Chairman’s Message

The Future is Bright

We should be proud of our Club. We have a healthy membership, especially at the younger age groups. Our refurbished changing and catering facilities are excellent and provide a great environment before, during and after games.

We have managed to get much more interaction between teams of all age groups at Bushey Croft. We have enhanced playing and training facilities by purchasing floodlights and new goals, with more on the way. We have our own sit-on mower and have just purchased a grass collector for it to improve the pitch surfaces.

We are the only club I know with a defibrillator, which shows how much we value the health of our players and supporters. We have an excellent record on Child Welfare and spend a lot of time ensuring that we keep up-to-date with the requirements for Safeguarding and First-Aid.

All in all, it is a great story and one that we should be proud to spread.

Following the well-deserved retirement of Jim & Jane Bristow and Simon Wood after years of selfless and valuable work, we are pleased to have a new-look Committee and welcome the excellent work already commenced by Matt Brown and Chris Lyons (sharing Secretary’s role), Nikki Prince (Membership Secretary and amazing Curry and Quiz Co-ordinator) and Mark O’Connor (Treasurer). They really have all thrown themselves into the roles and it is great to have the injection of new blood.

Thanks must also go to Steve Farrell for his continued and often thankless task as Child Welfare Officer The Club simply would not run without these people and the huge amount of time they give up on your behalf.

Special mention must also go to the Heyburns (Chris, Jon and Gary), Matt Edwards and Joe White for what they have achieved with the Acorns. Membership at this age group is thriving and this section of the Club is as healthy as I can remember it in many many years - a fantastic reward for a huge amount of effort. So well done to them.

However, managers and coaches can always do with some help, especially on matchdays. So please do not be shy in coming forward and offering to do your bit. If you fancy getting into coaching, the Club is prepared to find and fund courses for you to provide you with the relevant FA qualifications. All you have to do is let your manager know that you are interested and we will take it from there.

Finally, if you have not paid your subs, you need to do so immediately. If subs are not paid by the beginning of November players will not be able to play unless agreement has been reached as a result of financial hardship.

With such a positive feel to the Club behind the scenes, let’s convert it to success on the pitch.

David Parish
Club Chairman
An Update from the Committee

Why not get involved? We All Are!

This year’s Annual General meeting saw the retirement from the Club Committee of several committee members who leave with a huge amount of gratitude for the work they did for the club.

At the same meeting, the following committee were elected:

Chairman: David Parish
Co-Secretary: Chris Lyons & Matt Brown
Treasurer: Mark O’Connor
Membership Secretary: Nikki Prince
Child Welfare Officer: Steve Farrell
Acorns Coordinator: Chris Heyburn
Football Development Officer: Jon Heyburn

The roles of Vice Chairman and Fundraising Officer remain vacant.

The full committee can be contacted via the club website. Any further queries should be sent to the secretaries using: secretaryoxtedjfc@yahoo.com

The Committee and individual managers give up a huge amount of their time to deal with the running of the club, from administrative and playing point of view, meeting once a month to ensure the Club continues to thrive and provide the best opportunities for children to enjoy playing football.

We would welcome any feedback as to how we can continue to take the Club forward.

The club is currently in a fantastic point of view, with all age groups from Acorns to Under 15s well supported. In the first month of the season performances across all the age groups. We wish them all a successful and enjoyable season.

Chris Lyons
Co-Secretary

Football Development Update

Getting children involved in football is only a part of what Oxted and District Junior Football Club aspire towards. Also important is making sure that the children passing through the club have a lifelong involvement in football.

This season there have been a number of examples of players continuing their development into senior football. Jacob Turner has become a regular feature for the Oxted and District 3rd team and James Heyburn (both members of the 2015/16 Under 16 squad) in their ranks. All have settled into adult football under the guidance of Gary Heyburn (ex-Oxted and District Junior title winning manager).

As Football Development Officer, it is wonderful for me to see these examples of players continuing to enjoy football after the hard work that is put in by the managers at our club. Over the coming months and years, it is important that we continue to make sure that children do not drop out of football when they reach the end of their time with us. Hopefully, the number of our players making appearances for senior football teams continues to rise!

A healthy intake of children into the Acorns group combined with multiple teams in each of the younger age groups mean that the future of the club is looking brighter than ever! The announcement that the Acorns will be slightly restructuring their age groups (see page 3) means that the club is going to grow and grow in future years. We should all be very excited for the future of Oxted & District Junior Football Club!

Finally, if anyone has any ways in which they feel we, as a club, can improve the development of our children, please feel free to contact me (jon.heyburn@outlook.com).

Jon Heyburn
Football Development Officer
Club to Expand Age Range

**Younger children to be accepted next season, with the club’s first Under 8 team to be formed**

Exciting changes are to happen to the Acorns section of Oxted & District JFC at the start of next season.

Currently the Acorns section caters for 6-8 year olds (school years 1, 2 and 3) with some children in year R. In the current format, individual team football begins at Under 9 (school year 4).

Next year the age range for the Acorns will change to hold 5-7 year olds (school years R, 1 and 2), with Under 8 (year 3) being the youngest team playing against other clubs! This will allow children to join the club at a younger age and begin to learn the fundamental skills of football early on, in the fantastic safe and friendly environment that is our Acorns setting. It will also allow the Under 8s to begin to play in a regular team every week, becoming a slightly more tactical game.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our club to cater further for the increasing demand we have seen over recent years for football for children from age 5.

**At the end of this season...**

These exciting changes will mean a slightly different end of season for those currently registered to the Acorns:

Children currently in year 3 will exit the Acorns as planned and form the new Under 9 team for the next season.

Children currently in year 2 will also exit the Acorns and be the club’s first Under 8 team for the next season.

Children currently in year 1 and year R will remain within the Acorns set up.

**We cannot do this alone...**

This will require help from our current Acorn parents to make this happen.

From the current Acorns coaches, Chris Heyburn, Jon Heyburn and Gary Heyburn will all remain with the Acorns next season, whilst Matt Edwards will exit as the Under 9 coach.

We will be looking for:

- 1 of our current year 3 parents to coach the Under 9s with Matt.
- 2 of our current year 2 parents to manage and coach the Under 8s.
- 1 or more of our current year 1 or R parents to coach in the Acorns.

If anyone feels they may be interested in any of these roles, or feels they may be able to help the youngest section of our club through this exciting transition period, please contact Chris Heyburn (Acorns Coordinator) or Jon Heyburn (Football Development Officer) via the club website.

**Chris Heyburn**
Acorns Coordinator

&

**Jon Heyburn**
Football Development Officer
Acorns

This summer the age group formerly known as the Mini-League was rebranded as ‘Acorns’. This is to reflect the new format of the age group and to continue to look to the group who are the future of the club.

After around half of last year’s group formed the club’s new Under 9 team, 12 of last year’s group remained within the Acorn’s age range. Word spread over the summer and by the end of October the group are up to 37 players (it took until Easter last year to reach this stage). This emphasises the popularity and appeal of our Acorns set up.

Our coaching team have a shared vision of the Acorns being a fun and friendly environment for young players to learn and develop footballing skills.

With our new cohort of players now settled in and enjoying their football, we are focusing on developing the fundamental skills such as passing and moving with a ball and the benefits are being shown in the friendly matches at the end of each session.

Recently we have been splitting into three groups for training, based on age groups and using repetition of carefully selected games to ensure maximum enjoyment for all of our children, who range from age 4 to 7.

As we move towards Christmas, we will begin to arrange friendly matches for our year 2 and year 3 players, to give some experience of match situations before both age groups become teams in their own right next season.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our fantastic group of parents for their consistent support of the players and of the coaches too. We would also like to thank Tidal Cleans for their continued sponsorship.

Please take this chance to read about the exciting changes to the Acorns on page 3. With these changes to our age range, along with our current set up and coaching team, the future looks exciting indeed.

Chris Heyburn
Acorns Coordinator

Under 9s

I have gone from occasional helper to joining Ronan as he moved up to Under 9s after being part of the Mini League setup for a few years now.

We bought a total of 17 boys through, who have all benefited from the solid base provided by the mini league. Brian Gravett has stepped in to help with running the training sessions too and is a great addition to the coaching team.

We’ve added to the group, with a small number of new boys slotting in, so we now have 22 boys regularly training. They seem to be enjoying the sessions - perhaps being a little too excitable at times! We are running drills which help to develop the skills they need to play in the matches and we have already seen the results in our first games.

We have two teams in the Crowborough league; the Rockets and the Missiles. Both teams got off to a great start with their first experience of league matches for the club, both winning their fixtures with solid team performances and plenty of goals.

We have great support from our parents, cheering on at the games, helping to set up at matches, and also much appreciated sponsorship for the team has come from one of the parents this year. There is a focus on our new sponsor later in this newsletter.

It should be an interesting year for the development of the squad as we build towards the future, and the more competitive nature of the league as the boys prepare to move through the age groups.

Dave Brown
Under 9s Joint Manager

George Kelly recently scored 6 goals for the Under 9s in their first away match!
Under 10s

It's great to be back for a new season. We had an influx of players over the summer and have seen the squad increase from 21 to 29 boys, meaning we now have 3 teams playing in the Crowborough league.

Two of our teams are paired together whilst the additional team has been paired with Tonbridge on match days.

The three teams' first two fixtures have brought tough fought losses (except for a win against Raw Skills) but has provided valuable match time for the boys to get to know each other, for us to look at the new players and to work out the best team combinations.

We've got a great bunch of boys who will find their feet once we settle back into a rhythm. We're looking forward to seeing what the season brings.

Peter Maynard
Under 10s Manager

Under 11 Eagles

Some very entertaining games have been served by the Under 11 Eagles during a pretty haphazard spell as we have tried to assemble a set team. We were short on numbers from the beginning of the season so had to borrow from the Eagles and the Under 10s at times just to ensure we kept our fixtures. I'm pleased to say that we recruited 4 boys new for this season and they are settling into the team very well.

We started with a nail biting win but since then have recorded three losses and two draws. The draws were disappointing in that we were the better team in both and should have won. However, I can't complain about the three losses which shows that in this development phase the league try the best to match teams equally but it is hard to get that right until you have some results in to gauge the team by.

After half term we should find more equally matched teams and, with a stable team now, we are hoping the results will improve.

On the pitch the boys are finding their best positions and starting to play very well as a team. Oliver Walker has kept us in the game on many occasion with some magnificent saves. Jesse Heath has been our rock at the back cutting out many breakaways. Max Caswell and Charlie Edson have been very solid and great attacking wing backs. In front of them the speed and dribbling of Kieran Mulhere and Harry Thomas has been troubling defences. Jack Barry and Joe Farrell have been solid in the middle of the pitch and in defence when needed as well as supporting the front line. Theo Jones has spent most of his time up front on his own and has proven his finishing skills by chalking up not one, but two hat tricks so far. Our two newest boys, Mattias McGill and Harry Hutchings are slotting in well covering positions in midfield and on the wings.

Well done to Theo for chalking up 8 goals so far. Other goals coming from Joe (3) and Kieran (1). Also well done to the following man of the match winners - Max Caswell, Kieran Mulhere, Jesse Heath, Joe Farrell and Charlie Edson.

Steve Farrell
Under 11 ‘Eagles’ Manager

Photos show the Under 11 Eagles in action in their first 9v9 game of the season.
Under 11 Hawks

It’s been a great start to the new season for the Under 11 Hawks; unbeaten, winning all but one match, scoring lots of goals and conceding very few.

It all started so well with a win away against one of the league’s best teams Hailsham, the victory was made even more impressive due to the fact that it was the first time the team had played together at all following the move from balanced teams at Under 10s.

The boys have adapted to 9-a-side football very well and really hit the ground running. We now look forward to being placed into a high league after half term when all the teams in the Crowborough League are ranked for the first time.

The boys have also responded well to midweek training at Bushey Croft every Wednesday night before Saturday matches, however we will continue to consider options where we can improve even further.

We continue to review progress and maintain a direct link with the Under 11 Eagles which is essential for the progress of all the kids involved.

I hope that all the boys and parents have enjoyed the season so far and are relishing the tougher challenge ahead prior to Christmas.

Once again parent help is always welcome, anyone that can help on Wednesdays or Saturdays is always appreciated. Together I’m sure we can continue the successful start to the season.

Gary Prince
Under 11 ‘Hawks’ Manager

Under 12s

After a couple of friendlies (one win and one defeat), we have started the season well in the league, winning our two fixtures convincingly.

In the Surrey FA youth cup we went straight out to a very good Shelton Athletic side and in the League Cup, we won our 1st round tie vs Tooting & Mitcham Youth Terrors on penalties, in what was the hardest game we have every played.

Rotating some positions with a bigger squad of 15 is difficult, but the boys will learn to adapt to slightly different partnerships, it will just take some time. It is also noticeable playing up a level this season how the opposition has improved and how gaps have been closed in physical terms. When the teams are equal, it’s a real battle of attrition, which forces the players to work out how to win themselves. This fosters teamwork and communication, we are really happy to have the challenge.

New left back Max Samaurez has eyes in the back of his head and has already got an outstanding partnership with Keelan Howard, who is in almost a sweeper role. This has developed automatically and is great to see - opposition wingers attacking down our left have little chance of getting through.

There is a back-to-basics theme throughout the positions and skills development – in particular comfortable possession - is a whole-team challenge for all of us, much more important than who is scoring. Up front, the excellent Jack Jordan, Alex Tidy and Callum Murray are still delivering goals from midfield whilst we work on attack development. It will take time, but we will get there.

We have also appointed Thomas Poole as captain on a long term basis – he plays as a defensive midfielder, works incredibly hard in both directions and is in the ideal command position. Thomas is a fan of Tottenham and would like to one day emulate Victor Wanyama!

Paul Marks
Under 12s Manager
Under 13s

The Under 13s started their 2017/18 campaign with a fitness preseason training programme back in August. All the sessions were really well attended and all the boys worked extremely hard.

A significant year as this would be the first season the boys would experience 11 a side football; with bigger pitches and much bigger goals!

Once again we entered the Crowborough League - Division A and have also entered the League Cup as well the Surrey Youth Cup.

All is going well so far! At the time of writing we have played 4 league games, winning all four convincingly; scoring 20 goals and conceding only 3. The performance of note was when the boys played Heathfield. All the boys played superbly against a strong opposition. An impressive hat-trick by Super Adam Swanny and we won the match compellingly 6-1!

Recently we also played our 1st round league cup tie against Tonbridge Invictas. Another impressive performance by the boys, winning the match 9-2. This included a hat-trick by Ben Barney and a potential bid for goal of the season by Kieran Barrett, who smashed the ball from outside the box into the top corner!

All the boys have adjusted brilliantly to the new formation and we are playing some wonderful pass and move football which is a joy to watch.

Overall a great start to the season. Our pre-season fitness training has certainly paid off. As other teams appear to tire we are able to dominate and have scored 20 of our 29 goals!

Lots still to work on in training as all the boys have high ambitions this season.

Thanks to all the parents for your commitment to the team and your continued support. Thanks also to Ian Barney for helping run the team with me this year and sharing the work load in both training and on match days.

Matt Brown
Under 13s Manager

Under 15s

It is so good to see so many familiar faces at training from last year, and to see that others have stayed on from last season as well.

So far, this season has been a rollercoaster because some days we have played exceptionally well by making use of the training and applied it to games, but other days we haven’t.

We had great starting games to the season by passing the ball around and communicating positively to our team mates. However there is still things that we could work on. For example we need to be more disciplined at staying in our positions and fulfilling our roles.

We need to improve the speed of the game by changing how quickly we pass the ball. This is for different situations in the game such as a counter attack and defending.

The Cup game against Addiscombe was disappointing for many reasons which affected the game. In the first half of the game we didn’t have any passion to win and we were just following the motion of the game. At half time Graham, Chris and Colin talked to us on what we needed to do and motivated us to focus on the game. Thanks to this, the second half was much better because we were fighting for the game.

Whilst I have noticed a good improvement on the pitch with how we have been supportive, by motivating each other to keep working hard in every situation, I still think that we can do more to be positive rather than criticise small mistakes.

I’d like to finish by giving a big thank you to Graham, Chris and Colin for managing us and giving up their own time to help us improve.

Sean Blair
Under 15s Captain
Thank you to our sponsors

Thank you to all of our sponsors for the 2017-18 season.

Most are continuing their partnership from previous seasons, whilst Databarracks are the club’s newest sponsor, with their logos on the Under 9 kits.

Club sponsorship gives businesses the chance to have the logo displayed on kits, which play around Surrey, Sussex, Kent and into South London. Information is also publicised on the club website, as well as photos in local newspapers.

If you are interested in sponsoring one of our teams, contact our club secretaries: secretaryoxtedjfc@yahoo.com.

The club are extremely grateful to all of our sponsors, who ensure all of our teams have smart new kits to wear.
We have chosen to be the sponsor of the Oxted & District JFC Under 9s because Databarracks’ Financial Director Tom Roberts' son Barney plays for the team and we have been impressed with the nurturing nature of the club.

Databarracks is an IT disaster recovery and business continuity company. We help businesses keep operating in the event of a fire, flood, IT failure or cyber-attack.

Businesses are now incredibly reliant on their IT to operate. Even short periods of downtime can cost significant sums. Inability to fulfill orders, unproductive staff and loss of reputation are all major problems that we at Databarracks work to prevent.

We backup data from businesses servers to our data centres in nuclear bunkers and have a team of expert engineers who can recover those systems when needed.

Some of our customers include Legal & General, Yo! Sushi, Smythson of Bond Street and Hawes and Curtis. We also work with a number of the major UK charities such as Save the Children and UNICEF.

If your business needs offsite backups, disaster recovery for IT or help with business continuity, please get in touch:

Phone: 020 3177 1910
Email: contact@databarracks.com

Databarracks are the club’s newest sponsor, sponsoring the Under 9 team.
Oxted & District Junior Football Club

Oxted & District JFC provides junior football for the local community from age 6. Our highly successful Acorns section caters for our youngest players, with six to eight year olds experiencing friendly football in a safe and fun environment.

An FA Charter Standard Development Club, our home ground is Bushey Croft Recreation Ground in Old Oxted, which provides a hub for all of our teams from Acorns to Under 15s, with most teams training and playing there.

On our website you will find fixtures, results and news for all our teams, along with club contact information. Each team has its own team page, which are listed under the ‘Teams’ tab on the menu bar.

www.pitchero.com/clubs/oxteddistrictjuniorfootballclub/
@oxtedjfc
secretaryoxtedjfc@yahoo.com
/oxtedanddistrictjfc

From Little Acorns…

Spot the Ball!

Can you tell which ball Under 9s’ defender Joseph Yazdabadi was clearing in a tournament last summer?

Answer at the bottom of the page!

ANSWER: Ball two!