

The 'W' (12/15)

exercise...socialise...**energise!**



LOUD AND PROUD THIS CHRISTMAS TIME!



Welcome to your Christmas 2015 edition of **The 'W'**.

This season has started brightly – our yellow Café Rouge sponsored training tops have arrived, all teams are doing well, the social events are thriving and there's even talk of some new pitches being laid at Warwick School! Or is that just on everyone's Christmas list? As we look towards who will be super stars at the Rio Olympics next year, spare a wee thought for all the stars who have made **Warwick Hockey Club** such a fun and vibrant place to be this year – committee members, captains, players, coaches, umpires, parents! **Yes that's YOU!** We couldn't do it without **YOU**, so hold on tight and let's make it a **Super16!**

Half Time Round Up!

Ladies 1s 3rd in WWHL Div. 2. Two points off second and with the most noteworthy result, a 5-1 demolition of 2nd place Nottingham Uni. **David Bryce** has taken the coaching reigns and is looking for a season of consolidation and stability with captain **Becky Weaver** continuing to lead the side.

Ladies 2s 3rd in WWHL Div. 2. Following relegation, they also are looking for consolidation and stability under captain **Angela Briggs**. Similarly positioned as the 1s, two points off second, with six clean sheets, plus wins over local rivals Stratford and Leamington. Thanks to **Ian Best** for his coaching and writing acumen.

Ladies 3s 5th in WWHL Div. 3. **Krissie Howe** reports having played some tough matches so far. A comfortable 9-0 win against local rivals Leamington and a massive 3-2 win against unbeaten, not-even-conceded-a-goal Hampton, left us pretty pleased with our efforts. She and the team are looking forward to the next half of the season!

Ladies 4s 3rd in WWHL Div. 4. Thanks to **Sharon Heydon** for taking on the role as Captain and to **Steve Chidlow** for helping with the organisation.

Mens 1s TOP in Midlands 2. A superb first half of the season for the Mens 1s who after drawing their first game 5-5 have recorded nine consecutive victories and are top of the league, albeit only by one point. Solid defending combined with attacking flair and unrivalled work rate has produced some of the best hockey the team has displayed for years. Talented youngsters **Jack Hobbs**, **Oliver Hobbs** and **Dan Murray** have joined **Blue** in the team to help get the average age down. We have welcomed **Ben Clarke** to the team and **Martyn Stickley's** goals have been priceless. More of the same in 2016, please, urges **Seb Fleet**.

Mens 2s 6th in W. Mids Premier. **James Balfour** writes – have had a few new players, it's quite a young squad, so made a slow start before we clicked. Beat Edgbaston in first match, then suffered a few losses to lower teams. Better form recently, due to more consistent squad, good teamwork and beat local rivals Stratford and Hampton. Loads of potential to move higher in second half.

Mens 3s 4th in Midlands 1. Post knee op, **Chris Langley** exclaims – some quality performances in the first half of the season has put us comfortably in 4th. Best game was our 4-3 win away at Olton. Our blend of youth and experience is working well and who doesn't enjoy it when we play great hockey. C'mon 3s!

Mens 4s 3rd in Central League W. Mids Premier. **Nick Ancomb** articulates – having been promoted last season, started brightly with an unbeaten run for the first six games dropping only two points putting us top of the table! Being the 'side to beat', however has meant things haven't quite gone our way since and we have dropped back to a still much better than expected 3rd position at the half way stage of the season.

Mens 5s 7th in Central League S.E. 1. **Ian Macdonald** recounts – unexpectedly promoted to this very competitive league, the 5s won their first game against newly relegated Burton 4s thanks to two terrific goals from **Hamish Hanson**. It's a changeable squad so gelling is tricky, but with **Wilbur Williams** and others we look a more dangerous team! We're continuing to encourage the youth of the Club, the experience they gain will bring forth rewards in years to come.

Boys U18s this team is full of some really strong talent, and many have another year or two at this age band too, notes **Chris Langley**. We received a bye in the first round of the EHB, were then drawn away at Stourport. A most impressive performance, played Stourport off the pitch and we won comfortably 4-1. Then drawn away against Beeston who were stronger opposition. We played extremely well, but lost to some excellent finishing. A great experience, and who knows for next year...

Badgers Warwick's Badgers have enjoyed an excellent start to the season, continuing the success of last year, exhorts Chief Badger – **Andy Griffin**. They are currently unbeaten with eight wins and one draw from their nine games. A top ten pin bowling Christmas party was won by **Alex Harold** and **Bob Cooper** cleared up in the adults alley.

Socials While **Tim Williams-Ellis** suns himself down under, **Harriet McCormick** the other half of the Social Team, proudly states that the socials this season have started with a bang! There was a fantastic turnout for the Halloween themed 'Battle of the Teams', where the WAGS team (partners and friends) won! Followed by the Casino Christmas Party which sported lots of great Christmas jumpers! Don't forget about the first social in the new year; we've got the **Quiz Night** on **30th January** at the Clubhouse and **End Of Season Dinner** on **23rd April** at 'Restaurant In The Park' in Jephson Gardens.

Umpires It's a BIG thank you from **Marije Tunnicliffe** to all the volunteering umpires so far this season. We've managed to fulfill all our obligations, at times due to teamwork with the captains. Remember the **umpiring coarse** at Oxford Hawkes on **Sunday 10th January 2016**. Sign in on the England hockey website.

Pitch Co-ordinator "it's work in progress", claims **Steve Lycett**. "A role that requires simplification, with straightforward, transparent record keeping that will foster a trusted long term relationship between us and our pitch providers." Nice job!

Clubhouse Here's a message from **Liz Holding** our sports Club Rep. – please remember to come back to the Clubhouse after your games. Hot meals are served and the bar is open (we pay for these, so please use them). There is a plan for further refurbishment of the Clubhouse soon, including the showers (subject to obtaining grants). Don't forget that as a member of the Hockey section you can also join Tennis and Cricket at a discount.

Website Plans are in hand to develop a new public facing side for our website with more images, fresh content and items of interest to prospective players, parents and friends, as well as visiting umpires and teams. We'd like your help, so please send in any: pictures, stories of hockey, socials and any other aspects of our Club. Ideas for content or volunteers interested in helping, please contact **Chris Langley**, or email news@warwickhockey.co.uk.

Seasons Greetings to You and Yours...

Finally, it's time for me to thank you all for making our Club such a super success over this past year! Here's wishing you and your families a very **Merry Christmas** and a **Super16!**

Have fun and exercise...socialise...energise!

Nick Herd – Chairman, Warwick Hockey Club

We are very grateful to all our sponsors for their continued help and support:



Affiliated to

