 draws and 2 losses in the league with 24 points equal second with Southport .*

*Goal scorers : 9 Alastair Wright. Roger Done. Bob Casselden*

*7 Bram Van Asselt*

*4 Tim Ollerenshaw*

*3 John Fair. John Ward*

*2 Robin Baraclough*

*1 Richard Kirk R. Harrison*

## **AUCTION OF PROMISES**

**Raising Funds for Deeside Ramblers and  
Macmillan Nurses**

**Friday 27th March 2009**

**Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club**

Please contribute your promises to;

Dylis Dodds, Tel 01244 300392

Alison Cheshire Tel 01829 771340

Su Baird Tel 01244 301757

Yvonne Lewis 01948 770740



**Macmillan**  
cancer relief



Auction prospectus available  
to download from DRHC web-  
site from 1st March 2009

# Mid Season Reports.....

## Men's 2nd XI

The Mens 2<sup>nd</sup> XI is showing experience beyond its years although some may feel we have bitten off more than we can chew. It is without doubt a fact that we have suffered from availability and injury, and the management feels confident that in the second half of term we will be back on track achieving unexpected successes and putting the critics straight when a full strength squad is available. To sum up we've played some, won some, lost some and drawn some and that puts us somewhere in the league. As all fat boys know 'the cream will always rise' and hopefully with DC, HP and Graham Dick rolling out after a good Christmas the squad will grow in more ways than one. It should also be acknowledged how we will miss the quiet voice of another heavy treader at the back in the form of Stuart Symms and wish him a speedy recovery but welcome Guy Harland into the fray. The youngsters have acquitted themselves admirably and most importantly have taken the view 'never say die'.

## The Mighty 3's

At this time of the season you would expect us to write about hockey but I think we've spent more time raising money for "Project Pigsty" selling raffle tickets, tables for the dinner dance, sponsorship forms and most importantly selling Christmas trees. On behalf of the 3's I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us, it's a bit too early to declare how much we have raised but thank you for all the donations we received no matter how large or small we are very grateful and hope all the trees look well.

Onto hockey, we've had a very exciting start to the season, with the introduction of Kelly Hill to coach the rest of us has made a huge improvement to our game. Normally this time of the season we are worrying about trying to climb the table but after some excellent performances we are sitting high at the top. Unfortunately our minds have been on selling trees for the last few games and not on the game so we've lost some valuable points and now the other teams are stacking up close behind, so we very much look forward to an exciting and hard second half of the season.

We have some excellent chances of a few teams being promoted and a few teams need helping so could we ask all players to make themselves available for selection and remember if you cant make your teams game there are other teams in the club that you could possibly play for, so keep in contact and help make the Skippers job easier. Deeside are now in a position to provide training to all levels of the club so contact your captain for training schedules and get down to the club midweek to improve your game!

The 3's are very lucky to play home games the same time as the 1's and we very much enjoy watching and supporting but I do hate to see some members of the 1's wearing clothing advertising what can only be described as something the vet would call an abscess on a pigs trotter "Bowdon". I think we should start imposing fines for anyone caught in the act! ....Ditto from the editors!! The devils clothes indeed!

Thanks again for all the help from "Santa's Naughty Little Helpers" on and off the field and can we wish you all a happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing all the new sticks and hot stuff in the pigsty.

Regards, "Gay Dog"

## Ladies 1st XI

A mixed 1st half of the season for the ladies 1s. Some very good performances followed by some unfortunate results have left the 1s in 4th position at the half way point. Injuries, retirements and pregnancies have definitely affected the team cohesion however following an excellent 6-0 win in the Cheshire cup things are looking good for the new year. Watch this space, the ladies will be chasing the top spot once more.

## IGNOMINY

Sunday 9th November 2008, was an ignominious date for the club. On that day the men's veterans who had reached the 2nd round of the National Vets competition, after beating Halifax. The away match against Wolverhampton was conceded with a walk-over. We had the manpower but nobody would organise the side. What a disgrace for a club of our standing. The Veterans were formed 30 years ago to form a basis for securing plus developing the future of the club, and our current status is a reflection of that initiative. And the future? The Vets have something to prove if they are not to betray our history.

## 40 Club Dinner

On Fri 14th November, the 40 Club Dinner took place at the clubhouse, this year organised by James Dick and John Aitken. The club's "resident chef—Nobby" laid on a 4 course gourmet meal with a range of 4 wines selected by the club's resident wine merchant, John Aitken. The bar was run by who else other than Brian Swinburn, who earned everybody's thanks. Have you noticed how much happier he is these days with bar consumption going up! Thank you Brian.

Lady's representation was in the shape of our resident blondes: Evergreen Dylis Doods, Julie Hassle and Roe Symms. It was good to see Philip Ravenhill, who with Richard Fair, is responsible for the development plus success of the Sunday morning coaching school.

Tony Fair, head of the Fair Dynasty, travelled up from Market Dreyton, Chris Cox bought is way to the bar on crutches recovering from a knee operation. Two of the club's regular sponsors, Peter Wright of Matric and Drew Forster of Deva Travel and ITC were on good form. Charles Elphick and Noel Barraclough swapped notes about the days when Ramblers plus Oxton entertained each other with Gentleman's evenings..... Would anybody like another one? In all 39 attended and their best to bar-rack the speakers John Heath and David Linton. It was a marvelous club evening-too good to miss.



## FRIENDS OF DEESIDE RAMBLERS

Please enrol me as a "Friend of Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club" for 2009.

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 S. D. Baird, 7, Orchard Croft, Guilden Sutton, Chester, CH3 7SL **BEFORE 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009**

**The draw will take place in April during the 2009 Players Meeting at The Clubhouse, Tiverton CW6 9NA.**

**Forms can be downloaded from [www.drhc.co.uk](http://www.drhc.co.uk)**

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, Woore, Crewe, CW3 9RL*