

Social News

New Players' Night was held at the Exchange Hotel on the 27th March and was well attended by approximately 80 club members. It kicked off our season and was also marked the beginning of what will hopefully be a beneficial relationship with our first major sponsor since the Toxteth Hotel. It was a great venue for our first night of the new season and the Exchange Hotel staff were both impressed and surprised by the turnout. Strong and regular turnouts at the functions we have at the Exchange Hotel will ensure they remain sponsors and potentially increase their sponsorship amount going forward into the future.

On the 18th May there will be another function at the Exchange Hotel to welcome Mark "Hollywood" Paterson back to his first full season at Glebe since taking the Hockey world by storm under his pseudonym "Mike Peterson". The party will be a Hollywood themed dress up event and should be yet another enjoyable night on the Social Calendar. Ladies who lunch Saturday the 1st of June at the Exchange Hotel Balmain 1pm – 3pm. This is the first time we have organised an event like this. We have an amazing women's club with a rich history and it's important to acknowledge not only those who have helped shape the club but also celebrate those who are part of its future. Mothers, daughters, friends etc are all welcome to attend. RSVP and payment due by 11th May 2013. Below is a list of social events, which are happening during the course of the 2013 Hockey season. Please support the club and its sponsors by attending as many of these as you can.



- 18th May – Hollywood Dress Up Party @ The Exchange Hotel, Balmain
- 1st June – Ladies who Lunch – Celebration of women (past, present, future) @ the Exchange Hotel, Balmain - \$32 per person
- 20th July - Glebe Briars Day/Wark Trevenar Cup - Games @ Briars and after party celebrations @ the Club House
- 17th August – End of Season Social @ The Exchange Hotel, Balmain.

By Alasdair Brown
GDHC Social Convenor



The Glebe District Hockey Club cordially invites you to...

"Ladies who Lunch"

When: Saturday 1st June 2013
Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm
Where: The Exchange Hotel, 94
Boattic St, Balmain
Cost: \$32 per person
(includes main meal + sides)

This day is about celebrating all the wonderful women in our club; past, present and future.

There will be guest speakers, a few giveaways and most importantly, it's a great opportunity to mingle with other club members.

RSVP: 11th May 2013
Email: ashipp@australand.com.au
Phone: 0415 309 956

Men's Club Captain Address

MENS NEWS

Finally all grades were underway in their respective competitions as of Saturday 13 April. It was a surprisingly poor start to the campaigns of our 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade teams, given the encouraging trial game results to date and the excellent attendance to training to date. This is perhaps what happens when you play a great club like Moorebank-Liverpool, who always give 100% and play tough and skilful hockey, even if their overall depth is a little down on what it has been in the past.

3rd grade, who have been demoted this season to Sydney League 3 (SL3), would have been quietly confident of victory in their game after two very strong trial wins against Briars (SL1) and Macquarie Uni (SL3). However, the side was not up for the fight and were physically outplayed by Moorebank for the 1st half who held a well deserved half-time lead of 1-0. Glebe were much improved in the second half but could not put the ball in the back of net. Brad Goodridge finally even things up with a penalty corner strike but then Moorebank unfortunately won after the siren after a howler of an umpire decision resulted in a penalty corner against Glebe. Congrats to Moorebank who handed out some significant hockey lessons to Glebe on this occasion.



4th grade started with an encouraging 3-2 loss against Moorebank with a remarkable solo goal scored by Daniel Poulos to give Glebe a sniff of securing a draw with a few minutes to go. Alas, it was not to be.

5th grade lost 1-0 and the less said about this game the better according to Club President, Danny O'Brien. This match was a Grand Final replay of the 2012 decider also won by Moorebank. Our boys will be back though and look strong for the remainder of the season.

6th grade lost their opening game 3-0 but had several key players out as well as some new players having their first game at Glebe. This side will be very competitive this season.

1st Grade snatched a fantastic 3-3 draw with Premiership favourites Liverpool to keep them at the top of Premier League after opening season wins against Southwest Strikers and UTS. The side are extremely talented and are improving week-by-week under the tutelage of NSW Men's Coach, Aaron Oman. Already, returned Kookaburra star Mark Paterson has set the standard for the season with a contender for goal of the season with an acute angle roof of the net goal against UTS.

2nd Grade have continued their winning ways from 2012's Premiership season with four convincing wins on the trot, two of them against likely finals opposition. There is a lot of recent and past 1st grade experience in this team, which means that even when the boys aren't playing their best hockey, it is still more than a match for most teams in this competition at their best. This highlights the considerable depth we have at the club at the moment. Junior players, Dylan Howe and Mackenzie Noller have also enjoyed strong debuts in this grade.

A shout out must go to some guys whose seasons' may have been curtailed by illness or injury: Terry Kelly, has had recent heart surgery but will make a strong recovery as is the Kelly way; Luke Rogers broke his finger in 3 places at training and recently had surgery to correct, hopefully he won't be out for longer than 6 weeks; and Shane Nilan ahead of his long awaited return to 3rd grade, snapped his Achilles Tendon at training. Shane will be out for some time but hopefully he will be able to come out and watch some games in the near future. We wish these guys all the best with their speedy recovery.

The boys have really taken to the Club's new sponsored pub, The Exchange Hotel in Balmain and already at this early stage of the season, Glebe has attended in great numbers a New Player's Night, as well as a Women's 1st grade meet and greet, and a couple of nights to watch the NRL. The annual club Band Night fundraiser is on next Saturday 27 April and should be a huge night with current and ex-club members being represented in 3 of the bands playing on the night: Pretend Eye (me), The Faults (Oliver Holyoake) and Food Court (Christian Campano). Get down and support the Club from 7pm that night!!!

Cheers,
Adam Campano
GDHC Club Captain



How are the grades going?

Two of our five teams are currently at the top of their ladder (2nds and 3Bs) and we hope it stays that way! 1st, 3as and 4ths are finding their way and are getting stronger each week. We always knew that competing back in top level hockey was going to be a hard task for the 1sts but they have played such impressive hockey. I recommend going to their game and watching these girls play in style.

Are the ladies getting fit?

Thursday sessions have been really well attended. We like to see girls coming from each of the grades and this has been the case since the start of the year. Your fitness will improve so much if you can add Thursday to your regime.

Where's Lynsey?

The girls have had to put up with me at fitness training the past few weeks as Lynsey had an operation on her hip. The doctors have reported that it all went well. Lyns is still on crutches but will hopefully work on her physio and be back in the maroon and white before the year is out!

Thanks Mark, Googa and Helen:

Thanks to the guys that have helped train the ladies this year. Occasionally our brilliant coaches can't make a training and I've had no issue finding someone to help out. Mark, Dean, Googa and Helen have all taken teams and provided the girls with great insights. This is what makes Glebe a great club, there are always people willing to help out and improve our field play.



Juniors at training:

We will start the Junior/Senior women's combined training on 7th May. For those who don't know what this is, the ladies invite any Junior girls to train with a specific team from 6.30-7 on the first Tuesday of every month. This way, the Junior girls get to know the senior players and realise the jump to senior hockey is not that scary! They also get to complete drills with the senior girls and show the seniors how skilful and enthusiastic they are! More information on training will come from Mark Nollar before the 7th.

Cheers,
Louise Tapsell
Women's Convenor

After many weeks of registration, training and trial games, the season has finally started for the Glebe junior teams. So far it has been a mixed bag of results. At this stage, our U11A and U13A Redback teams are expected to feature towards the top of the ladder as the season progresses. For the B teams, it will be a period of learning and challenges as we welcome a host of players who are new to hockey. Lucky we have great coaches for these teams such as current First Grade player Dom "The Dynasty" Tintner backing up again to coach the U13B Strikers team. The club is also fortunate to have wonderful parents volunteer to manage teams and all is running smoothly.

Minkey started on 23 March and well over 30 children attended ranging in ages from 3 – 8 years. We are receiving constant enquiry from parents who are hearing about Glebe's great Minkey Saturday mornings down at Jubilee Oval and this number should grow to more than 40 players each Saturday. Vernon Howe is back and full of enthusiasm with support from Peter Bush and Glebe juniors Dylan Howe and Mack Noller.

Speaking of Jubilee Oval, Council will start work on major renovation soon and the field will be closed for the rest of the season. Training and home games will be on Federal field but the clubhouse will still be operating.

Sydney Junior Hockey Representative teams for 2013 have now been finalised with 33 Glebe juniors selected. No doubt they will represent their club well.

Mark Noller
GDHC Junior Convenor.



GDHC Men's Albury 2013 Report

Glebe are again the champions of Albury. After surrendering their title to the Gordon Vikings in 2012 the men of the GDHC returned to reclaim their rightful crown in thrilling fashion in this the 60th Anniversary of Albury Easter Carnival.

11 brave souls travelled down the well-travelled highway to Albury over the Easter long weekend in what was the smallest team to have competed at the carnival in a long time. The 11: yours truly (Quags, Raptor, Pato), Alas-deeeerrrr (Stinky Brown), Will (Eternal), Chachi, Chris Holmes (CHB, DFK, Simple Jack The Grimm), Victor (Chowder, Faguetta), Mousey (Aleks), Ado (Dad), Rossy (#\$%shoe), Phil (Sea Shepherd/Mr Bean) and La Spina (Eric).

Due to scheduling arrangements, much of the old guard were unable to attend due to a convention on adult diapers, falls prevention and arthritis in Byron Bay.

Usually the adventures of the long weekend don't begin till after the first judiciary on Friday night but this year a few battlers thought they would start the fun early. At 9.45am a distress call was received from CHB and Eternal informing us that they had been pulled over by the police because CHB's work car was unregistered and they were stuck at Sutton Forest in McDonalds. The major concern here was that the car contained all the alcohol for the weekend, so needless to say the trip was in danger of becoming a disaster before it began. The boys remained to look after the alcohol for at least 5 hours while many phone calls were made to come up with a solution. Eventually a car was hired in Goulburn and Faguetta was able to drive back collect the two and more importantly, the beers, and continue the journey down to Albury.

We were again generously hosted by the Hume Inn Motel who were, as always, very hospitable. Special mention needs to be made of the delicious jumbo pizzas that their new restaurant served. Adam Grampano would definitely have been a weekend casualty if he had been at the carnival due to eating himself into a food coma.

After a bit of false start the judiciary began and for the first time ever without the traditional JA, Adam Grampano in attendance. The first night out was again at the SS&A club as per tradition and the flashing lights of close to a thousand pokies greeted us. It had only been a year but it seems that Albury went and built itself a casino. Our T-shirts impressed all the other patrons and the Glebe boys were again the hit of the town in their specially designed shirts in honour of their former brother in arms.

The first day of the carnival began with the traditional March Past at 8.30 am with the boys looking smashing in their "Lord of the Flies" inspired outfits which included live props. Again organisers saw fit to overlook the tremendous effort and creativity the GDHC boys had put in. Due to the lack of teams at the carnival this year the only two A grade teams in the carnival (Glebe and Gordon) who would play in the B grade competition with both teams guaranteed a spot in the final on Monday. Glebe won its first two matches easily against B grade opposition (3-0 and 1-0) but lost their last match of the day to Gordon Vikings 4-1.

After three matches the boys retired to the pool and their rooms to relax before enjoying another night out on the town this time at Paddy's Irish Pub. The boys tore up the dance floor and as per usual were the life of the party. Glebe only had the one match on the Sunday, of which they were extremely grateful, where the side played its best game of the weekend to so far. After going down 2 nil and despite some absent-minded play from some players (Eric) the side produced a 4-2 win with some beautiful Albury hockey. With the match done lunch was enjoyed at the hotel restaurant, from memory it was Chicken Parmigiana all round. Ado taking over from Googa as head of BBQ duties provided a delicious dinner before the boys headed for some relaxing beverages to prepare for the big final the next day.

The red men were keen to exact revenge in what has become a traditional Albury rivalry on and off the field. Gordon started the grand final the stronger team, which was no surprise given they had 16 players, scoring first. This woke the boys up and they converted shortly after from a penalty corner after a goalmouth scramble. The scores didn't stay level for long though as a bumbling defensive effort from Chachi resulted in an own-goal giving Gordon back the lead. Again though Glebe replied immediately using speed and passing to work a goal from a long corner free hit. The score remained tied 2-2 for the rest of the match and through golden goal extra-time forcing the match in to a penalty strokes.

The first two strokes for both sides were either saved or missed and it was left to Glebe's final three stroke takers to hold their nerve and slot home the winner goals. Chowder, Rossy and DFK produced three great flicks to give Glebe a 3-2 win and claim the pennant.

With the pennant on board and everyone packed it was a satisfying trip back to Sydney and the boys are ready to do it all again next year which has been named "Year of the Grim".

Thank you to all the boys who made the trip to Albury and helped us reclaim the title, it was another great year.

Ian Paterson & Alasdair Brown



Government warns 'big seven' to improve governance or risk losing funding

Hockey has been one of the sports, which has been singled out to improve its governance or else face funding cuts from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC). Hockey is reported to receive 5 million dollars from the public purse to help sustain its elite athletes during their training and competition phases. The Australian Sports Commission which is the governing body that regulates funding for Australian Sports has stipulated that if a number of sports and Hockey is one of them does not lift their governance then they will face losing 20% of their funding.

I for one can't remember hockey making the headlines for all the wrong reasons and certainly the men's Hockey team the Kookaburras has been at the forefront of success winning all before them except the litmus test, the Gold Medal at the London Olympics' where they were beaten by Germany in the semi-final. Whilst good governance of a sport doesn't directly equate to success it can almost immediately equate to failure.

On the one hand the public has a right to know how their tax dollars are being spent so sports which are heavily or exclusively funded by the ASC need to be squeaky clean and as do their athletes. Hockey is a sport, which can be classified as semi-professional and only the top brass of players have the means and the ability to earn a substantial income from the game. But shouldn't some government funding be filtered down to the local clubs which in essence are the lifeblood of the sport? Are local clubs at times not treated with the respect and consideration that they all deserve?

To some extent we need our National and State teams to be successful to attract young players and grow the game in the local community, the City, the State and the Country. But it is not the Metropolitan, nor the State, nor the National associations, which seek to nurture or develop junior hockey players. This responsibility has always fallen with the local clubs. Developing juniors is not an easy task and it can often take years to see the fruits of your labour develop and flourish; but Rome wasn't built in a day nor are hockey players developed after one training session or a game of Hockey.

Sure our elite hockey players sacrifice a lot to pursue a sport they love and often put their lives on hold whilst competing and training at the highest level. But this can also be said about the many members of hockey clubs around Australia who dedicate just as much if not more time to the service of their respective clubs not for the betterment of a few but the many. All they ask in return is a thank you and smile.



This will always be a contentious issue within the Australian Sporting Society and it always is when money is involved. My view is that we may need to think again. The next generation of hockey players will not be developed by any of the major associations, they will be developed by their local clubs, parents, families, friends or dedicated club members. Their thanks is contributing to the greater cause and seeing their club prosper and grow not for the glorification of the selected few.

GDHC Men's Albury 2013 Report

I am told that the first grade's next fixture against Ryde scheduled for 6 April at the Ryde Turf has been postponed because Ryde has five players unavailable to play because of NSW Under 21 commitments.

I deplore the cancellation of games to pamper to the requirements of representative players. This is another example of the average club player and supporter being disadvantaged, ignored and being treated as third class citizens for the benefit of elite sports people. Club players and supporters are treated as just grist for the representative mill. This is an attitude, which has prevailed for too long at the Sydney and NSW Hockey Association level.

At the game against UTS on 23 March 2013, Glebe had 250 spectators and 14 first grade players in attendance. Using these figures as a guide, the postponed game against Ryde is going to inconvenience 264 Glebe players and spectators and 11 Ryde first grade players, and probably well over 100 Ryde supporters for the benefit of five Ryde representative players.

The fact that Ryde has five NSW Under 21 representative players in its ranks suggests to me that it has actively recruited some of these men. Not all of them have come up through the junior ranks of the Ryde Club. The Sydney Hockey Association allows a club to entice representative player(s) from outside its junior ranks to play for it (Editor's note: for the record, three of the five said players are club juniors and the other two are new recruits), and then allows that club to default on its scheduled competition commitments when the representative team is away on Australian Under 21 Championship duties. When a club poaches/ recruits a representative player(s) it knows full well that the recruited player(s) will be unavailable for club selection when the Australian Under 21 Championships are being held and should be made to accept the fact that during this period scheduled round games in the Sydney Premier Division Competition will still be held as per the draw. Clubs that postpone games like this seem to me to be selfish and lack little consideration for their fellow clubs in the Sydney Premier Division Competition.

Ryde had 10 players available from its first grade squad and could have brought up a few players from second grade to plug the gaps. Where is the spirit of flexibility, adaptability, improvisation and resilience that makes a club great? Why not let the second graders step up and do their best for the Ryde Club?

All and any comments on this matter are welcome and will be published in the next Red Rag. If you have contrary views to mine please share them with us.

By Harry Wark Jnr