

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Chipwrecks 4 v Ancient Britons 3**

I hadn't realised I had volunteered to write this.

Here you are Phil, (for proof reading, grammatical changes and any missed sub plots)

This was a match which skipper Clive Kendall wanted to win, having lost the previous year in sweltering hot conditions. The Ancient Britons welcomed a debutant, Mike WINGENT, a West divisional representative at over 55 who started up front with Paul 'goal machine' SHARRATT.

In the first quarter, the ABs played outstanding hockey, moving the ball quickly from defence through the midfield up to the forwards. Within 4 minutes pressure from Mike WINGENT led to him stealing the ball from the Chipwrecks sweeper and putting the ball past the onrushing goalkeeper for a well-deserved lead. The Chipwrecks midfield kept trying to hit long balls through the ABs' defence of Phil HALL, Clive KENDALL, Lee BARON and Paramjit HAYRE, but with no success. Indeed, it was from 1 interception from Phil HALL on the top of the ABs "D" to Paramjit who in turn passed to Jan AHMED, who drew several players before passing to Mike Wingent. Instead of shooting he slid the ball to Paul SHARRATT, who made the scoring of the goal look straight forward, then shaking hands afterwards to thank Mike for the pass. Just prior to the end of the first quarter, both teams and supporters were watching in awe, as Brian HOPKINS in his brand new, brightly coloured training shoes went on an unusual run. It was unusual for 2 reasons:

Firstly, Brian was nowhere near the ball and, secondly, it seemed as though it was his shoes that were taking him for a run. Anyway, inevitably, Brian ended up in an embarrassed, but brightly coloured heap on the floor to cheers of laughter (and derision). ABs won their first short corner just before the first break and a pass right from Phil Hall led to Jan AHMED having 3 shots in a row, the first 2 being saved and the 3<sup>rd</sup> going high, wide and handsome.

The second quarter brought German SINGH into the defence and Richard TURNER and John PEIRCE on for our 2 earlier goal scorers. It was John who came close to scoring on 2 occasions, the second one being deflected

onto the post by a Chipwrecks defender. However it was the opposition who scored from their own short corner with a fierce dipping shot that just eluded both Richard BOUTCHER in goal and the skipper on the line, although there was a discussion with the umpire about whether the ball had actually gone out of the D or whether the resulting shot was excessively high. Not only that but Richard had deflected it with his glove thereby taking the pace off the ball, causing it to hit the backboard. John PEIRCE managed his own 'Brian HOPKINS' moment just before half time, which again drew applause and some ribald comments from the enthusiastic crowd.

The third quarter led to Chipwrecks applying almost constant pressure. The defence were stretched and Richard BOUTCHER was called on several times to make saves, one in particular being a full length dive to his right which prevented a certain goal. After 10 minutes Chipwrecks scored again and finished the quarter totally on top.

The fourth quarter carried on exactly the same and although ABs defended well, with Clive KENDALL making some good tackles, it was not enough to prevent Chipwrecks scoring twice. ABs showed their character at the end by winning a short corner and Phil switched the ball to Jan AHMED, who made no mistake in lashing the ball past the keeper. Sadly that was the last hit of the match giving the ABs no chance to get an equalizer.

Bruce BARON was nominated by the skipper as Man of the Match for his tireless work rate and skill in midfield. Teri BARON was thanked for her role as umpire (at zero notice) and Alison BARON for her comprehensive note taking. Brian HOPKINS was also thanked for his "Most entertaining moment I have seen on a hockey pitch for Ages" Award.

Report; Courtesy of Robin Conway.

### **Captain's Comments.**

**This was a well contested game played in the usual good spirit.**

**During the post-match hospitality I took the opportunity to thank the skipper of the Chipwrecks for his part in making the arrangements for the game adding that the ABs always enjoyed their trip down to Wiltshire & looked forward to returning next year. The opportunity**

was also taken to thank Fi for the provision of the enjoyable after match buffet & sweet.

Vocal support was provided from the side-lines by the following who appeared to enjoy the on field entertainment on several levels:- Alison Baron, Ruth Conway, Jasbinder Hayre, Diane Boutcher (official photographer), Karen Daly and Sharon Wingent.

Special thanks go to Robin Conway for once again producing an entertaining and high standard report. Robin has clearly forgotten that he was coerced into this pre-match. Robin also appeared to have dipped out on the changing room discussion concerning the rights & wrongs of using an apostrophe in the ABs title (subsequently corrected). I hope he pays greater attention to the captain's tactical talks.

**Clive Kendall**

**Richard Boutcher, Lee Baron, Phil Hall, Clive Kendall, Robin Conway, Paramjit Hayre, Mike Wingent, German Singh, Richard Turner, John Peirce, Paul Sharratt, Bruce Baron, Jan Ahmed & Brian Hopkins**

**Umpire: Teri Baron**

**Supporters:**

**Diane Boutcher, Alison Baron, Karen Daly, Jasbinder Hayre, Sharon Wingent & Ruth Conway.**