

The 1890 CLUB NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2004

Dear Member

The Club's membership now stands at 186 (up to date membership list attached) and I write with details of the club's recent activities.

1890 Club Dinner at The Café Royal, Regent Street, on Monday 28th February 2005

Following the success of anniversary dinners in 1990 (with spouses, at the Café Royal) and 2000 (Old Blues only, at the Savoy) where we had 200 guests, it is proposed to hold a Black Tie dinner in accordance with the Club's aim for a significant event every five years. This will be open to anybody eligible for membership of the 1890 Club, ie any man or woman who has represented Oxford or Cambridge against the other university at 1st, 2nd or 3rd XI level. We very much hope that those eligible for membership who have not yet joined the Club will do so. Spouses are also invited, but single applications will be most welcome. Representatives for each year-group will be appointed to make sure that tables of the same vintage can be formed. I do hope that you will keep the date free in your diary and that you will drum up support from your peers. Please find a separate application form attached. The 1890 Club will be subsidising the dinner out of subscriptions to the extent of four bottles of house wine per table of 10.

Varsity Match Report– Tuesday 2nd March 2004

The venue was Southgate Hockey Club for the second year, with Men's and Women's Matches preceded by a Schools' Match and 1890 Old Members' Matches for both men and women. Results were as follows:

Men's Varsity Match:	Oxford	3	Cambridge	2
Women's Varsity Match:	Cambridge	2	Oxford	0
1890 Men:	Cambridge	5	Oxford	4
1890 Women:	Cambridge	2	Oxford	0
Schools Match:	Charterhouse	4	Wellington	2

The 1890 Club donated £250 to help with the cost of players' tankards and donated £250 for wine at the evening ball in order to raise awareness of the Club amongst current undergraduates. The students were (unsurprisingly) grateful and the initiative was undoubtedly worthwhile.

1890 Trust

It has become increasingly clear to those of us involved in the running of the 1890 Club that the money being generated by subscriptions is greater than the amount needed for the Club's running costs. We have thus taken on an additional role to the sporting and social aims with which the Club was first established: that is to provide financial support to the participants in the Varsity Match, and you will have read about our involvement with the 2004 match in the paragraph above. We believe that this is a form of marketing in that it gets the 1890 name known among current undergraduates as a group of old members committed to helping the university clubs because of the positive nature of their own experiences. We certainly hope that the membership will increase substantially as current students leave and it becomes the expectation to join the 1890 Club as a means of perpetuating one's connections with Oxbridge hockey.

We are hoping that we can now use the old members' network already established in the 1890 Club to help the universities' pressing financial difficulties on a longer-term basis. We wish to establish a Charitable Trust to which old members can donate, earmarking donations for the Varsity Match or for more specific help as is wished. More will be said about this at the 1890 Dinner on 28 February. However, please contact me if you would like further information on this venture in the meantime.

Review of Summer Hockey 2004

All the London fixtures were played at Battersea Park, with tea provided by the 1890 Club in the nearby Settle Inn afterwards. There were also trips to Cambridge and Oxford. The results are as follows:

Thursday 27 May 1890 Men's Match (Battersea):	Oxford	5	Cambridge	4
Thursday 3 June Men v Travellers (Battersea):	1890 Club	6	Travellers	2
Thursday 3 June Vets v Travellers (Battersea):	1890 Club	1	Travellers	2
Saturday 13 June Men v Cambridge (Cambridge):	1890 Club	5	Cambridge	7
Saturday 20 June Men v Oxford (Oxford):	1890 Club	4	Oxford	5
Saturday 20 June Women v Oxford (Oxford):	1890 Club	1	Oxford	1
Thursday 1 July 1890 Women's Match (Battersea):	Oxford	5	Cambridge	4

In addition a couple of fixtures were planned, a mixed match and a veterans' game, which did not take place because sides could not be raised. I assume that this was a blip and that roaring enthusiasm will be seen again in the summer of 2005.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Committee if you have any suggestions regarding the running of your club. I thank you for your continuing support and look forward to seeing you at an 1890 event in the coming season.

Yours,

Steffan Griffiths

UPCOMING EVENTS TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY

1890 Club Dinner

Monday 28 February : Café Royal, London. 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Varsity Match 2005

Tuesday, 1 March:

Men's and Women's 1890 Club Matches at 10.30, followed by School Matches at 12.30pm (Marlborough v Gresham's and the "Junior Varsity Match" between a Cambridgeshire State School and an Oxfordshire State School), Men's (2.30pm) and Women's (4.30pm) Matches (Southgate Hockey Centre, Trent Park, Snakes Lane, Oakwood, London EN4 0PS; tel 020 8440 7574. email: SouthgateHockeyCentre@compuserve.com)

Summer Hockey 2005

Thursday 26 May:

1890 Club Men's Match (Battersea)

Thursday in June (TBC):

1890 Club Men v Travellers (Battersea)

1890 Vets v Travellers (Battersea)

Saturday 11 June:

1890 Club v Cambridge (Cambridge)

Saturday 18 June:

1890 Club v Oxford (Oxford)

Thursday 30 June:

1890 Club Women's Match (Battersea)