



CRHC L1s start their 21/22 Premiership campaign with a strong 2-2 draw against Surbiton at Combe Dingle.

## A new season is underway

Our Women's 1s kicked off their 21/22 season with a confident draw against Surbiton on Saturday 18th September, at Combe Dingle. This is just the beginning of what looks likely to be an incredibly exciting season for all our teams – women and men, and juniors, too. In this season-opening edition of the newsletter, we're introducing you to our new Chair and Vice Chair, rounding up on the men's pre-season and celebrating a summer of success for our juniors. Please do take time to read the article on page 5 about our Charity Match, in memory of Katharine Rutherford, a much-loved and much-missed member of our CRHC family.

Finally, now that we can gather again – make a note of the dates below, from our social secretaries, Abi & Matt.

## Dates for your diary

This weekend saw our social calendar kick off with the Three-legged Pub Crawl... Comms hopes there aren't too many sore heads on Sunday morning. But this is just the beginning. Now that restrictions are eased, bringing our Club together off the pitch is back with a vengeance. Keep your eyes peeled on Social Media for updates and dates added as time goes on, but for now, put these dates in your diary. Everyone welcome!

- 16th October – Pie & Pint & Quiz
- 20th November – Fancy Dress (theme TBC)
- 4th December – Team Christmas Curry Night
- 29th January – Treasure Hunt
- 26th February – Six Nations Social
- 19th March – Harbourside Boat Bar Crawl
- 20th April – End of Season Dinner

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Committee News page 2
- Meet your Chair page 3
- Meet your Vice Chair page 4
- Senior News page 5
- In Memory of Coops pages 5 & 6
- Junior News page 7
- Team Who's Who 2021/22 page 8
- And finally... page 9

 [www.facebook.com/CliftonRobinsonsHockeyClub/](https://www.facebook.com/CliftonRobinsonsHockeyClub/)

 @CliftonRobbies

 @CliftonRobbies

 @cliftonrobinsonsjuniors

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](mailto:communications@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk)

# Committee news...

## Meet the Chairs

We are very fortunate to have two outstanding club stalwarts to lead our committee – Duncan Long (Chair) and Izzy Palmer (Vice Chair). They have experienced the highs and the lows our sport has to offer, they bring continuity having been members of the committee for some time, they already have a wonderful array of volunteers supporting them in key roles and, most importantly, they embody the essence of our club. We look forward to them building on the amazing foundations that have been created by all our members over the years and taking us on the next leg of our journey as the Best In The West. Read more about both of them on the following pages.

Cheers  
Wost

#crtid #bluearmy #silenassissins #winnersaregrinners

## Credits & Payments

Kathryn Rendell

A plea to those who have not yet re-registered through Club Buzz to do so ASAP, please – re-registering is the **ONLY** way to claim your 'Covid credit' and is essential even if you are leaving the club – as we need to know how to handle your refund for last season.

Finally, a reminder that all fees need to be settled through ClubBuzz using the My Profile page. Currently it is possible to make a one-off payment, using the Checkout button, but we will shortly be withdrawing this function, after which the only option will be to set up a Direct Debit. Keep an eye out for an email about how to make payments, which will arrive in your in-box in the near future.

## THANK YOU

Over the summer, the work of administering registrations for the entire Club – men's, women's and juniors – amounting to upwards of 700 members, has been down to a few dedicated, tireless and phenomenal volunteers. These are the people on the end of every registration request, every query and every resolution, and all of them have busy lives outside of hockey!

A huge thank you to (in alphabetical order):

- Cath Goudge • Clare Haynes
- Fiona Hester • Janie Houlden
- Rod Naughalty

## EH Registration

For the 2021/22 season, England Hockey has introduced a player registration platform, which **EVERY ADULT PLAYER** who wants to play in league or cup matches must complete in order to be entitled to play. The onus now rests with the players to complete their registration. Emails will be sent to all adult members (including junior members over the age of 13, who wish to play in adult matches) detailing the registration process. Note that the window of opportunity to register is **VERY** small – England Hockey has given us just until **WEDNESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER** to register. Please look out for the email (if it hasn't already come) and act straight away. Anyone who is not registered with the EH system **will not be permitted to play** league hockey.

## Sub-committee Who's Who

*The structure of our Club is that we have an Executive Committee (chaired and vice-chaired by Duncan and Izzy, respectively) and three sub-committees, reporting in to the Executive. In the July newsletter, we introduced you to the members of the Executive Committee, the following are the post-holders for the Men's and Women's sub-committees. (The third is the Junior sub-committee, details of which will follow at a later date.)*

### The Men's Sub-committee

**Chairperson** Duncan Long  
**Secretary** Stephen Hounsell  
**Treasurer** Mark Weller  
**Kit** Rod Naughalty  
**Fixtures/Facilities Secretary** Nick Sutcliffe  
**Social Secretary** Matt Attwood  
**Welfare Officers** Ed Johnson & Bill Springett

### The Women's Sub-committee

**Chairperson** Izzy Palmer  
**Secretary** Vicky Plimmer  
**Treasurer** Kathryn Rendell  
**Kit** Rod Naughalty  
**Fixtures/Facilities Secretary** Nick Sutcliffe  
**Social Secretary** Abi Porter  
**Welfare Officers** Charlie Wakefield & Jade Williams

# Meet your Chair

## Duncan Long



### Duncan's fact file

**Hometown:** Weston-super-Mare

**Position:** Midfield/Defender

**Previous clubs:** Weston-super-Mare, Cannock, Bloxwich, The Knots

**Honours:** England Lions O35s (captain), current England Masters O45s, West Masters O40, West U21

**About Duncan:** Duncan moved to the club in 2007 from Weston, known as one of the toughest clubs in the West, where he had previously been captain of the 1st XI. Duncan slotted into the Men's 1st XI, promoted to National League for the first time, and was converted from a midfielder to centre back. Longer, as he's more commonly known (also answers to other unprintable names), flits between midfield and defence and is known as a fiercely tough and solid competitor. He has been active in supporting the club for many years; helping with junior hockey, taking club training and overachieving at social events! He eventually became the 1st XI captain, working with club legends Ryan Dudley and then Shilen Tanna as coaches. He then moved on to support Wost as the vice chair, then Men's Chair, eventually working with Janis as overall club vice chair. Alongside that, he has also led and still leads our Masters O40s side, including in 2018, when the team won the England Hockey National O40s cup for the third time.

Longer was part of the leadership who oversaw the successful merger of the men's and women's sections and has been a key supporter of every part of the club. He has a measured approach to balancing the demands of a club that focusses both on performance and the incredibly important social side. Those that know him well will attest to his laid-back, but firm, manner, which is a major asset when dealing with a multifaceted club such as ours.

# Meet your Vice Chair

Isabel Palmer



## Izzy's fact file

**Hometown:** Malvern

**Position:** Midfield/Defender

**Previous clubs:** Colwall

**Honours:** England & England U21

**About Izzy:** Izzy is the true definition of a club legend. Leading our club alongside Longer is a fitting role for someone who has given so much to the club and knows the club so well. She joined CRHC in September 1998 and played Premier League hockey in the 1st XI for an impressive 20 years (300+ appearances)! You won't find many footballers with such a career! In that time, she was captain for over 10 years of the indoor and outdoor sides and won the cup three times. Izzy is known to all for her fiercely competitive nature, always called out by the opposition teams as part of their team talk, such was her respect in the league. You can guarantee that that fire was always visible on the training ground also, whether you were a teammate of many years, or your first session as a youngster stepping up. Even post-retirement, Izzy has been part of what many believe to be the pinnacle of the sport... Masters Hockey, reaching the final of the O35s last year.

Like Longer, Izzy is a 'club person' through and through. She was always on hand as part of the senior leadership in the 1st XI, whilst supporting the massively successful junior section. In addition, she was the women's secretary for a number of years. Izzy understands that the beating heart of the club is based on the social aspects of our sport, as well as the competitive. In the spirit of bringing our clubs together, she was instrumental in many a pre- and post-merger big club night, helping to keep the doors of Comfy open and eventually increasing the share value of La Rocca.

# Senior news

## Men's pre-season round-up

The Men have had an excellent off-season and have (so far) had no less than 18 new recruits into the 1st to 3rd teams, having lost only three. Pre-season training has been incredibly competitive as a result and we are looking stronger than ever heading into the new season. New Head Coach Fraser Henderson has gone about setting the teams up in the way he would like to play, with support from Assistant Coach Scott Davidson and Turloch O'Siochain, who is currently in Japan awaiting the birth of his first child – exciting times! We look forward to welcoming Turloch back soon and having his invaluable input on the sidelines once again.

This season we have changed the structure of training sessions with the M1 training alongside the L1 on a Thursday evening, allowing the M2 and M3 to train together before the weekend. It is our hope that this helps to push competition for places and also allows for movement to take place between the sides more fluidly. This training structure should also allow more of our promising junior players to have access to quality hockey, which will aid their development. Without setting too high expectations, we hope to have successful seasons in the M1-M3s teams and look forward to what the season may bring! It is great to be back out on the pitch again!



## In memory of Coops

It was with great sadness that we organised a charity hockey match on Saturday 4th September in memory of Katharine Rutherford who was a very well-loved member of the Clifton Robinsons family. Katharine, lovingly known as Coops, passed away after a short illness. Charlie, Coops' husband, has been working hard along with incredible family support to set up the 'Katharine Rutherford Sunshine Glioblastoma Trust'. It was the least that the hockey family could do to run a big charity game in order to show our support for Charlie and his family and to help raise the £5000 needed to launch the charity.

Fittingly, September the 4th 2021 was one of the most beautiful days we have had this summer. The sun shone on our game and the Club turned out in great numbers to remember Coops.

Forty hockey players from the Men's 1/2s and the Masters squad played a fantastic match for over an hour in the sunshine. Luckily for the youngsters, the old guys' legs didn't quite last into the final 20-minute quarter and they overturned a Masters 1-0 lead to win 2-1 to the disappointment of the crowd. Importantly, Charlie played a full part in the game and was able to enjoy himself with his mates for the first time in a while.

Including donations from the crowd and match fees from the players, we raised a total of £800! A truly incredible effort from the club. Once the charity is launched, we will be sharing details of how to donate across our website and social media platforms, so please keep your eyes and ears peeled.

We would like to thank Jonathan Scudder for taking some incredible pictures during the day and capturing the mood so well. Can we also thank all of those in the club who had a hand in organising the charity hockey match. A selection of images from the day are over the page, and all pictures are available for everyone to view on the following links:

Pics from the charity game are up on Facebook here:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?vanity=jascudder&set=a.10165516153855082>

and available as hi-resolution images in the gallery here:

<https://scudder-photography.pixieset.com/cliftoncharitymatch/>

Finally, the whole club sends its best wishes to Charlie and his family during this tough time and we know that there will continue to be a huge amount of support there from Clifton Robinsons whenever they should need it.

### From Charlie

I cannot begin to explain how thankful and grateful I am to Clifton Robinsons for putting on such an amazing event to raise money for my beautiful wife's charity, Katharine Rutherford's Glioblastoma Trust. This charity is very close to being registered in her name. All proceeds will be donated to medical research, not only in one day finding a cure for this horrendous, incurable brain disease, but in the short term concentrating on the research to prolong the lives of those diagnosed. Sadly Katharine lived for only 2.5 months after the original diagnosis.

This did not give us time to take that one last incredible memory-making holiday of a lifetime with the kids. It is my wish to ensure others affected by this heartbreaking prognosis get that opportunity and the opportunity to simply have more time. As we all know, Katharine, known to the hockey world as Coops, was an incredible individual who inspired everyone around her. She was unique, she was beautiful, she was funny, and she was very much loved. We met through hockey and she played for Taunton Vale, Bath Buccs and Clifton Robinsons. She made many amazing friends along the way and joined me in multiple messy socials. I am overwhelmed by the support I have received, not just for the charity, but for my welfare. I would like to thank Clifton Robinsons once more for simply being there.



# Team Who's Who 2021/22

Your Coaches, Captains and team admins, team by team.

## WOMEN

### L1s

Lead Coach: Ju Rayden  
Assistant Coach: Micah Smithard  
Manager: Alistair Kilfoil  
Captain: Kathryn Lane

### L2s

Lead Coach: Rich Major  
Manager: Nick Sutcliffe  
Captain: Jules Gardner

### L3s

Lead Coach: Tom Appleby  
Captain: TBC

### L4s

Lead Coach: Alex Moat  
Captain: Sophie Gordon

### L5s

Lead Coach: Caroline Meads  
Captain: Jess Adams

### L6s

Lead Coach: Sam Lippiatt  
Captain: TBC

### L045s

Lead Coach: Ian Turnbull  
Assistant Coach: Martin Reed  
Captain: Hannah Dell  
Assistant: Nicola Prince

### L035s

Captain: Jo Walton

## MIXED

### Clobbies

EH Captain: Sam Cole  
Captain Men: Ian Martin  
Captain Women: Amber  
Wilmshurst

## MEN

### M1s

Lead Coach: Fraser Henderson  
Assistant Coach: Scott Davidson  
Coaching Advisor: Turloch  
O'Siochain  
Manager: Rod Naughalty  
Captain: Jamie Mortimore

### M2s

Lead Coach: Matt Plimmer  
Captain: Adam Davies

### M3s

Lead Coach: Josh Bryce  
Captains: Duncan Long & Alex  
Woster

### M4s

Lead Coach: Josh Bryce  
Captain: Jack Davis-Goel

### M5s

Lead Coach: Josh Bryce  
Captain: Roger Birkinshaw

### M6s

Lead Coach: Josh Bryce  
Manager: Ogg Hounsell

### MO40s

Captain: Duncan Long

### MO45s

Captain: Darren Reynolds  
Assistant: Axel Walter

## JUNIOR GIRLS

**Junior Girls' Performance:**  
Mike Leatt

### GU18

Lead Coach: Abigail Porter  
Admin: TBC

### GU16

Coaches: Mike Leatt & Andrew  
Warren  
Coaching support: Ed Edwards  
Admin: Janie Houlden & Judy  
Barratt

### GU14

Coaches: Dominic Titcomb &  
Graham Herring  
Admins: Alison Armitage & Justine  
Davies

### GU10 & U8

Coach: Sam Lippiatt  
Admin: Clare Haynes

## JUNIOR BOYS

**Junior Boys' Performance:**  
Ian King

### BU18

Lead Coach: Jamie Mortimore

### BU16

**Coaches:** Alex Kirkpatrick & Ed  
Johnson

### BU14

Lead Coach: Axel Walther

## Can you help, too?

We can never have too much help. If you are playing for a team, or have a son or daughter playing for a team and are able to offer help, however small and however infrequently, please let your coach, captain or admin know. We are a club of more than 700 members, coached and administrated almost entirely by volunteers and for the benefit of every member. Many hands make light work, more efficiency – and more fun for everyone. Please let us know if you can help, too.

# Junior club news...

## Nurturing our talent

It has been great to celebrate the successes of our young players during the summer both in age group international and more recently at the Futures Cup. Congratulations to U16 girls Martha Barratt, Tilly Edwards and Grace Harwood, who were all selected to play at Futures to represent the Wessex Leopards, to Martha who is now through to the England U16 Assessment Camps, to Clemmie Houlden who is automatically selected for the England U18 Assessment Camps, having made the U16 NAGS squad last season, and to Eloise Moat, who spent her summer amassing junior caps for Wales! Amazing achievements.

### Adult pre-season

A wide selection of coaches, managers and experienced players gathered their thoughts, hopefully unobtrusively, on young players' potential and performance during the summer leagues, Sticks In and other training sessions in order to inform our pre-season training groups so that we can develop our juniors appropriately through adult hockey in 21/22. Each Club team coach is now taking the difficult step of finalising their squads. The 1s, 2s and 3s have made their selections, with the 4s-6s to follow very soon.

Of course, this is just a beginning: regular meetings are already underway to review player performances across the squads and players who are making significant progress will be given opportunities to train up. We have been in close contact with schools to let them know where we are and what we are doing, and to help identify and work through availability issues in the best interests of the player. This has been made easier by more parents talking to coaches and managers.

### Competition

England Hockey has put in place new junior competition structure and the Club has needed to take a balanced view on what we enter to give as many players as possible the opportunity to compete. At the same time, we have needed to be mindful of the demands of adult squads, school hockey and the EH pathway - not to mention other sporting and academic commitments and family life! While we all value success, the primary aim is to provide a genuine development opportunity. We have therefore entered selectively the EH league and Cup Competitions at the top 2 Levels for GU18, GU16 and GU14s as well as at the local level for GU14s. We'll shortly be announcing squads for these competitions.

## Boys shine bright at Futures

Congratulations to Ollie and Toby Day (U16) and Ollie King (U18), who have been selected from Futures Cup to further NAGS assessment camps over the coming months. Special congratulations to Ollie and Toby for their significant role in the Wessex Leopards' ultimate success in the boys' tournament, winning the cup for the West! Congratulations, too, to Finn Browne, who spent his summer representing the Welsh national U16 boys squad. Simply fantastic, boys!



Martha Barratt (U16G), Grace Harwood (U16G) and Tilly Edwards (U16G) competed in the Futures Cup tournament, representing the Wessex Leopards in August. Players are selected for regional representation from the various PC centres in their geographical area, then compete against teams from three other English regions, as well as against the national age-group squads from Wales and Scotland. Played over three days, the tournament is a way for the England age-group assessors to select players for further observation. According to our girls, it's also the most incredible fun! The EH Pathway changes for 21/22, so we wait to receive details of what's in store to replace Futures.

### Pitch Time

Unfortunately, the reduced availability of the new (and splendid) pitch at the Lawns to daylight hours has meant that the start of the Girls' Academy has been delayed until October but invites will be out soon. Please keep an eye on the website next week for a more comprehensive statement of activities, but in the meantime thank you to all our parents, coaches and players for supporting our intention to develop our juniors in the right time and in the right way. **Mike Leatt (Junior Performance Girls / JPG)**

## EH Management System

If your son or daughter is to play adult hockey over the coming season, it's crucial that you sign up to the new England Hockey management system. Parents will need to register themselves, then add their children as dependents. The system has had something of a false start, but please respond urgently when you receive an email from our Club Admins to alert you to the fact that it's time to register. Full instructions will be included in the email. Rollout is gradual, so if you haven't heard from us yet, don't worry. We're responding as fast as the EH system allows.

# And finally . . .

Photo Credit: Peter Smith / © Smifsports Photography



CLIFTON  
ROBINSONS

## Nick's Summer Stats

With the return of hockey last April, 486 members have participated and there have been 130 games, 13 sticks-in sessions, 81 training sessions, 1 five-day training camp, 1 cup final and 3 semi finals.

### Top attendees were:

Men's Training – Sam Cole, Conor Pinnell (15)  
Men's Matches – Edward Charlesworth, Jack Davis-Goel and  
Conor Pinnell (15)  
Women's Training – Martha Barratt (22)  
Women's Matches – Steph Hamilton-James (27)

We won 78; drew 4 and lost 48, which is a winning ratio of 60%.  
We scored 379 goals, but had 22 cards, or a total of 50 minutes  
sitting on the chair!

A big thank you to the coaches for taking your time out to help us  
shake off those covid lockdown blues. To name a few (and I'm sorry  
if I've missed anyone), those deserving of a free drink in the  
clubhouse are: Ju, Turloch, Ian, Mike, Dom, Sam, Alex, Jamie, Rod,  
Al, Micah, Scott, Fraser, Jenny, Abi, Axel, Ogg, Sharpie and, of  
course, Mr Appleby.

Thank you, too, to the Umpires, whose contribution is more than  
essential: Andrew Maxwell, Andy Jackson, Bobby Houghton-  
Brown, Cara Stibbs, Dave Tilley, Dominic Titcomb, Harriet  
Sylvester, Ian King, Ian Martin, Ian Turnbull, Jackie Pinder, James  
Atkin, James Smailes, Jenny Hollman, John Barrett, Jonathan Pratt,  
Kevin Ramm, Mark Wagstaff, Micah Smithard, Mike MacDowell,  
Nick Dodd, Nick Stibbs, Ogg Hounsell, Paul Westgate, Pete  
Wheeler, Rebecca Jones, Richard Cooke, Rod Naughalty, Sam  
Hargreaves, Simon Sharp, Stephen Hounsell, Tim Crabbie, Toby  
Rushmer, Tom Ponsford and Val Shipsey.

There is one name missing from that list – and he will kill me for  
doing this – but he umpired 22 games, 17% of all matches, which is  
more than double the next person. A real example to the rest of us  
of what the Clifton Robinson Spirit is all about. **Alistair Kilfoil** a  
massive THANK YOU from the whole club. **Nick Sutcliffe**

*Next issue due out in October 2021*

### Send your news to

[communications@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk](mailto:communications@cliftonrobinsonshockey.co.uk)

### Deadline for submissions

Thursday October 7th

Thank you to Pete Smith at Smifsports Photography for his  
brilliant photographs of our players, which go such a long way to  
making our newsletter special.



[www.facebook.com/CliftonRobinsonsHockeyClub/](https://www.facebook.com/CliftonRobinsonsHockeyClub/)



[@CliftonRobbies](https://twitter.com/CliftonRobbies)



[@CliftonRobbies](https://www.instagram.com/CliftonRobbies)



[@cliftonrobinsonsjuniors](https://www.instagram.com/cliftonrobinsonsjuniors)