



December 2023

CLOCKHOUSE CHRONICLE

Firstly may I wish you all the compliments of the season.

During the summer & autumn I have been able to watch all of our clubs in action. The final game of the cricket season at Clockhouse ended in a home victory and I also enjoyed watching the football 1st XI in September defeat Hershams 5-4, although it took me until halftime to realise that we were winning and not losing and playing in red, not blue! The hockey club goes from strength to strength and I am delighted to see that they are now fielding a women's third XI. It's also great to see the younger members being put through their paces on Sunday mornings by the dedicated coaching staff. I have enjoyed watching both the rugby XV's home and away and been impressed with the effort and commitment on display. Blues Lacrosse? Fantastic! Another European triumph - many congratulations.

Make sure you read the write up on page 2

Off the pitch I am pleased to report that staffing vacancies have been filled and the volunteers have been working hard in supporting Monty with the upkeep of the clubhouse and the surroundings.

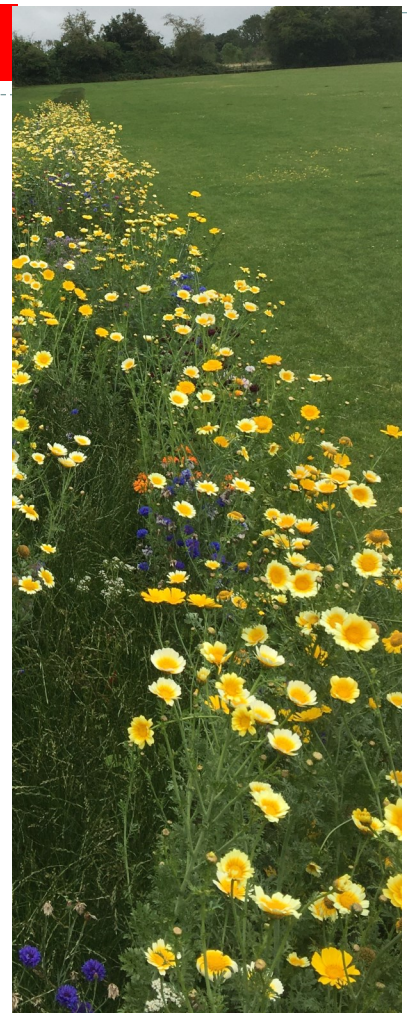
The fireworks evening was a great success, raising valuable funds for our CRY initiative to provide a programme of heart screening for our playing members.

The pitches are in great shape thanks to all the work that Pat has been putting in. She has been challenged by the changes in weather but has coped amazingly well. Thanks also to Monty and his team for providing us with refreshments throughout the year.

I hope that you are able to join us at the club during the Christmas break. Christmas Eve, Boxing Day & New Years Eve offer a great opportunity for you to enjoy family time at the club.

Finally I would like to wish all members and their families a peaceful Christmas and a happy 2024.

Pete Jemson



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EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS.....AGAIN!!!

Walcountians Blues Womens Lacrosse have been at it again

European Championships 2023:

We went into Euros as defending champions, and have had an unbeaten season in the domestic league, which is a huge achievement.

The group stages included games against Bern and Hamburg and we comfortably beat Bern, but after a very close game against Hamburg, we came up short losing by 1 goal.

This then put us into a knockout game against Cristiania Lacrosse from Norway and we came out with a really good team performance and were back to our winning ways.

The semi final was against the Czechs, who we saw in the semi final in 2022 and are effectively the Czech national side. It was a tightly fought game that went down to over time and golden goal which we eventually won.

The final was against Rotterdam, a team that had performed well throughout the tournament. It was a tight game throughout but the final score was 12-11 and Blues were crowned European Champions for the second year in a row. The tournament MVP went to Blues player Alex Drewe who had a fantastic tournament, scoring multiple much needed goals.

Congratulations to all of you. We're very proud to have you as part of the family at WSC! - Ed



VICTORIOUS VOLUNTEER

WSC are pleased to announce that our very own Peter Chmielinski has been awarded the Individual Trustee Award at the Reigate & Banstead Mayor's Volunteer Awards in September.

Peter was nominated by his colleagues on the WSC Committee for his hard work and dedication as Finance Manager as well as his term as Chairman of WSC added to his long and distinguished service with AFC Walcountians. Peter exemplifies what clubs like ours need from their members in order to both survive and thrive.

Unfortunately, the presentation event was cancelled at the last minute so we don't have a photo of Peter picking up his gong.

Please do congratulate Peter when you see him. I'm sure he'd happily accept your offer of a Porretti or a cup of tea!

If you would like to volunteer to help WSC, please do get in touch with Chairman, Pete Jemson or any other committee member. We'd love to hear from you.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT CLOCKHOUSE

Please come and join us for a drink at the clubhouse on Christmas eve.

This is a relaxed and informal evening for members and their families and guests. There will be mince pies and mulled wine available and, subject to your joining in, carols will be sung.

The 200 club draw will also take place. What better time to find out you have won £1000?!

The bar will be open from 6pm and we hope to see you there.



Florin took his Elf & Safety responsibilities a little too far....

Meanwhile, Monty considered which veg to serve with his Reindeer Fricassee.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

We previously reported that we had a number of staffing vacancies at the Club.

We are pleased to report that a number of vacancies across the club have been filled. Florin is back – and will be cleaning the club as well as supporting Monty in running the bar and events, alongside Sophie Tilleray who will be a regular face behind the bar as part of the team.

Tea bar. Kiera Hird has been employed to operate the tea bar. This will be open each Sunday during the ‘winter sports’ season when refreshments and snacks will be available.

In addition, Monty has also been widening his pool of bank bar staff which should help ensure that the bar is appropriately resourced at all times.



He's back!

VOLUNTEER GROUP—WALCOUNTIAN WEDNESDAYS

There are a number of jobs that need doing both inside the clubhouse and around the grounds. Each Wednesday between 2.00 & 4.00pm volunteers meet to complete basic maintenance tasks. Jobs undertaken so far include;

- Weeding the car park & area around the clubhouse
- Litter sweep
- Cleaning signage
- Cleaning changing rooms

- Tidying outdoor storage area
- Maintenance of planters
- Sweeping outdoor area of clubhouse
- Painting changing rooms
- Putting up the Christmas decs!

If you are able help on a Wednesday please contact Pete Jemson

“Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless”

Sherry Anderson

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE—PLEASE READ

From January 2024 WSC will be directly communicating to members via email (rather than the traditional cascade method). Sections have provided the WSC secretary with membership email addresses. If you would like to opt out of communications from WSC, please contact wsc.walcourtians@gmail.com and you will be removed from the distribution list. Please note – only WSC committee will retain details, and they will not be shared outside the organisation. Emails will only be used to communicate WSC business.

All members should now have received their membership cards. If you have not received yours, please speak to Monty. Please ensure you have this card on you to receive your member discount at the bar. **No card – No discount!**

Please also note that members receive discounted hire of the hall and facilities – please speak to Monty for further information.

Finally – did you know that there is a whatsapp broadcast service that sends out up-to-date information about club opening hours and events? It is not a traditional whatsapp group – your number is not published on the group, and there is no chat function – messages are received as a direct whatsapp message from Penny (club secretary). If you would like to be on this group – please send Penny a message (text or whatsapp) on 07725 051771.

ECO UPDATE

Following the successful creation of the wild meadow below the rugby pitches, we have identified further areas of the grounds to sow wild flower seeds. This will take place in Spring 2024, hopefully with continued support from the pupils and staff of our neighbouring school.

Tree planting season runs between November and March. We will be planting a number of oak saplings early in the new year. These are to be located along the hedge line to the left of the clubhouse, bordering the cricket outfield and the first team football pitch. The space beyond the in-goal area at the top of the rugby pitches is another area we will be developing.

If you would like to be involved in further work on improving biodiversity at the club please contact Pete - petejemson@hotmail.com



CLUBHOUSE DEEP CLEAN

The clubhouse was given a thorough deep clean by a professional company recently. Please help Monty and his team keep it that way by considering your impact on your environs.

Please do not wear muddy footwear in the clubhouse or bring your kit bag into the bar areas. Remove studded footwear before entering the clubhouse and please put your rubbish in the bins provided.

Please make sure that changing rooms are cleared of all items, kit and clothing as well as rubbish and swept out at the end of each use.

DID YOU KNOW?

We are fortunate to have the space and facilities to hold large sporting tournaments at Clockhouse.

One annual event is our very own BLUESFEST, run by our Lacrosse section

Bluesfest is a two-day women's and men's competition, run annually in Summertime, with two big social evenings and overnight camping for the lacrosse players. It is the biggest lacrosse festival in the UK and we have been hosting it for 18 years (we think...).

Lacrosse teams enter from all over Europe and beyond. Players block out their diaries every year for it. Last year we had 16 women's teams and 24 men's teams enter which is around 700 players in total. Every year we gather feedback from the players and always receive such positive comments around how well organised it is, the positive social atmosphere, entertainment and the quality standard of play. We are looking forward to another year of Bluesfest in 2024.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT CLOCKHOUSE

The turkey is trussed, the veg prepped and the presents are wrapped.

The hard work is done, so why not take a bit of "me" time and join us for a relaxed hour or two before the big day?

Bring you friends and family and enjoy a drink, perhaps a mulled wine, a mince pie, a little festive music and a family feel at your club this Christmas Eve.

The annual 200 Club draw will take place circa 7pm.

Bar is open 6pm - 10pm.



WSC 200 CLUB

The 200 club underwent a major change this year with the cost of entry increasing to £50, the first increase since the early 80's!. This means that the £10,000 raised will be split equally between prize money and a donation to WSC.

The annual draw will take place at the clubhouse on Christmas Eve.

There are currently no entries available for 2023 but I do have a few that will be available for 2024. If you are interested in joining in, please contact Pembers at neilpemberton5@gmail.com.

CCWCC UPDATE

The off season, as one would expect, is a relatively quiet time for the cricket section.

Winter work on the clubhouse and grounds continues every Thursday for the regular volunteers.

The new fixture secretary, Andy Puttock, is busy trying to fulfill the pre-season friendlies and Sunday matches.

Preparation is underway for the winter nets, which will be at Wallington County Grammar School, starting Sunday 21st January for the junior sections. Details will be appear on the website CCWCC.play-cricket.com shortly.

As ever, the club is always looking for new members and has a competitive pricing structure, especially for colts who have a £25 membership fee.

For further information please contact colts@ccwcc.co.uk or membership@ccwcc.co.uk

OWRFC UPDATE

Both teams have had a challenging start to the season, but are enjoying their rugby. There have been good numbers at training, and, as always, a great atmosphere post match at the club house.

The 1st XV are playing up until the 16th December, returning on the 6th January, and, at the time of writing sit in 6th place in a very tough league.

The 2nd XV are finishing on the 9th December and returning on the 13th January. Both teams having a well deserved break over the festive period.

We have recently taken delivery of the much awaited Veo Sports Camera. This is a great piece of equipment that will help with analysing matches to assist with strategy and performance, as well as being able to send a recording of the game to a wider audience—watch this space!

Lastly, the players and the coaching staff wish to express their thanks to our outgoing President, Rocky Stone. His skills at organising fundraising through his vast network of old boys and his President's lunch have enabled us to buy a brand new scrum machine.



AFC WALCOUNTIANS UPDATE

As we all look forward to the Christmas break AFC Walcountians continues to thrive, with 18 teams playing weekly on a Saturday and Sunday.

Some teams are excelling with our Adult 1st currently sitting 2nd in the Surrey Premier Elite League and our U12 Yellows unbeaten and flying high in their division.

Special mention should go to our U14 Girls who have won all their league games and are still in two cup competitions.

U14 Tier 4

POS	Team	P	W	D	L	PTS
1	AFC Walcountians Youth U14 Girls	7	7	0	0	21
2	Mole Valley Girls U14 Whites	7	5	0	2	15
3	Guildford Saints Girls U14 Leopards	8	5	0	3	15
4	Richmond Park U14 Blues Girls	8	4	1	3	13
5	Walton & Hershaw Youth U14 Eagles	7	3	0	4	9
6	Manorcroft United Juniors U14	9	2	2	5	8
7	Milford Pumas Girls U14 Eagles	5	2	1	2	7
8	Hampton and Richmond U14 Warriors	6	2	0	4	6
9	Fleet Spurs U14 Lionesses	3	1	0	2	3
10	Whitton Wanderers Youth U14 Scarlets	8	1	0	7	3

AFC Walcountians would like to take this opportunity to thank Monty, Pat & Florin for their help and support this year. We would like to wish all of our committee and members a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year!



20
24

New Years
Party

31 Dec 2023

8PM - 2AM

Tickets £10.00 per adult, £5.00 per child,
Family ticket £25.00

*Ticket includes a drink on arrival, buffet, nibbles and
a glass of fizz at midnight*

FREE non alcoholic drinks for designated drivers

DRESS TO IMPRESS

Walcountians Sports Club, Carshalton Road,
Woodmansterne SM7 3 HU

Reserve your tickets now:
AFCWCS@GMAIL.COM



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS—OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS

3rd FEB 2024—80's NIGHT

All the very best of the decade—played on Vinyl as it was way back then!

Tickets £8 via DJ Mark—07941 077488

17th FEB—LIVE ROCK BAND

Come and enjoy The Lethal Weapons & special guests.

Tickets £8 via QR code—to follow

13th APRIL—SOUL & MOWTOWN NIGHT

All the very best from the 60's onwards, all on vinyl.

Tickets £8 via DJ Mark—07941 077488

Please note that these events are being run by members for members. Monies raised will be donated to WSC. Please make the effort to support these events and the club. Without **your** support, these and other events will not happen.

Newsletter, Website & General Feedback

As ever, your feedback is welcomed. If you have an opinion or suggestion about the Newsletter, website or the initiatives within, please get in touch.

Perhaps you feel you may be able to help produce and maintain the newsletter or website? Maybe you want to feedback on décor in the clubhouse? Whatever it is, no matter how small, please do let us know.

You can contact your section lead, any of the WSC committee (we will confirm details after the AGM!) or you can email the secretary at **wsc.walcourtians@gmail.com** or, if its newsletter & website specific email **walcourtianswebsite@gmail.com**

If you don't tell us, we can't help!

NB. If you have any photos that we can use in these newsletters, they will be gratefully received! Otherwise they will purely be rugby shots which is all I have!!

PLANNING NEXT YEARS HOLIDAY? WALCOUNTIANS SPORTS CLUBS PARTNERS WITH LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT BOOK THE WORLD @ NOT JUST TRAVEL

Partners in Travel is a new way to help raise funds for the club, it's very simple.

1 Simply point members, friends and families in the direction of Book The World your local independent travel agent and one of our travel consultants will do the rest.

2 Book the World will provide travel advise, help source the perfect trip and book the holiday or trip (UK or Overseas) along with a personal service and expert knowledge.

3 With every successful booking the club will receive a percentage of the agent's commission. So just by placing the booking with Book The World you are helping to raise important funds for Walcountians Sports Club. You will also get a great deal and service.

4 Spread the word and remember to quote WSC or Walcountians Sports Club at the point of enquiry so that the club receives the funding.

Why should you book with Book The World?

As an independent travel agent, you will get expert advice, amazing choice, and a truly personal service. More and more people are realising the benefits of booking with a travel consultant instead of online. Book The World are ABTA bonded and ATOL protected so you are in safe hands. As a member of the Hays Consortium, they work with over 450 travel providers to access discounts and deals including many that are not available in the high street or online. In most cases they will match or beat most prices. They will be there to

support when needed with a 5-star Trustpilot service. Be it a package holiday, a custom trip or even a club sports trip they have it covered.

Book The World is run by Directors Dean and Aaron Slade, Dean has a long association with the club for over 20 years, as a football coach for AFC Walcountians, fund raiser and member, Dean is always on hand for advice and support not just when you travel but before during and after your holiday, ready to help with any questions or query.

Dean comments "This is a great club, and we are proud to be the clubs Partner In Travel, we hope that we can help members, friends, and families to have great trouble-free holidays with the benefit that every holiday booked will raise funds for the club. Fund raising is key to help the club develop for the benefit of the members and their children".

There is a dedicated web page with all the contact details along with the latest deals so please check it out, just go to

<https://walcountians-sports-club.notjusttravel.com/>

You can also make an enquiry by calling Dean on 07799534799 or e-mail

booktheworld@notjusttravel.com also join the Facebook page for daily offers at

<https://www.facebook.com/booktheworld.njt>

More Choice | Better Service | Great Value

Not Just Travel are a Multi Award Winning Travel Agency who have partnered with Walcountians Sports Club to bring exclusive deals and discounts to their members.

As part of the Hays Travel Group we offer you all the benefits of booking with a larger agent combined with our renowned Personal Concierge Travel Service.

All bookings referred as WSC will help raise additional funding for the club.

The banner features a teal background with a white silhouette of a family walking on a beach. In the center is the Walcountians Sports Club crest, and in the bottom right corner is a small 'Privacy - Terms' icon.