

OPA Hockey Festival - 6 July 2019

OPA Committee members Alison Amps and Heather Biccarino came up with the great idea of an OPA Hockey Tournament, which went ahead in July, followed by an evening meal at The City of Peterborough Hockey Club at Bretton Gate.

Players of all ages and abilities turned out. All in all, we had 6 teams: KSP Staff (past and present), Sixth Form, Hurford Family & Friends, The All Sorts (KSP parents - current and former), Sons of Pitches (former students from 2006 onwards) and Team Samuel (current students, past students, and family). Each team had its own coloured T-shirt.

Games were 12 minutes each way, on a half-size pitch, all teams playing each other in a round robin contest. The Sixth Form team was competitive from the first whistle. For the staff, special mention must go to Technology teacher, Mr Criddle, who had not played for some 15 years, but his saves in goal were amazing, much to the dismay of the opposition! The teams showed great sportsmanship and friendship. The winners were decided on the very last game of the tournament.

Food was available all day from Hockey Club resident chef James, and the bar was open too. We welcomed a great selection of spectators, including the Headteacher and Mrs Ayling, and members of the Invicti teams from the late 1960s/early 1970s.

OP and former OPA Chairman John Day has always been heavily involved with the Hockey Club during and since his playing days. It was fitting to honour him by naming the Winners' Shield after him. Sadly, ill health prevented John from attending on the day, but his wife, Dyl Powell, former King's Deputy Headteacher and hockey teacher, and son Luke and his family did join us.

Awards included Most Improved Player (Greg Smith), Furthest Travelled (Joe Hurford from the USA!), and Most Goals Scored (shared between Louis Bowden and Jon Bigham). The Players' Player was shared between Emily Samuel and Julian Criddle. One team captain had arrived in his old School blazer - certainly one way to make an entrance! His team had two of the youngest players (Year 7), two current KSP parents, an OP from the late 1970s, and even a godmother of a KSP student! The camaraderie of the team was what the tournament was all about - a team made up from all ages and abilities pulling together and enjoying hockey. Such worthy winners of the Fair Play Award!

Dyl Powell presented The John Day Shield and the winners' medals to the Sons of Pitches, who narrowly beat the Sixth Form team in the final nail-biting game of the tournament.

After time for players to shower and freshen up, teams and spectators met up for an informal social in the clubhouse. Chef James prepared a one-pot meal and all those who attended had a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Roll on Hockey Festival 2020 next July! Let us know if you would like to come and join in.

Participants

Old Petriburgians

Jess Amps	Pippa Christmas	Georgina Hurford	Chris Smith
Katherine Amps	Katherine Dudley	Joe Hurford	Stewart Smith
Sam Biccarino	Alanna Harris	Ollie Hurford	Leah Stewart
Jonathan Bigham	Ryan Harris	Graeme Mitchell	Fiona Stewart
Louis Bowden	Jonathan Hawkes	Chris Samuel	Philip Wilson
Sue Caskey	Jonathan Hill	Charlotte Sethna	
Emma Chiappinelli	Rebecca Hughes	Helen Shaw	

KSP Students

Carys Attwell	Edward Das	Ben Hawtin	Libby Smith
Lauren Attwell	Josh Haddon	Tessa Hoyland	Laurence Wood
Josie Criddle	Kate Haddon	Emily Samuel	

KSP Staff Present and Past

Alison Amps	Jane Combrink	Nikki Harris	Caroline Randeria
Fiona Attwell	Julian Criddle	John Harrison	Greg Smith

Parents Past and Present

Vince Biccarino	Nikki Higgins	Miriam Wood
Adam Drake	Catherine Pickering	

Friends and Family

Josh Hawkes	Kaz Drake	Andrea Howard
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Supporters

Old Petriburgians

Heather Biccarino	Luke Day	Jenny Shaw	Peter Webb
Andrew Boyce	Robert Fountain	Gordon Smith	
Caroline Checkley	Howard May	Langford Smith	

KSP Staff Past and Present

Darren Ayling	Caryl Davies	Trevor Elliott
Jane Ayling	David Davies	Dyl Powell

Friends and Family

Duncan Amps	Carolyn Dudley
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