

The 1890 Club Newsletter
October 2003.

Dear member,

The Club's membership now stands at 180 (up to date membership list attached) and I write with details of what is coming up during the new season.

Autumn Drinks – Thursday 23rd October

The Spring drinks in the Loop Bar near Oxford Circus were a huge success, with some making an evening of it whilst others popped in more briefly to catch up with familiar faces. This open house atmosphere is exactly what we have been hoping for and we look forward to another good turnout on Thursday 23rd. The Club will put a sum of money behind the bar from 7pm so get there early to make the most of your subscription!

Varsity Match – Tuesday 2nd March 2004

As you probably know, Milton Keynes is now covered with grass and being used by MK Dons. The venue for 2004 is Southgate Hockey Club, which for people in or near London is a more convenient location because of its proximity to the M25 and the Underground. As last year, there will be men's and women's matches at 10.30, followed by a school's match and then the main matches in the afternoon. Please make a note in your diaries to play in the matches and/or watch the Varsity Matches themselves.

Review of Summer Hockey 2003

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, Oxford and a mixed tournament in East Grinstead.

Friday 16th May, men's Varsity Match (Battersea): Oxford triumphed 5-3 in a very open game, with both sides drawn mainly from the 1990's; a few Oxford whipper-snappers from the 'noughties' were consequently decisive.

Thursday 5th June, men v Travellers (Battersea): This was a high-quality 2-2 draw against a National League selection and the 1890 Club showed that at its best it can put together a very useful side. A particularly pleasing aspect was the prominent performance of the current Oxford 1890 liaison officer, Ed Bevan; it is hoped that more current students or recent leavers will get involved in the summer hockey in the future.

Thursday 5th June, vets v Travellers (Battersea): The 1890 players were slightly more youthful than their counterparts, but too many corporate lunches seemed to have taken their toll as the Club went down 4-1.

Sat 7th/Sun 8th June, 1890 Club at mixed tournament (East Grinstead Hockey Club): This was a welcome first and thanks are due to Anna Worth for getting it off the ground. There were a few changes between the Saturday and Sunday sides, but a quorum ensured a 2nd place finish.

Saturday 14th June, men v Cambridge (Cambridge): As ever, the hockey came very early in a hedonistic weekend set up by Russell Abel and the current students. In such circumstances, results do not seem to matter much, but for the record the men lost narrowly 5-7.

Saturday 21st June, men and women v Oxford (Oxford): The men had another good fixture, though the current students were too strong, winning 4-1. The women's match was excellent with the old girls holding a Blues-dominated student side to a 1-1 draw. A fine time was had in the summer sun with beers by the pitch followed by a trip to a local curry house.

Thursday 3rd July, mixed Varsity Match (Battersea): The two teams were very evenly matched, with Oxford going ahead twice only for Cambridge to draw level with five minutes to go. Oxford managed to grab the winner for 3-2 with a couple of minutes remaining.

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

Autumn drinks party

Thursday, 23rd October: 1890 drinks from 7pm in the Loop Bar, (19 Dering Street, London, W1R 9AA, near Oxford Circus. Tel: (020) 7493 1003).

Varsity Match

Tuesday, 2nd March: Men's and women's 1890 Club matches at 10.30, followed by school matches, men's and women's matches (Southgate Hockey Centre, Trent Park, Snakes Lane, Oakwood, London EN4 0PS; tel 020 8440 7574. SouthgateHockeyCentre@compuserve.com)

Golf Day

Planned for the Spring. Details to follow

Summer Hockey

Thursday 20th May: 1890 Club men's Varsity Match (Battersea)

Thursday 4th June: 1890 Club men v Travellers (Battersea)
1890 vets v Travellers (Battersea)

Sat 6th/Sun 7th June: 1890 Club at mixed tournament (East Grinstead Hockey Club)

Saturday 12th June: 1890 Club v Cambridge (Cambridge)

Saturday 19th June: 1890 Club v Oxford (Oxford)

Thursday 1st July: 1890 Club mixed tournament (Battersea)

Thursday 15th July: 1890 Club vets Varsity Match (Battersea)