



Members Newsletter

Summer 2015

“A national league club continuing to grow, develop & enjoy sporting excellence for men’s, ladies & junior hockey at all levels”

On behalf of the Club Management Team, it’s a pleasure to welcome everyone back after the summer break. I trust we’re all rested and now looking forward to the fun of playing competitive team sport again!

Club Management Team

As ever, we must thank the members of the CMT who have worked throughout the summer months to make sure the club continues to make progress in line with our vision. The time and effort that everyone has put in is greatly appreciated and, on behalf of all the members - a BIG ‘Thank you!’

Caldy Sports Club

Since we made our recommendation back in August 2014 that *‘the future of the club is best secured from a base at the Caldly Sports Club’* an extraordinary amount of work has been completed to ensure we followed the duly diligent process that was promised to members.

At the AGM, members voted in favour of the move to The Caldly Club and we’re now delighted to be able to welcome members and visitors ***‘back to the Club’*** for a drink and something to eat.

Since making the decision to base ourselves at Caldly, it’s been thoroughly refreshing to work with the Sports Club which is ‘buzzing’ with enthusiasm and energy about the positives this relationship can achieve.

Understandably, there were a number of concerns raised at the AGM and it is therefore only right and proper that the CMT continue to work through these issues as we seek to make the move the success we believe it will be. After so much time thinking and planning – the hard work obviously begins now!

Whilst this is, officially, an initial five year ‘courtship’ we would encourage everyone associated with Oxton to consider Caldly Sports Club as ***‘the Club’***.

It’s not Caldly Rugby Club (and Caldly Sports Club are consistent in reinforcing this message) – it’s ***‘the Club’*** – our Club - our clubhouse - the place where we extend the fun of playing competitive team sport with the fun of socialising. Regardless of age (or the level of hockey we’re playing at) it’s such an important part of being the member of a club (and I can’t wait)!

Over the next couple of weeks we’ll start to see the club house changing with the introduction of: - our hockey gear being sold in the new club shop; our memorabilia on display; new signage displaying The Caldly Sports Club – Home of Oxton Hockey Club; our Club Honours Boards being recreated; new notice boards communicating Hockey Matters; the Oxton flag flying proudly; and Mike the Lion (is that his name?) introduced to his new home!

The CMT are meeting again on Monday to finalise details of the practical issues such as car parking, membership cards, catering arrangements etc etc and we'll update everyone prior to the season starting properly.

The most recent newsletter issued by The Sports Club is attached to get a *feel* for what's going on.

Membership

Just one piece of housekeeping . . . and that concerns everyone paying their membership sub.

We've welcomed Alex Lamb onto the CMT as Membership Secretary and we'd like all members to support Lambie by sorting subs out in a timely fashion (and without all the chasing around that has gone on previously) . . . please!

For years members have been asking to be able to pay by Direct Debit and this facility has now been introduced, so please sign up fast and take advantage of this easy payment method.

Club Membership Cards will be issued to all members providing discounted bar prices and, I understand, there are plans that discounts may also be introduced for the Club shop (selling our gear of course) and the bar food – watch this space!

Our vision is ambitious and includes lots of improvements we want to make for everyone's benefit. Such investment in the future (and indeed, just the day to day running of the club) is an expensive business and we need everyone to recognise that paying subs on time is such an important part of being a member.

Our Sponsors & 'The 125 Club'

Thank you to our sponsors – your support is greatly appreciated and is vital to the plans we have to realise our vision!

As local businesses and service providers, we trust your association with Oxton Hockey Club will be helpful in your day to day activities. We'll continue to develop ways of recognising your contribution and this year will develop the website further, introduce a 'social shirt' to include your company logo, improve the use of signage and, we trust, the move to Caldry will also be seen as a big positive for you – please do come along and join us for a drink!

Thanks especially to the members of the 1st team squad who put an incredible amount of work in during the summer to raise additional money to support the club. Not only have you attracted a number of new sponsors but there was also **a 100% take up of the 125 Club** – great stuff and enjoy your winnings!

New Members & Coaches

Welcome to the Club's new and returning members!

It's been great to hear of new players, and particularly coaches who joined us during the Summer - thank you for deciding to play your hockey at Oxton! You're joining us at a really exciting time and we trust you'll enjoy being part of the Club.

Thanks to the Club Captains – Heysie and Ali for the hard work over the past few months - I know we wouldn't be feeling quite so positive about the future if it hadn't been for your effort in bringing new people in to help us shape our future.

The Club Day

The recent Club Day was a great success. Great turnout across both sections. Big thanks to Melinda James for organising with great support from Jane Price, the umpires but particularly Andy Waller for umpiring a lot! Also thanks to John Lorains and Gnome for arranging the BBQ.

The Future!

This is more than *just* the start of a new season - it's the start of the next chapter in our 127 year story!

We have a strong vision:

A national league club continuing to grow, develop & enjoy sporting excellence for men's, ladies & junior hockey at all levels"

We have our Key Projects:

Men's 1 st & 2 nd Team Development Plan	To realise our ambition to play at the highest level
Pitch & Premises Projects	To make ' the Club ' our home
	To secure the quality playing surfaces to support our vision
Ladies Section Development Plan	To grow and develop our ladies section to compete with the best teams locally
Youth Development Plan	To continue investing in the development of the future generations of Oxton Hockey Club
Our broader, more stable Club Management Team	To ensure the sustainability of our drive and energy to achieve our vision
A stronger, more stable Men's Section	To ensure the enjoyment of sporting excellence extends to all levels

We have the Club Management Team:

A group of people determined to make all of this happen!

And we have you!

See everyone 'back at the Club' and have fun!



Steve Rid & John Lorains

Co Chairmen