



The future is bright!

After a Covid-affected season that has seen so many leagues and competitions cancelled, EH Championships are now being run as knockout competitions over the early Summer. The ties begin on Sunday 23 May with subsequent rounds on 06, 13, 19 and 27 June (ties have to be played on those dates). Finals Day is on Saturday 3 July. Good luck to all our teams: L1, L3, GU18/16/14 and BU16/14.

In the meantime, there has been a plethora of friendly fixtures to get all our age groups and adult teams back out on the pitch. The Women's Sticks-in sessions are proving hugely successful and the Men's teams have played friendlies galore, while our juniors have been out in force – we had a staggering 81 minis at training this month, all grouped according to guidelines and all loving getting back to their hockey. The juniors at our performance sessions have loved the range of coaching and skills on offer at this high-level training, and we're looking forward to welcoming our younger, County-level players throughout May.

This newsletter particularly celebrates our homegrown stars – players who have been with CRHC since their youngest days, who have grown up with us and who now, as highly valued members of our first teams, provide inspiration for all the juniors coming through the ranks.

Finally, at the end of the newsletter is a recruitment poster for next season. Please feel free to share it far and wide.

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This newsletter is produced by Clifton Robinsons' volunteer Communications & Marketing team. It is distributed to all Registered members of Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club, every month during the hockey season.

Our Newsletter is for everyone in the Club and we welcome contributions from all our members. Thank you to everyone who has sent articles for this edition. **If you have any stories you would like to share**, please contact Jude Barratt on:

communications@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk

Ladies' 1s featured player

Jenny Hughes

Jenny's fact file

Jenny began playing for Clifton Robinsons at the tender age of 8 years old! She started playing adult league hockey for the Ladies' 4s, and made her Ladies' 1s debut at age 16.

Age: 18

Years at CRHC: 10

Favourite skill: Dummy over the ball

When not on the pitch, I can be found: Eating, at the gym or studying.

Favourite sporting moment: Winning the Women's Tier 1 cup in 2019.

Claim to fame: My great grandfather and my great great grandfather both played for Gloucester rugby.



Committee news...

AGM update

A preliminary date has been set for the club 2021 AGM. This will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 30 June. It is not known yet whether this will be a virtual or in-person AGM.

More information will be sent out about the meeting at a later date and Sub-Committee chairs will be in touch with their officers about AGM reports.

Thank you to all officers for the hand work and commitment this year.

Re-registration

You will soon receive an email about re-registering for the forthcoming season (21/22). Every member is asked to let us know if they will be returning to hockey with us in September. Please click on the link provided and follow the prompts. If you are intending to come back in September, please provide Direct Debit details for your annual subscription and your match fees. Direct debit is a huge help to our volunteer treasurers, making it much easier for them keep track of member payments without needing to chase fees as they become due. Thank you.

Hello from your Welfare Team!

We are in place to ensure the wellbeing of all players, coaches, supporters and parents associated with CRHC. The team is available to assist with any safeguarding issues you have, no matter how small, and can be reached via the welfare email address (welfare@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk). Alternatively, feel free to find us when convenient.

Who are we?



Bill Springett

I've played for CRHC since 2016 and have occupied pretty much every position on the pitch for the Men's 1s at some point – apart from goalkeeper!



Ed Johnson

I've played for CRHC since 2013 and play in goal for Men's 1s.



Charlie Wakefield

I've played for CRHC since I was 13, and have played for many of the Club's teams during this time. I'm currently somewhere on the pitch between the L2/3s.



Jade Williams

I have been with CRHC for three years now, and have been a defender forever and always for the L2s/3s.

Returning to hockey – how are you?

We are excited that hockey sessions are starting back up and we can once again take to the pitch to play the sport we love. While a lot of us can't wait to get back out there, some of us may feel apprehensive about coming out of lockdown. Our COVID-19 officer has worked hard to ensure that our return is as safe as possible and we urge everyone to be mindful and follow the guidelines. Please be aware of those around you and be aware that others may not be finding it as easy as you are.

If you have any concerns about anything with regards to returning to hockey (COVID-19 related or otherwise), please know that your welfare officers are available to listen. Contact them in confidence via: welfare@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk

Useful links

EH – Goal In Mind: www.Englandhockey.co.uk/governance/duty-of-care-in-hockey/mental-wellbeing

CRHC links to policy docs/accident reporting forms: www.cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk/safeguarding-welfare/

Men's 1st featured player

Ollie King

Ollie's fact file

Ollie appeared on the Club's radar after dazzling on tour (with his family) at the age of 10. His ability to be in the right place at the right time was impressive and his hands were lightning!

Hometown: Bristol

Position: Midfield

Other roles & responsibilities: U18 Captain; junior 1-to-1 coach

Honours: England U16 and U18

Sponsor: Grays

Favourite sporting moment: Being crowned EH U14 Boys Champions at Lee Valley!

Favourite quote: "We either win or we learn!"

What do we need to know about Ollie? Following his victory in the U14 National Championship Ollie's development really took off! Ollie broke into the 1st XI at the age of 14 years and 123 days, and his spot has been assured ever since. Ollie's development into an important Clifton Robinsons Men's 1st XI player and U18 international has come as no surprise – it is a testament to all the hard work and practice hours that he puts in. He is a humble and down-to-earth lad, who already knows what it is to bleed blue. Ollie doesn't only play, he also coaches. It is great to have such an exciting talent at the club for our younger juniors to look up to. Exciting times are ahead for Ollie and we are proud to have him as a Blue Army Champion!

Nurturing talent

A new CRHC Junior Performance Group

Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club is justifiably proud of the way in which so many young players have progressed through age-group and adult hockey to play in the national league and at international level, and to benefit more widely in terms of personal development. The Club also recognises that right now there is an opportunity to make an even greater contribution to the development of young players.

With Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club offering National League competitive opportunities in three squads next season, and with it the prospect of including young players who aspire to play at that level in those squads, and with the plentiful prospects of other high-quality adult and junior competition, we need to take a closer look at what we can offer. Therefore, to maximise the marvellous opportunities that exist for junior player development, Clifton Robinsons has formed a new Junior Performance Group (JPG).

The Junior Performance Group Team

- Juliet Rayden (Ladies' 1s Head Coach)
- Jamie Mortimore (Men's 1s Captain)
- Ian King (Head of Junior Hockey)
- Mike Leatt (Lead for the JPG)

The JPG team's aim is to strengthen our internal player pathway in order that we develop individual talent within the Club context, without fear or favour.

Work is currently underway to provide clarity to this pathway, but in the meantime more information can be found at:

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Senior club news...

Men's Bristol & District Summer League

CRHC Men's have entered an additional team into the Men's Bristol & District Summer League – the additional side being a Masters side. We're looking forward to seeing how all the teams progress.

Good luck!

Our men's Summer League teams and their captains are:

- 1s – Alex Kirkpatrick & Conor Pinnell
- 2s (Masters) – Simon Sharp
- 3s – Bobby Houghton-Brown
- 4s – Ian King

Junior club news...

GU12

Congratulations to our GU12As, who secured convincing wins over Cirencester and Cheltenham this month and are unbeaten this season. The girls have gelled very well as a team, with Graham Herring as their coach since they were U10s. Although disappointed not to be able to compete in the EH League, they are excited to embrace the step up to 11-aside as they move into U14s in September. Great performances from our U12Bs, too – who also came away with a win over Cheltenham. **U12 Admin**

GU14

Our thriving U14s have all managed to get some match time over the last month, with a series of internal and external friendlies, and more to come over the coming weeks. May will also see the start of the England Hockey knockout competition, which replaces the cancelled junior championships. The match in these photographs, from a local derby in April against Westberries U14, was the debut for several of our new U14 members and ended with an 8–2 win.



GU12As are unbeaten this season!



GU12Bs following their 2–1 victory at Cheltenham.



GU14s put in a strong performance against local friends at Westberries.

From the archives

Phil Bailey

CRHC dreams come true

Outstanding performance at club level can result in domestic players being called up the National side and National programmes. Recently, our own Kitty Chapple gained a call-up to join the England Hockey Development Squad as did Vicky McCabe, who played for the club before going to university. Long-standing National league players, such as Leah Wilkinson of Holcombe and Wales, have also shown that strong domestic performances can result in being selected for the GB squad and a potential Olympic dream.

In 2002 *The Times* reported that Imogen Robertson of Clifton had been called up to the England squad to replace Jane Smith, who had broken her hand. Imogen, aged 20, gained recognition following her exploits for Clifton in the league, scoring 11 goals in 7 games and being the league's top scorer. Her performance got her selected for the 2002 tour of South Africa and gave her a chance of selection for the Commonwealth Games and World Cup.

Hard work, dedication and the ability to succeed, can result in the highest sporting recognition – a message to us all.



Photo Credit: Peter Smith / © SmifSports Photography

Kitty Chapple (CRHC L1s) recently had her call-up to join the England Hockey Development Squad.

New homes for old kit

Rod Naughalty

Donating old kit

It's been drawn to my attention that we all have old sports clothing/kit we no longer want or need, and will probably never use again.

But, perhaps others less fortunate could make use of it!

I have made some enquiries, and have discovered through recommendations, two organisations looking to receive kit/sports clothing donations.

- Lord's Taverners
- Sri Lanka Masters Women

So, Juniors especially, but also Seniors, I will look to accumulate all your unwanted sports clothing and then pass it on to these organisations for them to pass, potentially around the world, to help disadvantaged and disabled young people through Sport & Recreation. (If you want or need further details and information before donating any clothing, please ask.)

Some dos and don'ts. Please donate only useable clothing. This means:

YES PLEASE

- General sports clothing, trainers and boots
 - Tie together paired items
 - Wash everything first
 - Clean shoes and boots of mud
- Balls / cones / bibs & other coaching kit

NO THANK YOU

- Intimate clothing
 - no sports bras / underwear
- Unpaired items
 - no single cricket gloves, for example
- Broken / damaged clothing etc
 - no rips or holes
 - no rust / mould / blood stains

Please contact me on kit@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk if you would like to make a donation. Thanks to Elise Conway for the idea.

And finally . . .

Congratulations!

to long-standing Club members
Chris and Harriet Smith
on the birth of their son Oliver

Welcome to the world (and our hockey family)
Oliver!

With best wishes from everyone at
Clifton Robinsons Hockey Club.

Did you know?

As a Club, we have 14 players called Isabella, 11 called Alex, 10 Sophies, and 10 Toms. We have 9 who are called Charlie, and 8 of each when it comes to Edward, Grace, James, Jack, Olivia and Sam.

Next issue due out in June 2021

Send your news to

communications@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk

Deadline for submissions

Thursday May 27th



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Want to play HOCKEY?



Clifton Robinsons Wants You!

Clifton Robinsons
Hockey Club

Sponsored by

Grays

Clifton Robinsons is an incredibly sociable club offering National League hockey for both Men's 1s and Womens' 1s&2s along with a thriving junior section and competitive masters hockey too!

THERE REALLY IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

For more information, please contact:

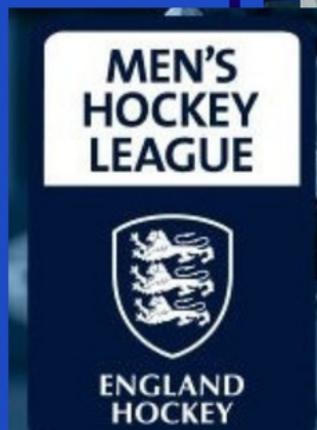
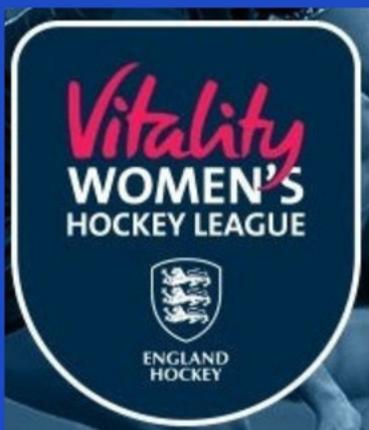
Ladies: Ju Rayden on

ladiesheadcoach@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk

Men: Turloch O'Siochain on

mensheadcoach@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk

Or visit: www.cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk



Smif Sports photography