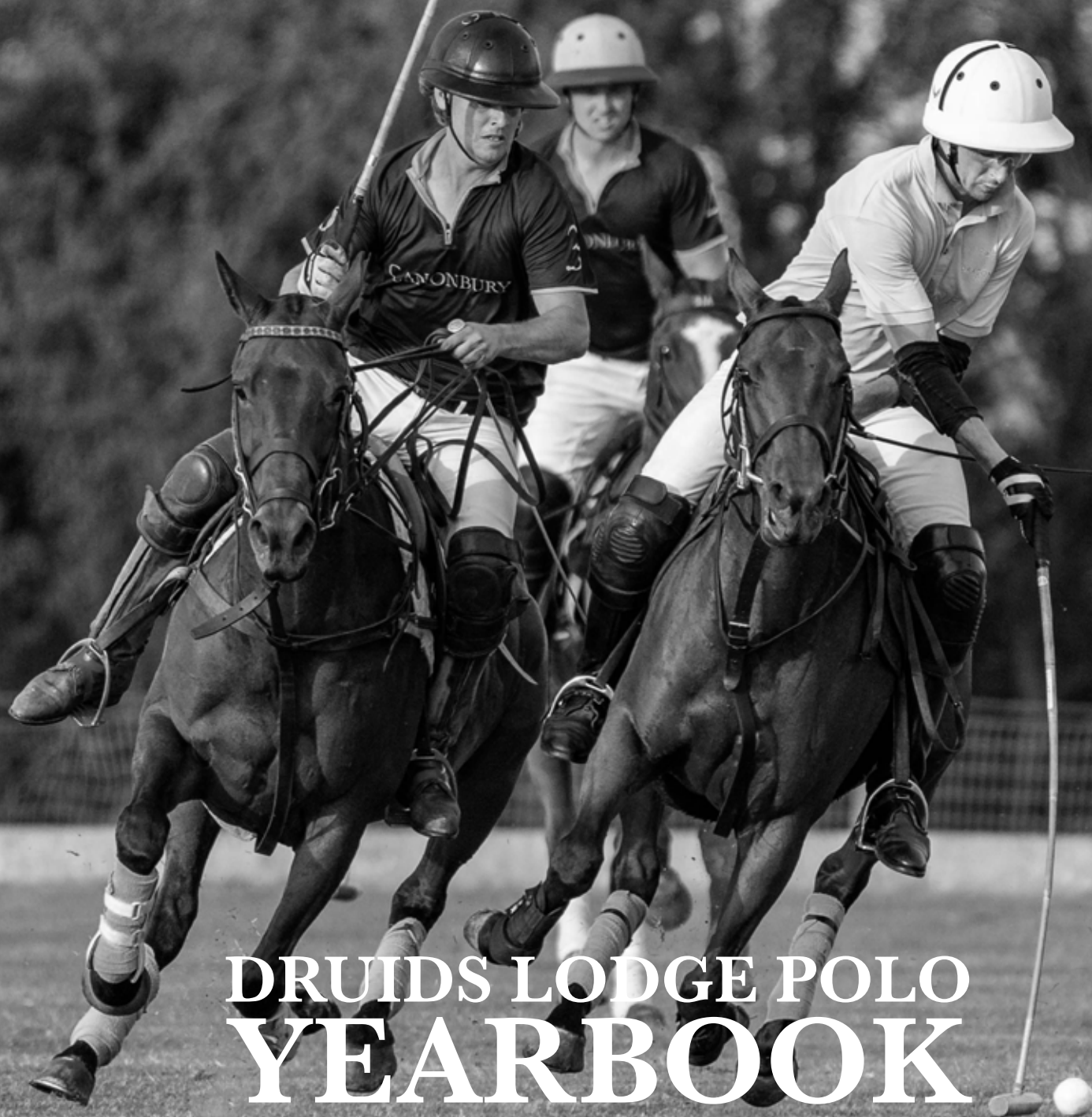




DRUIDS LODGE  
POLO



# DRUIDS LODGE POLO YEARBOOK

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2022-23









## DRUIDS LODGE POLO

### Yearbook 2022-23

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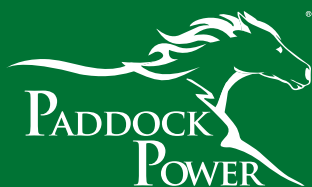




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# Introduction

by Giles Ormerod

Dear Everybody

Welcome to the Druids 2023 Polo Season.

Before we look forward, I'd like to say a very big thank you to everybody who works at Druids and who enabled us to have such a good winter.

Thank you to Gino out in the cold feeding ponies and breaking the ice on water troughs.

To George who splits his time between running student polo, overseeing contractors and running the school ponies.

To all the grooms who look after the ponies, exercising and caring in all weathers and producing ponies for lessons and polo.

To Abi for coordinating everything that happens at Druids, putting together tournaments, scheduling lessons, and coping with all sorts of admin.

To Tae for keeping the ship going financially. A short sentence but an enormous job.

And to Robin who oversees everything, trains the young ponies, coaches, runs the livery ponies and has been a great example to all of us on the polo ground.

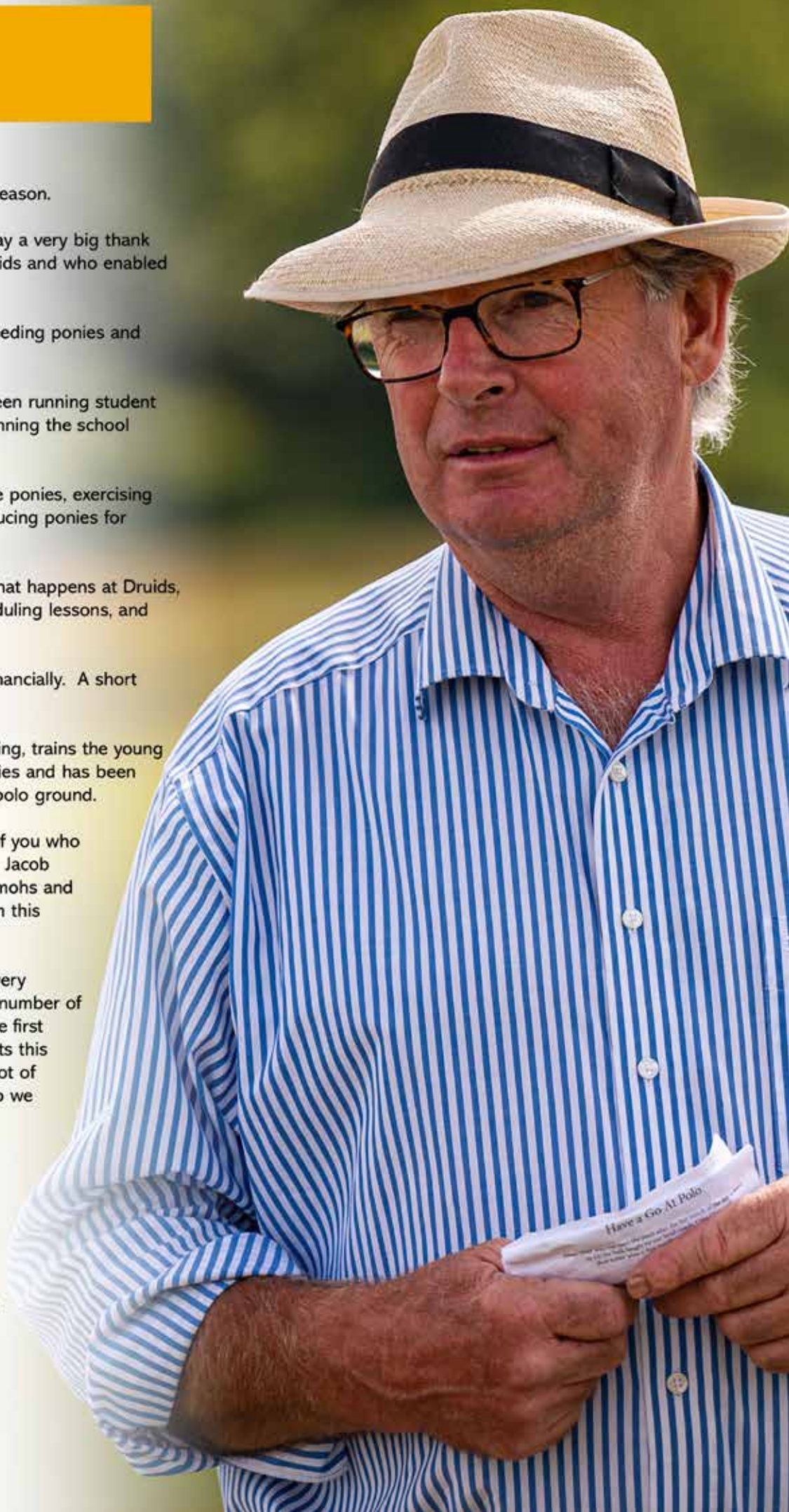
Many congratulations to the those of you who are improving so fast. Lottie Harper, Jacob and Nathaniel Watson, George Fraemohs and James Moylan to mention a few from this arena season.

Looking forward to this summer is very exciting. The stables are full, and a number of members have bought ponies for the first time. We have three new tournaments this year and are feeling that there is a lot of enthusiasm for the season ahead, so we are raring to get going.

Arriving this spring will be two new robot mowers. The results of the trial in the autumn were fantastic, so we are looking forward to great playing surfaces this summer.

Thank you all for your support. See you out there!

Giles





# Polo Manager's Review of the Season



Dear all,

I'm writing this at the start of March while snow falls outside the office window.... this weather hiccup aside, it has been starting to feel a lot more spring-like with longer, lighter evenings and the promise of a packed summer polo season just around the corner.

Last summer was great fun, we had a lot of enthusiasm for tournaments and some of those tournaments even organised themselves - how brilliant! We saw plenty of the usual Canonbury line up, Roger, Stevie, Brook and either Dominic Jones or Judith for the 4 and 2 goal, and they had some great games at both levels. It was also a brilliant season for Andrew Wessels and Dragonfly, both at home and away. Low Profile kicked off with a win in the first tournament and continued to have a good season, we look forward to seeing what they bring to the field this year. We were pleased to welcome Coombe Place for some 6 goal, and very glad to see some teams down from "The North" for our 4 goal Victor Ludorum. We wish all our players and teams the best of luck for the coming season, at Druids and further afield.

It's particularly special for us when a Druids pony wins a BPP award and we were delighted to pick up a few of these last year. We were very proud of Pico Blanco who won Best Playing Pony in the India Cavalry Officers Association Trophy at Tedworth. We're looking forward to introducing you to

some new ponies and seeing what they can do on the pitch this year.

We've had some serious cold snaps this winter, one of which led to us moving our Fireside Polo event earlier and playing before temperatures dropped to a brisk -8. However, on the whole the weather has been kind and the wintering ponies have come into work looking very well. The winter season has been good fun with lots of matches at home, a bit of travelling including a triumphant trip to Tedworth Park for Dragonfly, and some new faces taking to the arena including James Moylan, deserved winner of our Most Improved Arena Player 2022-23. The ponies have worked hard and we are looking forward to giving them a break when the Spring grass comes in.

I hope you enjoy this yearbook, a reflection on the last twelve months. Many, many thanks as always to Michael Berkeley who is responsible for almost all the photos you'll see here and who has done the lion's share of the assembling of this book, no mean feat I assure you. I particularly enjoy the Life At Druids pages, some little postage stamp pictures to remind us of the fun we've had - bring on the next year! I look forward to seeing you all beside the ground soon.

With very best wishes,

Abi



# Druids Lodge Polo Club Summer 2023

## FIXTURE LIST

13th April	First Club Chukkas
29th – 30th April	Aspiga Trophy (1 – 2)
6th May – 18th June	Spring League (-4 – 0)
13th - 14th May	Midsummer Trophy (1 – 2)
20th - 21st May	Commodore Blake Trophy (1 – 2)
3rd – 4th June	June Trophy (3 – 4)
10th – 11th June	India Trophy (5 – 6)
17th – 18th June	Spring Trophy (-4 – 0) (Spring League Finals)
24th – 25th June	Copra Cup (1 – 2) sponsored by Boomerang Nutrition
1st – 2nd July	Balaclava Trophy (Picnic Polo Day) (6 – 8)
6th - 9th July	Harvest Cup (3 – 4)
15th - 16th July	White Horse Trophy (1 – 2) sponsored by White Horse Recruitment
22nd July - 20th August	Summer League (-4 – 0)
25th – 30th July	Druids Rose Bowl (Victor Ludorum) (3 – 4)
5th – 6th August	Whippet Trophy (4 – 6)
19th – 20th August	Salisbury Cup (-4 – 0) (Summer League Finals)
26th – 27th August	Forest Edge Rose Bowl (Picnic Polo Day) (2 & 8) sponsored by Hendy Land Rover
2nd – 3rd September	Polo Art Trophy (3 – 4)
9th – 10th September	Emerson Trophy (1 – 2)
16th – 17th September	Clock Tower Trophy (Open)





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# Summer 2022

## Match Reports





# The Aspiga Trophy

0 - 2 Goal

7th - 8th May 2022

## Subsidiary Final

### Avanti Dragonfly

Ollie/Hugh Bate	Andrew Wessels
George Fraemohs	Arthur Wade
Johann Spendier	Dominic Jones
Robin Ormerod	Eden Ormerod

## Final

### Low Profile Canonbury

Sarah Glover	Judith Feuchtwanger
Brigitte Boher	Roger McElroy
Saskia/Richard Swift	Stevie McCraith
Roddy Stanning	Brook Bishop

The subsidiary final of the Aspiga Trophy was a close run affair; two goals from Dragonfly's Andrew Wessels gave them an early lead, but Avanti were quick to rally and the score going into the final chukka was 3 goals apiece. Avanti were first to score in the crucial last chukka, but Eden Ormerod notched up a further two goals in reply securing a 5-4 win for Dragonfly.



Low Profile's 2022 season got off to a strong start with a win in the first tournament. Roddy Stanning was first to make his mark on the scoreboard but Canonbury fought back with a goal each from Stevie McCraith and Brook Bishop, putting them just ahead at half time. With some fast runs and some impressive marking and team play from Low Profile they edged back into the lead at the start of chukka 4, eventually running out the winners 5-3 at the final bell.



### Subsidiary Final Score

Avanti - 4 5 - Dragonfly

### Final Score

Low Profile - 5 3 - Canonbury

Images by Nigel Gidney  
and Terry Waldron







# The June Trophy

## 3 - 4 Goal

### 26th - 29th May 2022

#### Subsidiary Final

##### Druids Lodge Canonbury/Bagber House

Wilf Bate/Vicky Woodhead	Roger McElroy
Jonathan Vickery	Dominic Jones
Johann Spendier	Stevie McCraith
Robin Ormerod	Brook Bishop

#### Final

##### Ridgebacks Dragonfly

Sarah Glover/George Thomé	Andrew Wessels
Christine Thomé	Brigitte Boher
Chris Thomé	Lolly Stanhope-White
Roddy Stanning	Eden Ormerod

Canonbury/Bagber House stormed through to a convincing win over Druids Lodge in the subsidiary final of the 4 goal June Trophy. The combined strength of 2 goalers Stevie McCraith and Brook Bishop proved hard to contain, the score sitting at 8-0 in their favour by the end of chukka 3. Druids did start to rally in the fourth and final chukka with Robin Ormerod notching up two goals for his team, but sadly it was a bit too little and a bit too late and the final score sat at 8-2.



Eden Ormerod was first to make his mark on the scoreboard in the final, securing an early lead for Dragonfly, and one which they managed to hold onto. Ridgebacks appeared to be making a comeback in chukka three but an impressive run down the field and cut-shot into goal from Dragonfly's Andrew Wessels opened the gap again. The score on the final bell was 6-3 to Dragonfly.



**Subsidiary Final Score**  
 Druids Lodge - 2 8 - Canonbury/  
 Bagber House

**Final Score**  
 Ridgebacks - 3 6 - Dragonfly







# The India Trophy

## 4 - 6 Goal

### 10th - 12th June 2022

#### Coombe Place

Simon Jackson  
Harold Hodges  
Mark Deacon  
Nii White

#### Ridgebacks

Richard Swift  
Christine Thomé  
Chris Thomé  
Roddy Stanning

#### Dragonfly

Andrew Wessels  
Johann Spendier  
Stevie McCraith  
Eden Ormerod

The 6 goal India Trophy was played as a three team round robin. Firstly on the Friday Ridgebacks took on Dragonfly, who got off to a strong start notching up 4 goals in the first chukka. Ridgebacks rallied in chukka 2 bringing the half time score back to 5-4½, but Dragonfly dominated again in the second half and the score at the final bell was 9-5½ in their favour.

The second game, between Ridgebacks and Coombe Place, took place on Saturday. Roddy Stanning scored three goals straight out of the gate and the score was 3½-1 at the end of the first chukka. Harold Hodges really got going in chukka 2 for Coombe Place and they edged into the lead just as the bell went for the end of chukka 3. Despite some hardworking defensive play from Ridgebacks, two more goals for Coombe Place in chukka 4 meant they came out the winners 7-5½.



The last game, one which was conveniently the final, took place on the Sunday between Dragonfly and Coombe Place, both teams having won their other match. The teams were clearly giving it their all in the first half, the prospect of taking home the magnificent India Trophy tiger perhaps meant the stakes were particularly high! A late goal from Coombe Place's Simon Jackson put them just one goal behind 4-3 at half time. Dragonfly were first to score in chukka 3 but Coombe Place rallied and the score at start of the fourth chukka was still 5-4. In the final chukka all things went Coombe Place's way and a hatrick of goals secured victory for them with the score 7-5 at the final bell.



#### Scores

Ridgebacks - 5½ 9 - Dragonfly

Ridgebacks - 5½ 7 - Coombe Place

Dragonfly - 5 7 - Coombe Place

Images by Nigel Gidney  
and Terry Waldron





# The Spring Trophy

-4 - 0 Goal

18th - 19th June 2022

## Subsidiary Final

### Low Profile CareMatch

Wilf/Adam Bate	Arthur Wade
Saskia Swift	Andrew Wessels/Ollie Bate
James Hopkins	Anne Marie Perry
Richard Swift	Jon Perry

## Final

### Xanthos Black Aces

Susie Edmunds/Andrea Redder	Amy Haydock
Lottie Harper	Vicky Woodhead
George Fraemohs	Nathaniel/Jacob Watson
Jon Vickery	Brigitte Boher

Black Aces were victorious in the Spring Trophy, the closing tournament of the Spring League. They beat Xanthos 3½-1 in a low scoring but fast moving and open game, and took home the coveted lion trophy.

Flying Aces were victorious in the league stages having won all their matches, defeating each of the other teams. Big congratulations to them on their double victory!

Low Profile played well in the subsidiary final against Care Match with a convincing 5-2 win.



### Subsidiary Final Score

Low Profile - 5 2 - CareMatch

### Final Score

Xanthos - 1 3½ - Black Aces

### Spring League Winners

Flying Aces





# The June Challenge

-2 - 0 Goal

26th June 2022



## Avanti The Usual Suspects

Wilf Bate	Anne Marie Perry
Ollie Bate	Vicky Woodhead
Hugh Bate	George Fraemohs
Robin Ormerod	Jon Perry

Avanti had a convincing 4½-1 win over The Usual Suspects in the June Challenge. This was the first run out for this particular Avanti line up with all three Bate brothers on the field together, supported by 2 goaler Robin Ormerod. They were a force to be reckoned with, as the opposition discovered! A late goal from Vicky Woodhead got The Usual Suspects out of the gate, but it was not enough to catch Avanti. A tough game for this amateur team facing a professional player and his band of brothers!



## Final Score

Avanti - 4½ 1 - The Usual Suspects







# The Midsummer Trophy

## 1 - 2 Goal

### 25th June - 2nd July 2022

#### Subsidiary Final

##### Low Profile

Sarah Glover/George Thomé  
Saskia Swift  
Richard Swift  
Roddy Stanning

##### Dragonfly

Andrew Wessels  
Arthur Wade/Jacob Watson  
Brigitte Boher  
Eden Ormerod

#### Final

##### Canonbury

Judith Feuchtwanger  
Roger McElroy  
Stevie McCraith  
Brook Bishop/Mark Deacon

##### Avanti

Wilf/Ollie Bate  
Hugh Bate  
Robin Ormerod  
Gus Prentice

Canonbury were victorious in a fast and furious final for the Midsummer Trophy. Robin Ormerod was first to score for Avanti but a hattrick of goals from Stevie McCraith in the second chukka had Canonbury in the lead 3-2 at half time. A strong second half for Canonbury saw them come home the winners with the score 8-3 at the final bell. Low Profile had a win in the subsidiary final beating Dragonfly 6-4.



#### Subsidiary Final Score

Low Profile - 6 4 - Dragonfly

#### Final Score

Canonbury - 8 3 - Avanti







# The Sassoon Cup

0 Goal

3rd July 2022





This regular Picnic Day fixture between The Royal Air Force and The Army Polo Team was the first game of the day on the beautiful Ferne Ground. The Army were first to make their mark on the score board with a goal from Lt Col Tom Armitage, closely followed by one from 2 goaler, Capt Paddy Selfe. The RAF rallied with a goal from new cap, Sqn Ldr Ross Thomson, ending the chukka with the score 2-1½ in the Army's favour. The Army started to break away in chukkas two and three notching up a further four goals, compared to two from the RAF, both scored by Sqn Ldr Vicky Woodhead who had an excellent game. The score at the start of the crucial last chukka was 6-3½ in favour of The Army Polo Team. Despite some great strategic play and defence from the RAF, Rfn Bob Santrian got one more between the posts for the Army and the final score was 7-3½. Flt Lt Georgie Harwood was awarded Most Valuable Player for her gritty marking and hard work, and Best Playing Pony went to Stiletto played by Lt Col Tom Armitage.





## The Royal Air

Flt Lt Georgie Harwood  
Sqn Ldr Vicky Woodhead  
Sqn Ldr Ross Thomson  
Wg Cdr Ed Whitechurch

# The Sassoon Cup

0 Goal

3rd July 2022

## The Army Polo Team

Capt Darryn Wilson RA  
Lt Col Tom Armitage LG  
Rfn Bob Santrian Rifles  
Capt Paddy Selfe KRH



### Final Score

RAF - 3½ 7 - Army





### Most Valuable Player

Flt Lt Georgie Harwod



Prizes presented by Air Commodore Catherine Coton  
President of the RAF Polo Association

### Best Playing Pony

Stiletto

played by Lt Col Tom Armitage

BPP Sponsored by







# The Balaclava Trophy

6 - 8 Goal  
3rd July 2022

Sponsored by



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The 8 goal Balaclava Trophy, flagship match for the Picnic Polo day, this year welcomed visiting team Noon Giraffe down from Cirencester. This was a very close game with a fast field goal from Noon Giraffe's Siobhan Fagan quickly matched by one from Eden Ormerod in the first chukka. Chukka two went in Noon Giraffe's favour with two goals from Chris Fagan and 3 goaler Jonny Coddington leaving the score at 2½-1 at half time. After some half time divot stomping and team talks, Stevie McCraith came out to score 2 goals for Dragonfly leaving it all to play for in the last. The final chukka was fiercely fought with a goal each from McCraith and Noon Giraffe's Chris Fagan, the final bell signifying victory this year to visitors Noon Giraffe who took home the magnificent Balaclava Trophy, presented by sponsors Piers and Natasha Heelis. Most Valuable Player went to Eden Ormerod, and Best Playing Pony was awarded to Charlie Walton's Silvido.





# The Balaclava Trophy

6 - 8 Goal

3rd July 2022

## Dragonfly

Andrew Wessels  
Stevie McCraith  
Roddy Stanning  
Eden Ormerod

## Noon Giraffe

Siobhan Fagan  
Chris Fagan  
Charlie Walton  
Jonny Coddington



## Final Score

Dragonfly - 4 5½ - Noon Giraffe



Photo by: Roger Smith Photography



Photo by: Roger Smith Photography





**Most Valuable Player**  
Eden Ormerod

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**Best Playing Pony**  
Charlie Walton's Silvido

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# The Malta Cup

## 7th July 2022

### UK Armed Forces Polo Association US Military

Wg Cdr Ed Whitechurch	Capt Beth Byles
Rfn Bob Santrian Rifles	Lt Col Amos Peterson
Maj Will Mawby RY	Petty Officer Alex Jenkins
Ct Jamie Thomas RHG/D	Private Zak Coleman

In July the visiting American Military polo team were mounted on Druids horses for all three of their matches in the Chapple Cup series against the UK Armed Forces Polo Association. The first of these, The Malta Cup, was held on home turf for the horses at Druids Lodge. This was a friendly match as the visiting players got to know their mounts, Petty Officer Alex Jenkins had a great game with a hatrick of goals in the third chukka, the score at the end was 9-6 in favour of the UK AFPA.

The home team went on to win the second match, and therefore the series, at Tedworth Park, with the visitors winning the final game at Guards Polo Club on Sunday.



### Final Score

UK AFPA - 9 6 - US Military





# The India Cavalry Officers Association Trophy

Tedworth Park Polo Club

9th July 2022

## Best Playing Pony

Pico Blanco

played by Lt Col Amos Peterson

Everyone was delighted when Druids horse Pico Blanco, played by Amos Peterson, won the Polo Times Best Playing Pony prize at Tedworth Park. Pico is an 8 year old English thoroughbred who has come on leaps and bounds in the last couple of years and is now a firm favourite in the hire pony string.







# The Harvest Cup

## 3 - 4 Goal

### 15th - 17th July 2022

#### Canonbury

Roger McElroy  
Nii White  
Mark Deacon  
Stevie McCraith

#### Watchman

George Fraemohs  
Jon Vickery  
Johann Spendier  
Robin Ormerod

#### Dragonfly

Andrew Wessels  
Dominic Jones/Brigitte Boher  
Richard Swift  
Eden Ormerod

It was a victory for Canonbury in this three team round robin for the 4 goal Harvest Cup. They beat Dragonfly by just half a goal, 5-4½ in their first match and had a slightly more comfortable 6-4 win over Watchman in the second. Dragonfly had a narrow 6½-5 win over Watchman in the third and most open match of the tournament.



#### Scores

Dragonfly - 4½ 5 - Canonbury  
Watchman - 6 4 - Canonbury  
Dragonfly - 6½ 5 - Watchman







# Druids Rose Bowl

## Victor Ludorum

### 3 - 4 Goal

### 25th - 31st July 2022

#### Delta

Tony Finch/Vicky Woodhead  
George Fraemohs  
Charlie Knott  
Bauti Funes

#### Dragonfly

Andrew Wessels  
Brigitte Boher  
Lolly Stanhope-White  
Eden Ormerod

#### Druids Lodge

Hugh/Wilf Bate  
Johann Spendier  
Jon Vickery  
Robin Ormerod

#### Property Makers

Mark Minashi/Finn Jones  
Sarah Glover  
Paddy Selfe  
Harold Hodges

#### Timb Ply

Don Gibbes  
Bobby Bell  
Will Padden  
Ben Malasomma

Five teams entered the 4 goal Victor Ludorum, The Druids Rose Bowl, this year, including three visiting teams bringing some fresh faces to the Druids pitches. Firstly the two home teams faced off and Dragonfly came home the winners beating Druids Lodge 9-4½. Druids Lodge then took on visitors, Timb Ply, in a very exciting match where they were only narrowly defeated 8-6½. Dragonfly then played Delta and beat them 8-5, while Timb Ply had their second victory when they beat Property Makers 6-4. The last match in the league stages was a win for Delta who beat Property Makers 7-6. Timb Ply and Dragonfly won both their league matches and went through to the final, Delta had a win and a loss putting them through to the subsidiary final where they were joined by Property Makers who were slightly ahead of Druids Lodge on goal difference.



Bauti Funes came out all guns blazing for Delta on the finals day, notching up an impressive 7 of the 9 goals scored by his team. Paddy Selfe for Property Makers also had a good run scoring 5 goals, the score at the final bell 9-6 to Delta.



Dragonfly were first to make their mark on the scoreboard in the final with a goal from Lolly Stanhope-White, Timb Ply were quick to rally and the score was 2-2 at the end of the first chukka. Dragonfly edged ahead in the second and had established a two goal lead by half time, but a great third chukka from Timb Ply's Ben Malasomma had the scores tied again at six all as they went into the last chukka. In the last chukka all things seemed to go Timb Ply's way and with a goal each from Malasomma and number 2 Bobby Bell, they came home the winners beating the home team by 8 goals to 6.



#### Subsidiary Final Score

Delta - 9 6 - Property Makers

#### Final Score

Dragonfly - 6 8 - Timb Ply





# Not The Whippet Trophy

-2 - 0 Goal

6th August 2022



## The Whippets The Hares

Adam Bate	Ollie Bate
Wilf Bate	Hugh Bate
Debbie Beese	Saskia Swift
Robin Ormerod	Jon Perry

A long dry spell led to the postponing of our 6 goal Whippet Trophy and the addition of this one day match "Not The Whippet Trophy". The Hares were first out of the gates and remained half a goal ahead at the end of the second chukka. The Whippets edged into the lead in the third but The Hares had a storming last and came home the winners 6 goals to 3½.

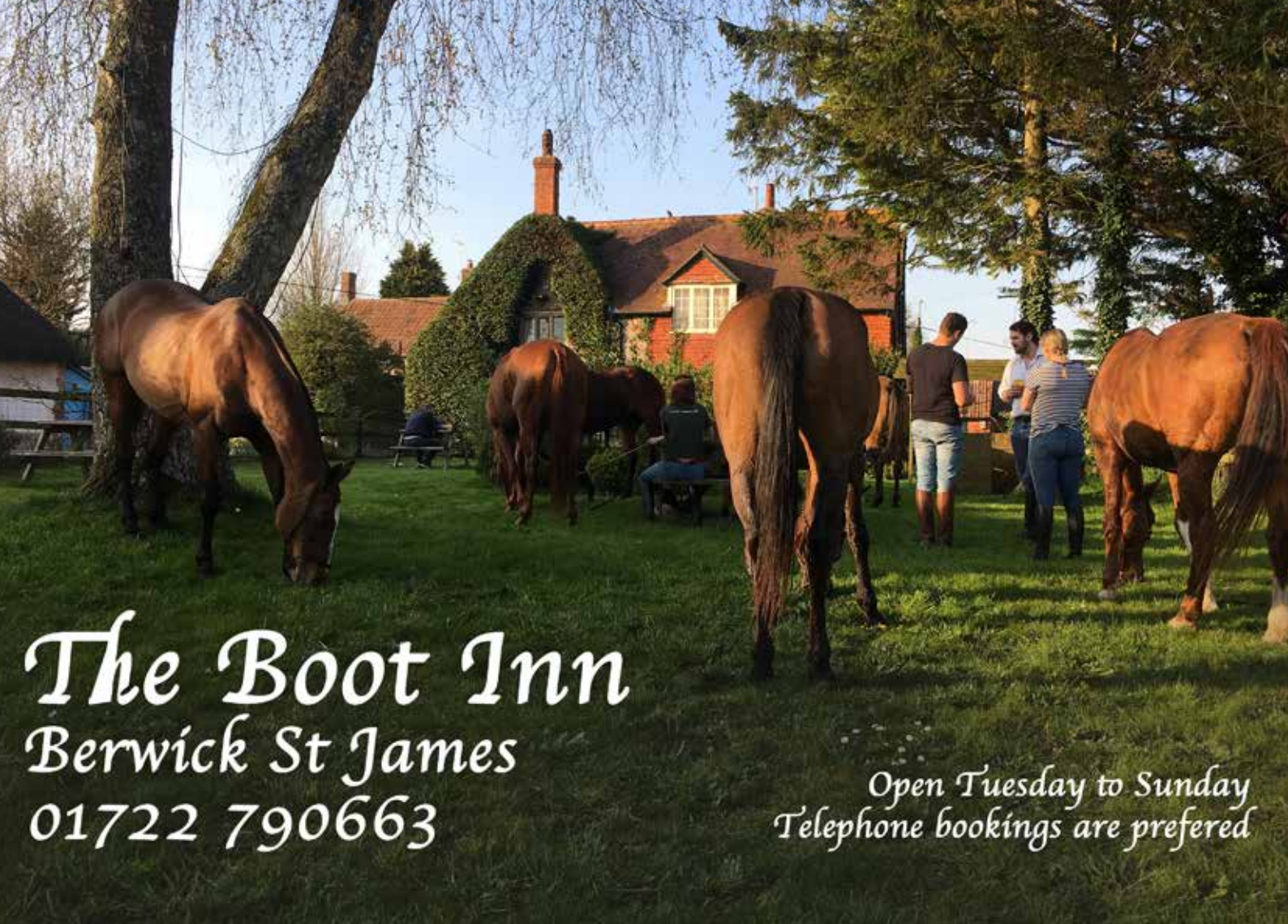


## Final Score

The Whippets - 3½ 6 - The Hares







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# The Moss Medic Shield

## Awarded to Brigitte Boher

Trophy kindly donated by  
Laura Moss  
To be presented each year to the most  
improved junior member of the club







## Brigitte Boher

**What was your favourite game this season?**

Winning the 4 goal June Trophy final.

**Who was your personal BPP and why?**

Emezeta Maia, she is quick, agile and she was very consistent throughout the whole season.

**Who was your hardest opposition?**

Roddy.

**What area of your game do you think has come on the most this year?**

Reading the game.

**What aspect of your game do you think you want to improve next year?**

Improve my swing to allow me to hit the ball further and more accurately.





## Forest Edge Rose Bowl Picnic Polo Day 28th August 2022

The August Bank Holiday weekend brought record crowds for the second Picnic Polo day of the season.

Six teams competed in the 2 goal tournament with Canonbury and Dragonfly making it into the final to play for The Whippet Trophy; Watchman and D&E playing off for the subsidiary trophy, The Forest Edge Rose Bowl; and Coombe Place and Low Profile taking to the field for the second subsidiary final, The Druids Drinks Bucket.

A great day's polo included a rare penalty decider for the final, with Canonbury taking the win by the very narrowest of margins.











# The Forest Edge Rose Bowl

## 2 Goal

### 28th August 2022

#### Watchman D&E

George Fraemohs	Stephanie Everard
Vicky Woodhead	Arnie Lustman
Samuel Tay	Sean Wilson-Smith
Robin Ormerod	Cam Ellis

The first match of the day and Watchman were first to make their mark on the scoreboard with a goal from Robin Ormerod. D&E's Cameron Ellis was quick to counter and D&E edged into the lead in chukka 2. And in the lead they stayed! The score at the final bell 6-3 to the visiting team.



#### Final Score

Watchman - 3 6 - D&E





# The Whippet Trophy

2 Goal

28th August 2022

BPP Sponsored by



**Canonbury**

Judith Feuchtwanger  
Roger McElroy  
Stevie McCraith  
Brook Bishop

**Dragonfly**

Arthur Wade  
Andrew Wessels  
Brigitte Boher  
Eden Ormerod



The second match of the day was a closely fought final with the teams tied at the start of the final chukka. Canonbury edged into the lead in the fourth but Dragonfly were quick to level the score again and the score remained five all at the final bell. Teams then lined up to take their deciding penalties, Dragonfly got three out of four between the posts but a full house for Canonbury secured them the trophy.

## Best Playing Pony

Brigitte Boher's Julia

## Final Score

Canonbury - 5 5 - Dragonfly  
(9-8 on penalties)





# The Forest Edge Rose Bowl Picnic Polo Day







# The Druids Drinks Bucket

## 2 Goal

### 28th August 2022

#### Coombe Place Low Profile

Scarlett Picksley  
Nii White  
Simon Jackson  
Mark Deacon

Saskia Swift  
Jacob Watson  
Finn Jones  
Roddy Stanning



The final match was played for the Druids Drinks Bucket and Coombe Place came out of the gate fighting. However, Low Profile had edged into the lead by half time and held onto that advantage throughout the second half. The score at the final bell Low Profile 5, Coombe Place 2.



**Final Score**  
Coombe Place - 2 5 - Low Profile







# The Polo Art Trophy

3 - 4 Goal

3rd - 4th September 2022

## Subsidiary Final

Hurst Castle	Canonbury
Jason Crane	Roger McElroy
Jon Vickery	Richard Swift
Simon Jackson	Stevie McCraith
Mark Deacon	Paddy Selfe

## Final

Dragonfly	Ridgebacks
Hugh/Wilf Bate	George Thomé
Andrew Wessels	Christine Thomé
Robin Ormerod	Chris Thomé
Eden Ormerod	Roddy Stanning

Ridgebacks had a strong first half in the four goal final against Dragonfly, Roddy Stanning notching up four goals to the opposition's three. However the tables turned rather after halftime and Dragonfly came back fighting. A great goal from Andrew Wessels put them into the lead and a final goal from Eden Ormerod secured them victory with the score 6-4 at the final bell. Canonbury were victorious in the subsidiary final beating Hurst Castle 6-2.



## Subsidiary Final Score

Hurst Castle - 2½ 6 - Canonbury

## Final Score

Dragonfly - 6 4 - Ridgebacks







# The Salisbury Cup

## 1 - 2 Goal

### 10th - 11th September 2022

#### Subsidiary Final

##### Dragonfly

Hugh/Wilf Bate  
Andrew Wessels  
Lolly Stanhope-White  
Robin Ormerod

##### Ridgebacks

Judith Feuchtwanger  
Anthony Bond  
Chris/Christine Thomé  
Roddy Stanning

#### Final

##### D&E

Stephanie Everard  
Susie Edwards  
Sean Wilson-Smith  
Cam Ellis

##### Low Profile

Saskia Swift  
Richard Swift/Dominic Jones  
Roger McElroy  
Stevie McCraith



It was a win for the visitors in this year's Salisbury Cup Final. Two goaler, Sean Wilson-Smith, had a strong first chukka with opponents, Low Profile, making a comeback in chukkas two and three. With the scores tied at 6 all at the final bell it was time for another penalty decider, how unusual to have had a few of these this year! D&E were victorious here scoring two to Low Profile's one. Ridgebacks narrowly beat Dragonfly in the subsidiary final 6-5.



#### Subsidiary Final Score

Dragonfly - 5 6 - Ridgebacks

#### Final Score

D&E - 6 6 - Low Profile  
(8-7 after penalties)







# The Emerson Trophy (Summer League Finals) 15th September 2022

Photos by  
Andrew Yates Photography  
& Abi Vigors

## Gorgeous Girls

Amy Haydock  
Debbie Beese  
Clare Macnamara  
Jon Perry

## Watchman

Roger McElroy  
Nathaniel Watson  
George Fraemohs  
Susie Edmunds

## Low Profile

Sarah Glover  
Lottie Harper  
Saskia Swift  
Hugh Bate

This year, having had to postpone once due to the heat wave, the Summer League finals were eventually played for the Emerson Trophy. Three teams took part in this extremely close round robin of two chukka matches. Each team had a win and a loss and with two teams tied on goal difference, first place was just clinched by Gorgeous Girls who scored more goals. Many thanks to our sponsors Tony and Jilly Emerson.



## Scores

Gorgeous Girls - 3 2 - Watchman

Low Profile - 2½ 2 - Gorgeous Girls

Watchman - 2 ½ - Low Profile







# The Clock Tower Trophy Open 17th - 18th September 2022

Photos by  
Andrew Yates Photography

## Subsidiary Final

Ice Lollies	Canonbury
Judith Feuchtwanger	Amy Haydock
Clare Macnamara	Roger McElroy
Jon Perry	George Fraemohs
Lolly Stanhope-White	Robin Ormerod

## Final

Dragonfly	D&E
Sarag Glover	Stephanie Everard
Debbie Beese	Arthur Wade
Andrew Wessels	Saskia Swift
Paddy Selfe	Sean Wilson-Smith



The last day of the season saw Dragonfly take on D&E in the final of the Clock Tower Trophy. Both teams already had some trophies under the belt this season and this looked set to be a close match. Scores were tied at the end of the first chukka but D&E made their mark in the second and had drawn ahead 5-1 at half time. Dragonfly did claw back a few goals in the second half but D&E stayed out in front, the score 7-4 at the final bell. Ice Lollies played Canonbury in the sub final and both teams played a strongly defensive game. The score remained 1-1 until the final chukka when Canonbury edged into the lead, it looked as if they would go home the winners but a goal from Clare Macnamara in the closing seconds left us with a draw, 2 goals apiece, at the bell.



### Subsidiary Final Score

Ice Lollies - 2 2 - Canonbury

### Final Score

Dragonfly - 4 7 - D&E





# Life at Druids





# Life at Druids



Photo by Andrew Buchanan





# Druids Lodge Polo Club

## Summer Handicaps

3

Ormerod, Eden  
Stanning, Roddy

2

Bishop, Brook  
McCraith, Stephen  
Ormerod, Maurice  
Ormerod, Robin  
Selfe, Patrick

1

Blaurock-Thomé, Christine  
Perry, Jonathan  
Spendier, Johann  
Thomé, Christopher  
Vickery, Jonathan

0

Bambridge, Deborah  
Bate, Hugh  
Bate, Wilfred  
Boher, Brigitte  
Bond, Anthony  
Draper, Amelie  
Edmunds, Susie  
Fraemohs, George  
Hopkins, James  
Jones, Dominic  
Jones, Finn

Macnamara, Clare  
McElroy, Roger  
Perez, Katie  
Stanhope-White, Jasmine  
Swift, Richard  
Swift, Saskia  
Tay, Sam  
Thomé, George  
Watson, Jacob  
Woodhead, Vicky  
Wessels, Andrew  
White, Frederick

-1

Bate, Adam  
Bate, Oliver  
Feuchtwanger, Judith  
Glover, Sarah  
Harper, Lottie  
Haydock, Amy  
Hopkins, Sofie  
Perry, Anne-Marie  
Robinson, Fraser  
Thomé, Cosimo  
Wade, Arthur  
Watson, Nathaniel

-2

Kot, Varvara  
Northen, Sue





# How to Photograph POLO





Michael Berkeley ARPS is Club photographer for Druids Lodge Polo Club and can also be spotted roaming the southern counties photographing all levels of Club polo. With years of knowledge and a family passion for photography passed down the generations, Michael offers *Polo Times* readers his top ten tips for taking a successful polo photograph.

Polo is fast, furious, and full of exciting action to photograph. But what's the secret of taking a 'killer image' that captures the essence of the sport?

Here are my top ten tips for taking a successful polo photograph:

## 1 FACES

It's really important that players are instantly recognisable and that means that you should be able to see

their face in the photo. To achieve this, the best place to position yourself is one side of the goal looking straight down the pitch because the players will normally be coming directly towards you. You need to sit to one side of the goal so that the posts don't get in the way and, obviously, at a safe distance!

## 2 TIMING

You might think the best time to take a photo is when the player is hitting the ball, but they will be looking down and it is likely that

you will just get a photo of the top of their hat. It's therefore better to take the shot when the player is shaping up to hit the ball or just afterwards when they look up to see where the ball is going to land.

## 3 WEATHER

For a very similar reason, it's best to avoid very hot and sunny days if possible.

As polo is often played in the middle of the day when the summer sun is very high in the sky, the bright light will cast a dark shadow obscuring the player's face. Ideal conditions are therefore a bright but overcast day.

## 4 BACKGROUNDS

You should avoid any unwanted distractions, such as horse boxes or advertisements, and it's therefore important

to position yourself so that the background is as uncluttered and 'clear' as possible. This will vary from location to location, but it's ideal if you can have trees as the backdrop to your photographs.

## 5 SETTINGS

The technical bit! The other way to manage this issue is to blur the background by using as wide an aperture as

your lens will allow, giving you a shallow depth of field and separating the action from the background. I also use a fast shutter speed – of at least 1/1000th second – in order to freeze the action.



Photography by Michael Berkeley







## 6 EQUIPMENT

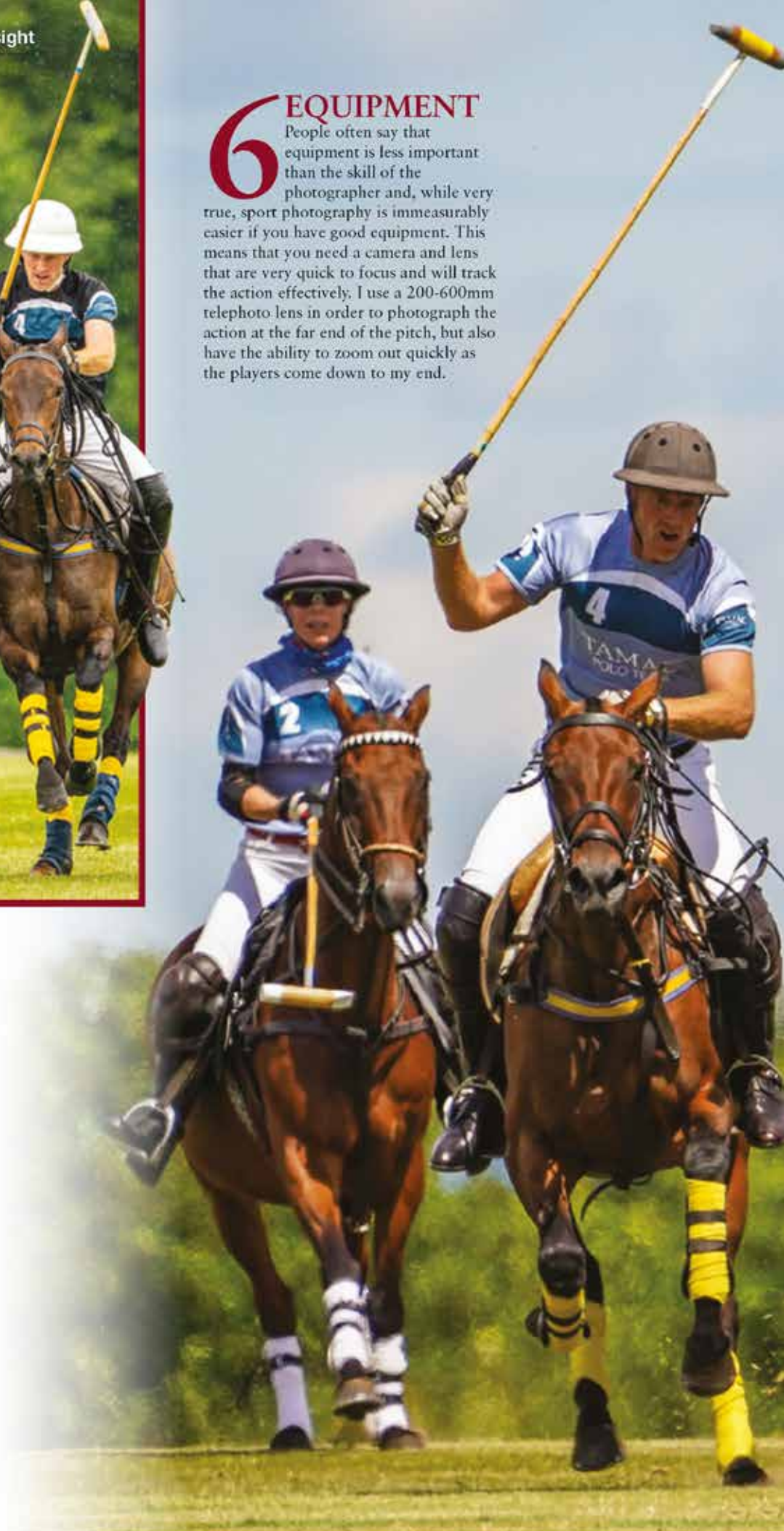
People often say that equipment is less important than the skill of the photographer and, while very true, sport photography is immeasurably easier if you have good equipment. This means that you need a camera and lens that are very quick to focus and will track the action effectively. I use a 200-600mm telephoto lens in order to photograph the action at the far end of the pitch, but also have the ability to zoom out quickly as the players come down to my end.

## 7 DRAMA

It's very easy to take a photograph that is static and flat, but a good image should have drama. So, you want photos of action, such as players competing for the ball or in a ride-off, or a number of players coming directly towards you down the ground. Dirt being kicked up and horses with all their hooves off the ground will add to the drama by implying movement and speed.

## 8 THE BALL

Although this is not essential, it is a good idea to get the ball in the photo and in a position that makes it stand out. This is all part of the story that the photo is telling.





# 9 PERSPECTIVE

My 'secret' tip – one that isn't so obvious – is to get as low as possible when taking your photographs. I always sit, sometimes on a small camping stool and sometimes even on the ground. This makes a surprising difference, as it makes you look slightly up at the players and it then feels as though you are part of the action.

# 10 TAKE LOTS OF SHOTS!

My father, Bryan Berkeley, was the Club photographer for Cirencester Park for many years and he operated in the era of film. I use a mirrorless camera, which can take 20 frames a second, making it much easier to capture the precise moment you want, and I will think nothing of taking over a thousand photos at the polo – it doesn't cost anything except the time in reviewing them afterwards. My father had to wait for a couple of days for the film to come back from processing to see whether he had any photos in focus. Love and respect.

There is nothing to beat getting out there and giving it a go...



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# Arena 2022-23

## Match Reports







# The Halloween Trophy

29th October 2022

## Pesky Poltegeists

Riley Hayes  
Cosi Thomé  
Lottie Harper

## Spooky Spectres

Tom Williams  
Willoughby Dubois  
Scarlett Picksley



The Junior Halloween trophy kicked the arena season off with a spooky start. There was a fiery first chukka with goals being scored by both teams and a spectacular 2-pointer by Cosi Thomé. After decisive action throughout the match by Tom Williams, who scored 8 goals, when the final bell rang, the Spooky Spectres were ahead 13 to 8.



**Final Score**  
Pesky Poltegeists - 8 13 - Spooky Spectres





# The Puddle Duck Trophy

5 Goal

12th November 2022

## Black Aces

Nathaniel Watson  
Jacob Watson  
Maurice Ormerod

## Avanti

Ollie Bate  
India Ringer  
Harold Hodges



Black Aces and Avanti took to the arena for the first club tournament of the arena season, Maurice subbing in for younger brother Robin who was off games with a neck injury. First to score was Harold Hodges with a two pointer for his team, closely followed by another, putting them firmly in the lead. Black Aces got going in the second chukka and the score at half time was 8-6 to Avanti. The second half was very close with a goal scoring flurry from both sides, Avanti just keeping hold of the lead by the tips of their fingers. Four goals from Maurice and one goal each from the Watson brothers in the last chukka wasn't quite enough to steal victory from Avanti and goal scoring machine, Harold, who notched up a further seven to leave the score 19-16 at the final bell.

## Final Score

Black Aces - 16 19 - Avanti







# The Poppy Sunday Trophy

## 5-7 Goal

### 13th November 2022



Invitational  
Tournament  
(Home)

#### Black Aces

Nathaniel Watson  
Jacob Watson  
Robin Ormerod

#### Tedworth Park

Karen Reeve  
Lolly Stanhope-White  
Matt Simpson

#### Hind Quarters

Andrew Wessels  
India Hodges  
Harold Hodges



#### Scores

Black Aces - 8 4 - Tedworth Park  
Tedworth Park - 6 10 - Hind Quarters  
Hind Quarters - 14 10 - Black Aces



Three teams were entered in the Remembrance Day Poppy Sunday Trophy and so the tournament took the form of a round-robin. Firstly Black Aces took on visiting team Tedworth Park, Black Aces establishing a strong lead in the first chukka which they held onto, to win 8-4. Tedworth Park then came up against Hind Quarters and despite some great goals from Lolly Stanhope-White they weren't able to control Harold's goal scoring spree, HQ taking the win 10-6. And so the last two chukkas became the final which was between Black Aces and Hind Quarters. This was a really exciting match with fast, end to end action, it looked like Black Aces might just sneak ahead in the closing minutes with a two pointer from Robin Ormerod but Hind Quarters slotted another couple between the posts and went home the winners 14-10.





# The Stirrup Cup

## 2 Goal

### 10th December 2022

#### Harris Hound Art

James Moylan  
Scarlett Picksley  
George Shelton

#### Xanthos

Lotte Wilson  
Lottie Harper  
Rosanna Turk

#### Final Score

Harris Hound Art - 15 15 - Xanthos



The curtain-raiser for this year's Fireside Polo event was the 2 goal Stirrup Cup between Harris Hound Art and Xanthos. Xanthos were first out of the gate and got off to a strong start with a volley of goals from Rosanna Turk, maintaining the lead throughout the first half with the score 6-4 in their favour at half time. Harris Hound Art came out all guns blazing in the third with James Moylan and George Shelton notching up five goals between them and putting their team one goal ahead as they went into the final chukka. Some fast and furious play and impressive goals in the fourth saw teams level the scores 15-15 at the final bell.







# The El Rosario Trophy

## 8 Goal

### 9th - 11th December 2022

#### Silverwood

Hayley Hyde-Andrews  
Chris Thomé  
Robin Ormerod

#### Black Aces

Anthony Bond  
Jacob Watson  
Eden Ormerod

#### Hind Quarters

George Fraemohs  
India Hodges  
Harold Hodges



Three teams entered the 8 goal El Rosario Trophy, and first into the arena were Black Aces and Silverwood. The teams seemed closely matched in the first half but Black Aces began to edge ahead in the third chukka, helped by an impressive two pointer from Anthony Bond. Silverwood started to make a comeback in the last but couldn't quite make up the difference and the final score was 11-9 in favour of Silverwood.



#### Scores

Silverwood - 11 9 - Black Aces  
Silverwood - 10 14 - Hind Quarters  
Hind Quarters - 12 16 - Black Aces





The second 8 goal game, Silverwood vs. Hind Quarters, took place as part of the first Fireside Polo event of the season. Teams scored a goal apiece in the first chukka, putting Hind Quarters in front as they started with a two goal advantage. Hind Quarters lengthened their lead in chukka 2 and the score sat at 6-2 at half time. Silverwood came out fighting in chukka three and with a penalty 1 going in their favour they brought the score back to 9-6. A strong opening goal from Harold Hodges in the last scored two points for his team while an impressive hattrick of goals from Robin Ormerod reduced the gap but sadly wasn't quite enough, the score at the final bell 14-10 to Hind Quarters.



The third match, the final for the El Rosario Trophy, was between Black Aces and Hind Quarters – and the score sheet suggests it was really a battle of the pros! Harold Hodges and Eden Ormerod worked hard for their teams and with the score at the end of the first a huge 8-1 to Hind Quarters, remarkably this was brought back to 12-9 in Black Aces's favour at the end of the third. A fast and competitive last saw Black Aces run out the winners 16-12, 15/16 goals scored by Eden and 8/12 goals scored by Harold!

The MVP award, sponsored by Tiger's Treehouse, for the Fireside Polo evening went to George Fraemohs. Everyone at Druids was delighted when our homebred pony "Minute" won the Polo Times Best Playing Pony Prize.



**Best Playing Pony**  
Druids Lodge Polo Club's  
Minute



**Most Valuable Player**  
Sponsored by Tiger's Treehouse  
George Fraemohs



# Fireside Polo







# The Christmas Eve Trophy

5-6 Goal

24th December 2022

## Turkeys

James Moylan  
Hugo Ormerod  
Eden Ormerod

## Christmas Puddings

Claire Studdart  
Clare Macnamara  
Maurice Ormerod

## Pigs in Blankets

Julie Mackay  
Andrew Wessels  
Robin Ormerod



Three 5-6 goal teams, each captained by an Ormerod brother, were entered in the Christmas Eve Trophy and played an AMT of 2 chukka matches. Firstly Pigs in Blankets took on Christmas Puddings, a very close match resulting in a 5-5 draw. Christmas Puddings stayed on to take on Turkeys which looked set to be another draw except for a last minute two pointer from Maurice Ormerod. Finally Pigs in Blankets took on Turkeys, again an extremely close match just clinched by a 2 point goal from Robin Ormerod in the closing seconds. This resulted in something of a conundrum for the tournament committee with teams tied on points, goals scored and goals against. The obvious solution seemed to be an on-foot team run down which resulted in a victory for Christmas Puddings. Mulled wine and mince pies were definitely earned!

## Scores

Christmas Puddings - 5 5 - Pigs in Blankets

Turkeys - 6 7 - Christmas Puddings

Turkeys - 6 7 - Pigs in Blankets







# The Pig Trophy

## 0 - 2 Goal

### 7th - 8th January 2023

#### Black Aces

Claire Studdart  
Nathaniel Watson  
Jacob Watson

#### Abicare

Julie Mackay  
Anne-Marie/Jon Perry  
Ed Vigors

#### Druids

James Moylan  
George Fraemohs  
Abi Vigors

#### Xanthos

Scarlett Picksley  
Lottie Harper  
Andrew Wessels

Four teams took to the arena for the closing weekend of the Winter League, playing for the coveted Pig Trophy. On Saturday Druids Lodge beat Xanthos and Black Aces beat Abicare, securing themselves spots in the final.

First on the Sunday was the rather soggy subsidiary final between Xanthos and Abicare. A fairly even first half was followed by a strong second half for Xanthos with some accurate hitting and well organised defence. The score at the final bell was 13-9 to Xanthos.



Druids Lodge took on league winners and undefeated Black Aces in the final. Mercifully the rain had eased and this was a fast game with some brilliant team play from Black Aces. Druids had a strong second chukka but were unable to pin down the Watson brothers in the second half, Black Aces coming home the winners 13 goals to 6.

#### Subsidiary Final Score

Abicare - 9 13 - Xanthos

#### Final Score

Druids - 6 13 - Black Aces

#### Autumn League Champions

Black Aces







# The Sugar Bowl Trophy

## 2 Goal

### 14th January 2023

#### The Royal Air Force

Ross Thomson  
Vicky Woodhead  
Ed Whitechurch

#### Druids Lodge

James Moylan  
Lottie Harper  
George Fraemohs

The curtain raiser for the second Fireside event of the season was the new Sugar Bowl Trophy and we were pleased to welcome a Royal Air Force team to the arena to take on the home team. The RAF edged ahead in the first chukka but a strong second chukka for Druids Lodge, aided by some two pointers from George Fraemohs, put them ahead at half time. The RAF began to stage a comeback in chukka 3 but they couldn't quite catch the home team, all of whom have been playing a lot of arena polo this season and the score at the final bell was 15-11 to Druids Lodge.



#### Final Score

The Royal Air Force - 11 15 - Druids Lodge







# The Watersfield Trophy

## 6 - 8 Goal

### 14th January 2023

<b>Black Aces</b>	<b>Silverwood</b>
Anthony Bond	Hayley Hyde-Andrews
Jacob Watson	George Shelton
Maurice Ormerod	Robin Ormerod

**Final Score**  
Black Aces - 16 19 - Silverwood



Black Aces got off to a strong start in the 8 goal Watersfield Trophy final with the score 6-2 in their favour at the end of chukka 1. Silverwood found their groove in chukka 2 with Robin Ormerod and George Shelton notching up seven goals between them and some strong marking from Hayley Hyde-Andrews kept Maurice somewhat under control. The score sat at Black Aces 10 – Silverwood 9 at half time. Silverwood came out all guns blazing after half time with goals flying in in quick succession. Black Aces also kept up the pressure and were only a goal behind in the final chukka for a time before Silverwood opened the lead up again, the final score Silverwood 19 – Black Aces 16.







## Fireside Polo Evening

14th January 2023



**Best Playing Pony**  
Druids Lodge Polo Club's  
Caipirinha

Sponsored By:



**Most Valuable Player**  
Vicky Woodhead





# The Lismore Trophy

2 - 3 Goal

29th January 2023

Sponsored By:

**Data-IS**  
Data Intelligence  
Services

**Data-IS**

**Xanthos**

Ed Vigers  
Vicky Woodhead  
Jon Perry

Nathaniel Watson  
Lottie Harper  
George Fraemohs

Xanthos took on Data-IS in this year's Lismore Trophy, it was a close game with the teams seeming evenly matched. Data-IS were first out of the gates, scoring two goals in the first chukka and catching up with Xanthos's handicap advantage. A fast second chukka saw Xanthos creep ahead again, the score 5-4 at half time. Xanthos really found their feet in chukka three with a couple more goals and the benefit of a penalty 1 helping them to increase their lead, a late goal from Jon Perry of Data-IS in chukka four wasn't enough and the score at the final bell was Xanthos 10, Data-IS 7.



## Final Score

Data-IS - 7 10 - Xanthos





# The Valentine's Tournament

## 6 - 7 Goal

### 12th February 2023



Invitational  
Tournament  
(Away)

#### Druids Lodge

Vicky Woodhead  
Andrew Wessels  
Robin Ormerod

#### Tedworth Park

Ed Richards  
George Linfield-Brown  
Leon Allen

#### The Blue Penguins

James Spring  
Martin Del Papa  
Matt Simpson



A Druids team headed to Tedworth Park for the away leg of the invitational tournament. This was played as a round robin with Druids in the first four chukkas. Firstly they took on a strong Tedworth team and managed to take an early lead, helped by a great two pointer from Andrew Wessels. Tedworth nearly caught them in chukka 2 but some strong marking from Vicky Woodhead and a volley of goals from Robin secured victory 12-10. In the second match they took on The Blue Penguins who again kept them on their toes. The Druids team took the lead and kept just ahead, finishing two goals in front 9-7. With two victories under their belt they came home the winners!



#### Scores

Druids Lodge - 12 10 - Tedworth Park  
Druids Lodge - 9 7 - The Blue Penguins  
The Blue Penguins - 2 9 - Tedworth Park







# The Valentine Trophy & Play for a Cure Trophy

19th February 2023



## Ladies

Tasha Ball  
Lottie Harper  
Vicky Woodhead

## Gentlemen

James Moylan  
Nathaniel Watson  
George Fraemohs

## Dragonfly

Andrew Wessels  
Jacob Watson  
Robin Ormerod

## Seriously Cool Events

Jasmine Stanhope-White  
Matt Simpson  
Leon Allen

The Valentine Trophy was this year played as part of a charity day raising money for Cancer Research UK. The Play For A Cure Trophy was the first game of the day with two home teams taking part in a battle of the sexes, the Ladies vs. the Gentlemen. This was a close match with the Ladies eventually victorious 11-10 over the Gentlemen. Equine Products UK South West kindly sponsored the MVP, won by Lottie Harper, and the BPP, won by our very own Top Cat who was played by organiser, Tash Ball.



The Valentine Trophy, was played at 10 goal level with a visiting Seriously Cool Events team coming up against relative underdogs Dragonfly with a team aggregate of just 8 goals. Dragonfly started with a 4 goal lead which they worked hard to hold onto in the first half, remaining just a goal ahead at half time. Robin managed his team well and despite some great goals from Jazz Stanhope-White scores were still tied 17 all as they entered the last. The last chukka was fast and competitive with Seriously Cool Events taking the win with a final goal in the closing minutes, the score 21-20.

Best Playing Pony  
Sponsored By:

**EQUINE**  
PRODUCTS UK LTD



## Final Scores

Ladies - 11 10 - Gentlemen

Dragonfly - 20 21 - Seriously Cool Events

## Most Valuable Player

Lottie Harper

## Best Playing Pony

Druids Lodge Polo Club's Top Cat  
played by Tash Ball

Photos by  
Richard H J Shepherd







# The Bodensee Trophy

6 - 7 Goal

26th February 2023

## Watchman

George Fraemohs  
Jacob Watson  
Chris Thomé

## Dragonfly

Vicky Woodhead  
Andrew Wessels  
Robin Ormerod



The successful Wessels, Woodhead and Ormerod trio came together again to play as Dragonfly in the Bodensee Trophy, the last club match of the season. Their opponents, Watchman, started with a 2 goal handicap advantage but Dragonfly levelled the scores by half time, 8 all. Watchman were first out of the gates in chukka three with a two pointer from George Fraemohs but Dragonfly edged ahead and went into the last chukka ahead 12-11. Chukka 4 was the Dragonfly show with a volley of goals from Woodhead and Ormerod while Watchman were unfortunately caught on the hop, the final score Dragonfly 15 – Watchman 11.



## Final Score

Watchman - 11 15 - Dragonfly







# The Chatanooga Salver

## Winter League

### 18th February - 12th March 2023



**Black Aces**  
 Claire Studdart  
 Nathaniel Watson  
 Abi Vigors/  
 Anne Marie Perry

**Druids Lodge**  
 Julie Mackay  
 Paul Triance  
 George Fraemohs

**Data-IS**  
 James Moylan  
 Ed Vigors  
 Wilf Bate/  
 Hugh Bate



Claire Studdart



Nathaniel Watson



Abi Vigors



Julie Mackay



Paul Triance



George Fraemohs



James Moylan



Ed Vigors



Wilf Bate



Hugh Bate







# The Renshaw Trophy

## Winter League Finals

### 11th - 12th March 2023

**Black Aces**  
Julie Mackay  
Nathaniel Watson  
Wilf Bate/Hugh Bate

**Silverwood**  
Claire Studdart  
Hayley Hyde-Andrews  
Sam Tay

**Data-IS**  
James Moylan  
Lottie Harper  
Ed Vigors

**Watchman**  
Lotte Wilson  
Paul Triance  
George Fraemohs

The last weekend of the season, and the finals weekend of the Winter League, saw four teams take to the arena to battle it out for the Renshaw Trophy. Data-IS, league and Chatanooga Salver winners, had a resounding victory over Watchman in the first semi final on Saturday. Black Aces just pipped Silverwood to the post in the second game to join Data in Sunday's final.

The final was played bright and early on Sunday morning and Black Aces were first out of the gates, Data-IS were quick to respond and the score was tied 7 all as teams went into the last chukka. The last chukka went the way of Black Aces who notched up three goals to Data's 1 and came home the winners 10 – 8.



The subsidiary final between Silverwood and Watchman was a high scoring affair, again teams were closely matched and after three chukkas the score sat at 10 all. Watchman were first to score in the last and went on to have a great chukka with four more goals while Silverwood managed to get a further three between the posts. The score at the final bell Watchman 15, Silverwood 13.



#### Subsidiary Final Score

Silverwood - 13 15 - Watchman

#### Final Score

Data-IS - 10 8 - Black Aces

#### Winter League Champions

Data-IS





## Life at Druids







# Arena Handicaps

2023-24 Season

6

Ormerod, Eden

5

Ormerod, Maurice

Ormerod, Robin

4

McCraith, Stephen

2

Fraemohs, George

Perry, Jonathan

Thomé, Chris

Watson, Jacob

Woodhead, Vicky

1

Bate, Hugh

Bate, Wilfred

Bond, Anthony

Harper, Lottie

Vigors, Abi

Watson, Nathaniel

Wessels, Andrew

0

Bate, Oliver

Moylan, James

Perry, Anne Marie

Picksley, Scarlett

Triance, Paul

Vigors, Edward

Wilson, Lotte

-1

Bate, Adam

Mackay, Julie

Northern, Sue

Studdart, Claire



# Most Improved Player

## Arena Season

### James Moylan





# James Moylan

**What was your favourite game this season?**

Fireside event - Stirrup Cup under the floodlights.

The game was a high scoring draw, it was fast paced and very enjoyable end to end polo.

**Who was your best bpp and why?**

Easy, Icarus. For me playing a pony that really knows the game is very important. He allows me to focus more on my polo and gives additional confidence when playing. He's solid.

**Who was your hardest opposition?**

Black Aces Autumn League team. They were extremely well organised and dominated the league.

**What area of your game do you think has come on the most this year?**

General riding for polo. It still has a long way to go, but from where it was at the beginning of the season I am quite happy with the progress.

**What aspect of your game do you want to improve on next year?**

Reading the game, being able to slow down, analyse the play and make a calculated decision on my next move; on numerous occasions this year, I have found myself charging into plays without preempting the next phase....all very gung-ho!





## Schools/Junior Polo



Schools' and Junior polo at Druids has gone from strength to strength this year with more tournaments and matches being hosted. In the arena, we have welcomed teams from Eton who played both Marlborough and Sherborne as well as Marlborough, Sherborne, Bishops Wordsworth and individuals from the New Forest participating in a series of fierce matches, showcasing the ability of so many young players coming through in the sport!

A great example of this is Wilf Bate being selected to play in the Stagshead Trophy at the International Day in Summer 2022.









# University Polo



The university students returned in late September for another academic year filled with enthusiasm and polo! We kicked off the year with taster sessions both down in Exeter and at home, attracting many new faces wanting to give the sport a try. Throughout the winter, lessons ploughed on with many of the new students getting their first taste of competition polo just before Christmas. As we do every year, we descended on Rugby Polo Club in early February for the SUPA University National Championships where alongside many team successes, the MVPs for both arenas were playing Druids' horses.

As well as success on home turf, one of our homegrown players who now plays for the University of Exeter Polo Club, Lottie Harper was selected to represent the UK Women's Team in the Tri-Nations Women's International Arena Polo Cup in India









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