

The Bluesletter # 9

20th March 2021

Here we go....

As we all will have heard, grassroots sport can re-commence on Mon 29th March and with it, the club can start to re-open, play sport and hopefully start to get back to something like normal. Specific guidance related to the four core sports at our club; Cricket, Hockey, Lacrosse and Football is expected next week which will enable to confirm dates, events and timings, but assuming things go to plan there some key dates you might want to pencil into your diary.....



Step One

Tues 30th March – Training recommences for all sports. Cricket, Hockey, Lacrosse & Football. Contact your section committee, or section website for specific details.

From Sat 3rd & Sun 4th April. Sport is back ! Hockey, Lacrosse and Football friendly fixtures against local opposition. Clubhouse open for Teas/coffees and WCs. Bar snacks from 09.30 – 14.00.

Step Two.

Fri 16th April from 17.00. Outdoor bar service re-starts. Specific details will be published on the club website nearer the time BUT 'Rule of Six' and table service will apply.

Sat 17th April. The cricket season starts ! Bar snacks from 09.30 – 14.00. 300 Club at 18.00hrs

w/c 11th May. Hockey midweek summer league commences. Men on Mondays and Women on Tuesdays.

Step Three.

From Fri 21st May. Indoor bar table service re-starts with a curry night. Details about how to book nearer the time.

Late May ... Cricket Golf day. venue tbc.

Step Four..... from Mon 21st June. No restrictions. Lets hope we get there !

Tues 22nd June 'Euro 21' Eng v Czech rep.

Sat 26th June 300 Club 'BIG DRAW'

Fri 9th July. Hockey 'End of season Event

Sat 10th July The Great Timperley Auction v2

Mon 12th July Timperley Sports Club Ltd 2nd AGM (prov)

Sat 17th July Lacrosse 50th Anniversary Dinner.

Plus we've a sport going on during the week and tournaments and matches for all four sports through to the Summer – so there will be lots of opportunities to play sport and pop down to see some sport at the Club.

NOTE: Things will change. Please keep watching the club website www.timperley-sports.com and social media to keep in touch with your section committee's

Bar Staff required.

We are looking to recruit more members to our bar staff team. If you are over 16 and interested, please contact the club on info@timperley-sports.com or contact Jane Ashcroft or Sam Brooks directly.

Covid Marshalls

As we gradually reopen the club to members and guests, we are committed to maintaining a safe environment for everyone.

We are looking for one or two members to step forward and who are prepared to work alongside the bar staff during busy periods such as weekend afternoons and early evenings and help us ensure the smooth running of the club during this transition period between April – June.

This is 'paid' role and reflects the priority, the club places on this aspect of how we will navigate the coming weeks. We are looking for reliability and persuasive influence to ensure the club follows Covid guidelines with minimal intervention.

You might be prepared to offer a set time period weekly, just a one-off, or available as back-up...

Initially, please contact one of the TSC Board for an informal chat or email info@timperley-sports.com

New Club Management System

If you coach or manage a team, sit on your section committee or have been involved in any aspect of running your sport, then you will know that the administration involved in keeping the show on the road has increased. Throughout lockdown the TSC Board - no strangers to this issue – have been looking at how we might lighten that load and reduce the amount of volunteer time required to manage things such as subscriptions, membership, fee's and data that we are required to provide for our respective sports governing body.

We are hopeful that in the next few weeks we might be able to introduce a new club management system (CMS), that will link section administration, membership & subscription collection to the bar & till function and then to our financial management systems, VAT and accounting processes.

Put simply you will be able to manage your own (and your family) club membership online. Pay TSC subscriptions & section coaching fees in one go, link with your member bar discount card and receive communication from the club about news and events. It will also help your section reduce lots of time spent on membership and subs admin and free up volunteer hours.

We are in the final stages of testing and we aim to launch the system for cricket and non-playing members in April with other sections to follow in the months thereafter. More detailed info will follow and we'll be working with the Cricket section committee about its roll out in the next few weeks...

Initially, access will be via an online membership portal but a new smartphone app is in the advanced stages of development and should be ready by mid-summer.

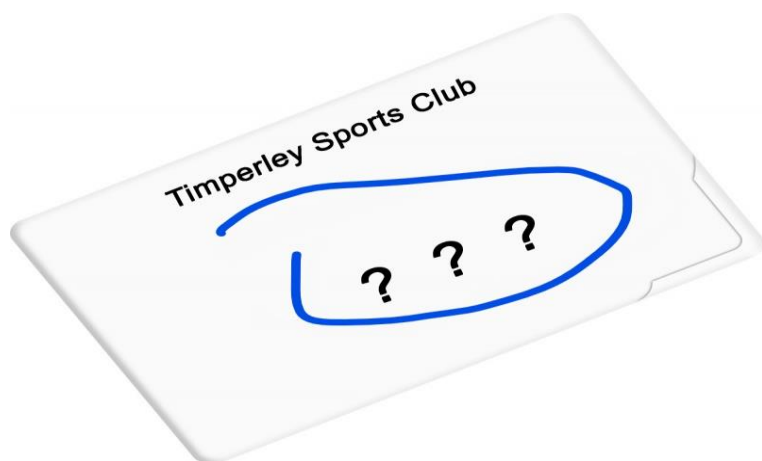
Membership bar cards

The new CMS allows us to address some of the limitations of the existing system, reduce admin time and maintain a real financial benefit to members. Currently members benefit from an 10% uplift on pre-paid credits loaded on to a magnetic swipe membership card.

Moving forward, and partly to optimise our vat liability, the TSC Board has agreed to switch to a discount based scheme where upon presentation at the bar members will receive a 10% discount from the published bar price. All existing balances on member cards were frozen at lockdown 1.0 in March 2020 and have already been transferred to the new system, ready to use when we go live.

Members will be able to pre-load up their member account and use it to gain the 10% discount via the use of new magnetic swipe-cards and then when ready, via a QR code on the new app.

'Design the Card' Competition.....



To accompany the re-launch of the TSC Member Card, we want a new look for the card itself so were inviting all U18 club members to have a go at designing it....!

The competition is open to any club members who is under 18 and there are a few basic rules to follow:

- Entries can a photo, drawing or painting. In colour or black and white.
- Your design should be in a 'landscape' or credit card format.
- We are looking for designs that reflect the whole club, not any single sport, but represent the fact we play Cricket, Hockey, Lacrosse and Football at Timperley or you could choose a general subject such as a drawing of the club and/or ground.

When finished, all you have to do is to **submit your design via email to info@timperley-sports.com by 18.00hrs on Friday 2nd April.**

All entries will then be viewed by the TSC Board who will vote for the design which bests represents the idea of.... *'four sports - one club'*

The winning design will be used by Timperley Sports Club for the new member cards and the original will be displayed in the Foyer for at least the next twelve months. The winner will also receive a goodie bag of club 'merch' and a whopping Easter Egg. Three runners-up will also receive an Easter Egg.

TSC Survey - let us know what you think !

The last 12 months has been a rollercoaster for the club, our sports, members and friends. We'd really like to hear the experience and views of members, parents and friends about the last 12 months and your experience of the club and our four sports. Like sports and community clubs across the country its important that we gather this data to help us plan and prioritise for the future but also support wider understanding clubs like ours and wider social impact.

Anyone aged 14+ is invited to click here [TSC Bounce Back Survey - March 2021](#) and feedback via the .

Help us to help you !

We really want to capture how you're feeling now - at the end of Lockdown about the past 12 months and how you feel as we come out of Lockdown and reopen the Club. So, please complete the Survey asap and by 12th April 2021 at the latest.

As a thank you for taking the time to take the survey, we've a free prize draw those taking the survey (and leaving their name) for four £25 Bar Vouchers for use in the Club

Fitness sessions...



Wednesdays 10 - 11.00am commencing Weds 31st March.

On the green pitch each week at 10.00am. Aimed at improving all round fitness and aerobics. Nothing heavy or technical. If you've got too familiar with the sofa and your pc over lockdown, then this is just the thing.

All members and guests welcome £5 per session. No need to book (following all the Covid guidance, no symptoms, not in isolation etc) – just turn up. As soon as restrictions allow we'll add in a pot of coffee afterwards....

300 Club – Saturday 20th March at 18:00

... join the live-stream on facebook



If you haven't done so already, there is still time to join this evenings draw.

From your PayPal account or click on <https://buff.ly/2GbHHEk> and credit info@timperley-sports.com in the recipient box.

Enter the amount - multiples of £4 for each number you require and add 300 Club Lucky Dip and your Name in the message, e.g. 300ClubLuckyDip/ [your name]

As with previous months, the draw will again be streamed live via facebook.

<http://www.facebook.com/TimperleySportsClub/>

IF YOU WANT TO BE IN THE DRAW MAKE SURE ANY PAYMENT REACHES US BEFORE 5.30 pm.

One of the successes of the last 12 months has been the increased profile and number of members participating in - what was the '200', and is now – the 300 club.

Lets not lose the momentum, the funds raised have made a huge, huge difference to our cash flow during lockdown and enabled ongoing maintenance to be carried out on our facilities in readiness for the return to sport.

Over the last 12 months when revenue from pitch hires and bar has reduced by over 90%, the 300 club has raised additional £££ over what we would have ordinarily expected to receive...

This has enabled us to invest in:

- Maintain the grass and outfield ready for us to re-start on time.
- Enhanced CCTV and security.
- The new CMS (see above) and new faster more reliable bar tills.
- New curtains and tracking system throughout the bar & function room planned for June 21
- Ongoing maintenance throughout the winter.
- and a contribution to the Green Pitch replacement

It has also highlighted the possibilities from a more active 300 club and so we are looking for a volunteer or two to help us drive forward this aspect of our social and fundraising aspiration – collectively, we have already proved to ourselves that it can make a real difference!!

Is this you – can you help?

It is a role that is totally flexible and would fit around existing commitments. There are NO meeting to attend. Perhaps it can be split between two people ?

Please..... give some thought to the possibility of you giving a few hours each month to promote the 300 club to members, helping to spread its reach and maximising its potential.

Contact any of the TSC Board to discuss.... Or email info@timperley-sports.com

Green Pitch Floodlights

We're delighted to confirm that a contract has been agreed with Midstream Lighting to install a brand new LED 350 LUX floodlighting on the Green pitch, using our existing masts. We will be the first club-based installation across the UK utilising Midstreams a new lightweight hi-performance system. As the manufacturer and installer the pricing is comparable our original plan but with a 10 year guarantee and on going year on year benefits from LED – we'll reduce our electricity costs and not have to replace lamps at c£250 each saving us money on our running costs.

We've scheduled the new lights will be installed at the end of July, so that they are brand new for the new season and ready for the formal opening of the pitch in the Summer.

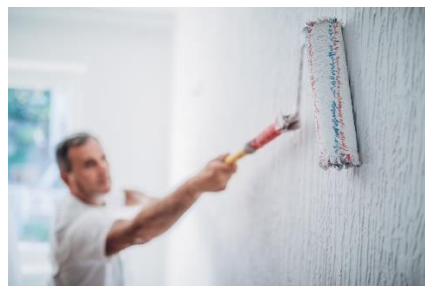
The Decking

Last summer we invited quotes from local contractors for the replacement of the decking. It would be true to say that the numbers were a little higher than anticipated and when viewed alongside the continued loss of revenue from being forced to close, the TSC Board have concluded that at this time, it is a step too far.

So, we've put the project back to this time next year when hopefully, we'll be better placed to get on with it properly next year. The temporary fix is in good shape and will see us through at least till the end of the year.

'Get the job done'

Fri 23rd – Sun 25th April.



As you can imagine with social distancing, staff being furloughed, there are some things we've been struggling to keep on top of during the enforced period of closure. This ranges from clearing up

fallen trees, installing a new gate on the Wood Lane exit, repainting the function room, cleaning the showers, clearing guttering around the club and more...

So we're planning a volunteer weekend start with Fri evening on 23rd April and running through to the Sunday and asking for volunteers to help get the job done. Over the next couple of weeks we'll be finalising the list of tasks to be completed and arranging through our sections, the times and equipment needed to carry out the work and we'll be looking for volunteers to give a few hours over that weekend to 'Get the job done' in a covid safe way.

If we co-ordinate what's required, then it shouldn't take too much effort and we'll all benefit. By starting on a Friday eve and going through to Sunday, all section will be able to contribute, make short work of and there will be a few drinks on us, to enjoy on the decking afterwards.

Your section will be in touch anyway about the tasks assigned to them, but if you are able to give a few hours over that weekend, please drop a quick email to the club now on info@timperley-sports.com

We'll supply all materials, you just need some old clothes and be willing to muck in...

A quick tour around what our sections are doing to re-launch.....

Cricket

2021 Cricket Season Provisional Programme: Cricket for all ages and all abilities



With all the disruption of recent months it is hard to believe that the cricket season could be barely three weeks away. With the Government Roadmap projecting that outdoor sports facilities could be allowed to reopen, and people will be able to take part in formally organised outdoor sports from 29th March we are all hoping that this year's cricket programme will start on time.

Although we are still waiting for a pronouncement (anticipated on the 24th March) from the ECB on exactly what will be allowed this summer and the guidelines we will have to follow, the senior leagues have set provisional starting dates for competitive cricket of the weekend of the 17th /18th April with the junior leagues starting shortly after most probably during the first week of May.

We are planning on the basis of these dates and as reported Bluesletter #8, hope to run a very full programme with coaching and matches available for all ages and all abilities. With seven senior teams including over40s and junior girls and boys playing at all age groups in the South Manchester and Cheshire County Junior Leagues and the emerging North/East Cheshire Girls Cricket League, not to mention All Stars and Dynamos for our younger members and girls' and women's softball festivals on our ATPs and we are proud to say that no Club in Cheshire has more teams and more

opportunities to play cricket, whatever your age or level of ability, than here at Timperley Sports Club.

Andy is working hard on the ground and squares and help us get everything painted and ready for the season we will be organising COVID safe CricketForce working parties in early April (dates to be confirmed). Please get involved and help if you can.

Although dates still need to be confirmed assuming that the Government Roadmap goes to plan: -

Registration and Membership

- New and existing senior and junior members will be able to register on line and pay annual subscriptions via the Club's website before the start of the season. Payment of senior subscriptions via three instalments will be available for the first time via this route. If necessary, will we also arrange a registration event,

Senior Cricket

- Senior training is planned for Tuesday nights from 6pm, starting from the 6th April.
- We have a 1st XI friendly away at Bowdon planned for Saturday 10th April, with the Sunday 5th XI also planning to play a friendly away at Bowdon on Sunday 11th April.
- League games are anticipated to start for all senior teams 1st XI to 6th XI on the weekend of the 17/18th April.

Junior Cricket

- Timperley Junior training is planned on the following evenings, starting week commencing 5th April:
 - U9s - Mon 17:00-18:30
 - U11s - Mon 18:00-19:30
 - U13s - Wed 17:30-19:00
 - U15s - Wed 18:00-19:30
 - Girls - Thur 17:00-18:30 (we intend be flexible and may organise a second girls evening if numbers and availability demand)
- The start date for Junior fixtures has yet to be confirmed but is anticipated to be the first week in May.
- ECB fun cricket programmes
 - All Stars - Mon 10th May for 8 weeks 15:30 – 17:30
 - Dynamos - Fri 14th May for 8 weeks 18:00 - 19:30

Girl's and Women's Softball Festivals

We are intending to recommence the girl's and women's six a side softball events that were so successful under floodlights las Autumn from mid-April and would love to see a Timperley women's team enter from our Hockey and Lacrosse members. If incentives are needed, we are also looking to link the events with Prosecco evenings at the Club for our over18 players and mums when weather and COVID allow.

All Stars and Dynamos Cricket



Timperley will once again be taking part in the ECB All Stars programme.

All Stars Cricket provides a fantastic first experience for all children aged 5-8 years old where they're guaranteed 8 weeks of jam-packed fun, activity and skills development. The programme is designed to introduce children to the sport, teaching them new skills, helping them make new friends and have a great time doing so.

Every child that registers will receive a backpack full of goodies. Each child's pack will include:

- Backpack
- Cricket bat
- Cricket ball
- Personalised t-shirt with your child's name
- Early sign-ups will also receive a cap (new participants only)
- All children returning to All Stars will receive a kit bag, a set of stumps, a new ball and a personalised t-shirt.

Parents should register directly with the ECB Website <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars>
Remember register for Timperley CC.



Timperley will also this year be joining the new ECB Dynamos programme.

Separate from and Complementing our existing U9 and U11 junior cricket coaching programmes, Dynamos will provide children with a more social offer focused on developing fundamental movement skills and applying them in an exciting game of countdown cricket.

Dynamos Cricket provides a fantastic next step for all those graduating from All Stars Cricket but are not yet ready for our main U(9 and U11 programmes and the perfect introduction for all 8-11 year-olds new to the sport!

We know how important it is to look like the heroes of the game, so every child who registers will receive their very own Dynamos Cricket New Balance t-shirt, personalised with their name and number.

As with ALL Stars, parents can register directly with the ECB Website <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/dynamoscricket>

Timperley CC confirmed as a Disability Cricket Champion Club



We have just been informed that the ECB and Cheshire Cricket Board are in full support of Timperley CC Disability Cricket Champion Club application and with Nathan Brown and Jordan Ruff's support we are planning providing regular disability access sessions throughout the summer.

The Disability Cricket Champion Club (DCCC) programme has been designed to provide each cricket club involved with support to launch new or develop current regular disability cricket provision. Cheshire Cricket Board will be on hand to provide local guidance and insight, whilst the ECB commit to providing a range of ongoing support through the following:

- Additional funding to for promotion and delivery of the sessions
- Some free brand-new training equipment, designed to support accessible sessions.
- The Activity Alliance and UK Coaching will be offering introductory training programme to help our coaches and volunteers with the skills to engage and support disabled people and people with long-term health conditions more effectively in physical activity.
- The ECB have offered us three free spaces in on the 90-minute virtual course. We will provide further details in the near future.
- A national forum via Facebook to act as a social space for DCCCs to share their successes and challenges.

Everyone at Timperley Sports Club wishes the initiative well and it launches this spring.

Hockey

Anticipation and excitement is building amongst our hockey members as they gear up to get back on the pitches for the first time since 27th December and our Boxing Day games. Like all sections, its not just about playing our sport but everything else that being part of a Club like ours is about and the people, friendships and general health and well-being benefits that team sport brings - so bring on the 30th March when training will return !

We've a full programme of hockey starting Easter weekend with the rearranged games for all teams from Under 10's to Over 50's v Bowdon originally planned for New Year. We're still waiting to hear about the return of National League games but there will be Saturday 'friendly league' games for all senior teams from Mid April. A full programme of tournaments is also planned through out the summer for academy, senior and masters, and our popular Men's (Mondays) and Women's (Tuesdays) Summer League is due to start in Mid May so pop by if out on a walk and catch the

hockey and a drink. See the <https://www.timperleyhockeyclub.com/> for more details and hockey news.

We are also running [Easter Holiday Coaching Sessions](#) 6th to 16th April - 121's, small group and masterclasses for aged 7+. Follow like to enquire and for more details.

Looking forward to season 2020 - 21 we are starting planning to celebrate 100 years of women's hockey at the Club and will be sharing details of plans later in the Spring and getting in touch with former players and hopefully gathering more photo's and information about our history. Through newspaper reports and help from the [Hockey Museum](#) we know that Timperley Ladies HC played just before WWI but didn't join us at the Club until 1920-21 season so we'd love to hear from any former members who'd love to get involved in some research to help bring together more of the story of women's hockey at Timperley - if interested or have any photos or artefacts to share please contact get in touch timperleyhc@gmail.com.

Next season will also see the biggest change to hockey hockey is organised for a generation as following changes voted in by Club's in 2020 the governance and league structures across the country are being changed to create eight areas to replace the regions - so North HA will be replaced by and we will become part of the North West Hockey, and all league structures for all levels / genders run under a common framework. More news on this in the next month or so and how it will affect our leagues going forward.

Lacrosse

We. Are. Back.

With the recent road map announcements, we are pleased to say that Lacrosse will be returning to Timperley. As it stands, we will be opening back up for Junior Lacrosse on Wednesday 31st March, with normal training times commencing. Whilst this is great news, we are waiting English Lacrosse to confirm their 'Return to Play' Policy and to announce what restrictions are in place BUT we can't help but get excited!!

Senior lacrosse will be re-opening in April, with various decisions on leagues and cups being made in the coming weeks.

Regardless, there is a *BIG SUMMER OF LACROSSE* planned. With Summer 8s Tournaments, various summer lacrosse and inter-club games.

In other exciting news, Timperley Lacrosse Club challenged its members to keep active during this lockdown. We know how hard these times have been and wanted a way for everyone to keep active, in both body and mind, and work towards common goal. TLC 50 in 50 was created.

In line with the celebration of 50 years of Timperley Lacrosse Club, we set a challenge of completing 50 Marathons in 50 days. With over 35 challengers, made up of current players, past members, volunteers and parents we very quickly smashed this target. So, we decided to double the target - 100 Marathons in 50 days. The team did a fantastic effort, with everyone keeping active, positive and providing great support across the team. The final count is an amazing: 6166km completed = 146 Marathons in 50 days!!

We even raised a staggering **£2885**, which will be used to develop the Lacrosse section and aid in the club coming back stronger!!

Football

They think it's all over it (nearly) is now

The enforced break to our season nears an end and it is almost time to swap the weekend papers for wellies / sun cream and your Timperley scarf* of course !

Whilst the on-pitch activity has of course stopped the fun and playing, the business of planning continues with the Committee and coaches working on a compliant and safe return.

In addition, we have been busy working on our pitch strategy and have some exciting developments which we will be sharing very soon. Work has also been done in the far-reaching area of administration and general management to ensure we can hit the ground running as well as planning for our move to Youth football next Season too.

As I write we are eagerly waiting on FA guidance from our colleagues at Cheshire FA which will allow us to complete the final return plan and we will share this with everyone ASAP.

In the meantime I am sure those home fitness and practice regimes are being complemented by the return to PE lessons in school and we look forward to seeing the results very soon - keep it up all !

Finally a quick reminder that for the sake of the general effort to see off the pandemic we ask that the protocols we put in place for the return are followed. It is so important that we all make this as safe, effective and as pleasant a return as possible and you're understanding and help with this is vital.

Enjoy the final weekend 'lie-ins', and we really look forward to seeing you all at the Club very soon.

Jarrold

On behalf of TFC Committee

- Scarves available from your Coaches / Committee !

The Great Timperley Auction 2021



OK.... Its time to start thinking about what you can donate to The Great Timperley Auction v2. We aim to build on the £6,000+ raised last year and get to five figures!

The auction itself will go live at the end of June and will close on **Saturday 10th July**. There will be more details about that in the new few weeks...

For now, we want you to start setting aside your unwanted gifts, new or nearly new sports equipment, memorabilia, or whether you can offer a service, a car wash, hedge trimming, baking a cake. Could your company sponsor something, such as a meal out at a restaurant (remember those?), weekend away or even a spa break.

There will be more details about what to do and how to take part in the next Bluesletter #10, for now.....this is just a reminder and confirmation of the date.

BUT... we are still looking for one other person to join our team. You might help gather in 'auction lots' and promote the auction to our club members, but also perhaps to go outside the club to local companies, retailers and other enterprises who might be prepared to donate an item, a service or experience...

It will require someone with a little time, energy and perseverance for maybe 6-8 weeks around May/June...? Can you help?

Please email info@timperley-sports.com if you can spare a little time to help...

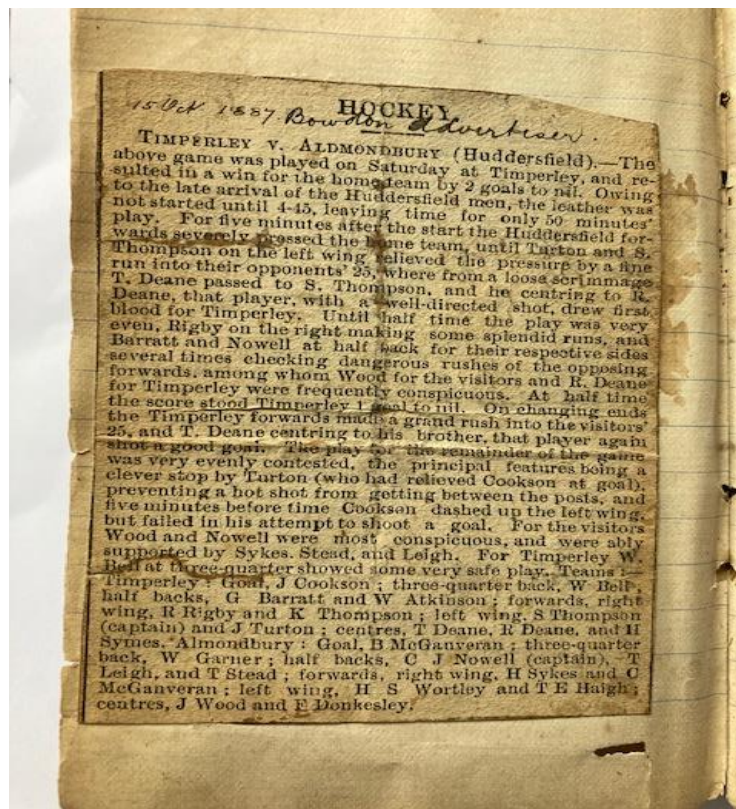
From the archive....

The beginnings of Cheshire Hockey in the nineteenth century

Jim Ormandy, a member of Chester Hockey Club has been digging into the birth of Hockey in Cheshire and using our own archive, has come up with some interesting material about the pivotal role Timperley played in the development of Hockey across the North of England.

The former Hockey Association was established in 1875 and was heavily dominated by clubs & teams from the London area and there were several differing playing codes around the size of pitches, length of game and playing rules which would eventually be standardised in 1886, the year Timperley Hockey Club was itself, formed and became the first club in the North of England to be affiliated to the Hockey Association.

The development of railways and tramways enabled players to move around and play against teams from other towns and cities. After playing a number of practice games in 1886, the first actual match took place in Oct 1887 when a team from Almondbury, near Huddersfield travelled to Timperley. Owing to the late arrival of the visitors train, the match had to be shortened to 50 minutes after which Timperley won 2-0.



It is fitting that both goals, and the first ever goal by a Timperley Hockey player was scored by Richard. R. Deane, who was the founder of Timperley Hockey Club and who would become the pre-eminent promoter of the game in the North of England. The game was seen as the perfect companion to Cricket, and many Hockey clubs were formed within or alongside Cricket Clubs as their winter sport.

In 1888 the first Cheshire team was selected to play Lancashire in the first Boxing day game – a tradition that continues to this day. Five Timperley players were selected; C Fitton, TW Deane, S Thompson, J Cookson and RR Deane. The match itself was the first game to be held under the auspices of the newly formed North Counties Hockey Association and Cheshire were easy winners 4-0, although RR Deane had to pull out because of injury, the week before. The umpire in that first county game, was Mr William Bell, a local magistrate, who himself was the founder of Timperley Cricket Club back in 1877, [NOTE: there is a photo of William Bell and an original poster announcing the formation of the cricket club, in the club house]. The first President of the NCHA was Arthur Balfour MP, later to become Prime Minister, and two of the Vice-Presidents were S Thompson and RR Deane, the latter also being Secretary of Cheshire HA. We have in the club archives, TW Deane's personal notebook from which the newspaper cutting of the Timperley vs Almondbury is copied.

Four of the Timperley players including both TW and RR Deane (as captain), were selected for the first North v South Hockey match at Queens Club in London in Feb 1890 which was watched by a crowd of 1,500. According to a report in The Manchester Guardian, it was an easy 5-0 victory for the South, who benefitted from better teamwork and the Norths 'anxiety' which caused them to continually 'miss the ball altogether'.

In the late nineteenth century Hockey was springing up in villages all over the county and there were unaffiliated teams in, Ashley, Chelford, Frodsham, Tettenhall, and Hale. There were three clubs in the Sale area; Sale HC, Sale Moor and Sale Rookfield. Hockey was also adopted by the clergy and many local ministers assumed leadings roles in the clubs – as was

the case at Timperley – and formed their own teams such as, Altrincham St Georges and Altrincham St Margarets. Most of these teams were unaffiliated and relatively short lived and some merged with their larger affiliated counterparts. The game was particularly popular on The Wirral and by the end of the century, one of the most prominent clubs was New Brighton Wanderers. The 1897 Cheshire Team reflects that dominance.



Cheshire, 1897: C.D. Long (Chester), B.S. Hannay (New Brighton Wanderers), A.E. Ogden (Sale), T.R. Eskrigge (NBW), W.E. Lloyd (Referee), A. Stott (Bebington), J. Douglas (NBW), A.H. Wolff, F. Terras Captain (Bowdon), H.S. Cochrane (Oxton), J.W. Aldred (Timperley), G.F. Tomlinson (NBW).

J W Aldred (front row, one in from the right), was the only Timperley representative. Orinignally from Little Hulton, Lancs the family moved to Altrincham and he trained as a Physician graduating in 1899. He volunteered for service in the Boer War where he contracted Enteric fever and died in 1901. He is buried at Kroonstad, Orange Free State. He wrote a diary 'J W Aldred; A Boer War Diary' which is within the archives at John Ryland Library, Manchester.

<https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/search/archives/6d04a4cb-f830-36da-963d-4d08ae84e6cf>

More from the club archive in Bluesletter #10

Finally

Whilst we welcome back sport and look forward optimistically to the better weather and summer ahead, lets remember we're not quite there yet and as someone famously said last summer... 'don't rip the pants off it'

For now and the next few months at least, we still need to remember this.....



If you have any thoughts or ideas about the above, or anything else, just drop an email to info@timperleysports.com and we'll get back to you.

We'll keep you updated over the next few weeks as things develop and will share more in Bluesletter #10 which is planned for Mid April....

Stay Safe.

Your Timperley Sports Club Limited Board

Alan Holdsworth, Shelagh Everett, Nick Burnett, Richard Knill, Bob Page, Haroon Bangee, Phil Hartley, Jarrod Sykes, Helen Cue and the TSC Staff Team Jane Ashcroft, Sam Brooks, Andy Horsfield and Col Taylor

Stay in touch.....

<https://www.timperley-sports.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TimperleySportsClub/>

<https://twitter.com/TimperleySport>

