

CLUB

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 FEBRUARY 2017



IN THIS ISSUE

Afternoon Tea
in the
Chairman's Bar

Photos from the
Christmas Fete and
New Year's Eve Party,

Match Reports

and more...



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Hong Kong Football Club

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 Website: www.hkfc.com.hk

Contents

GENERAL COMMITTEE

- President : Dermot Agnew
- Vice President : Fook Aun Chew
- Vice President : Nick Hunsworth
- Vice President : Bobby Lawson
- Vice President : Iain Valentine
- Chairman : John Shanahan
- Hon. Secretary : Mike Wood
- Hon. Treasurer : Alan Morgan
- Constitutional Affairs : Jeff Lane
- Development : Peter Crabtree
- Discipline : James Niehorster
- Membership : Maurice O'Brien
- Hockey Officer : Charles Poulton
- Lawn Bowls Officer : Mike Worth
- Rugby Officer : Ian Petersen
- Soccer Officer : Neil Jensen
- Squash Officer : Malcolm Kerr

MANAGEMENT

- General Manager : Mark Pawley
- Director of Operations : Tony Sealy
- Director of Food and Beverage : Dominique Artigolle
- Director of Finance : Ricky Chan
- Asst. Financial Controller : May Chang
- Executive Chef : Patrick Lau
- Facilities Manager : Evan Tao
- Membership Services Manager : Kerry Ogle
- Human Resources Manager : Angela Chan
- Executive Housekeeper : Tracy Tseung

CLUB MAGAZINE

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. Arranged by Karen Chan-Mulvenna. For information and requests for placement of advertisements in "Club" please call 2830 9503. The opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Hong Kong Football Club or the General Committee. The Club reserves the right to edit and clarify all content. The copyright of all materials is held by the Hong Kong Football Club.

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The Thoughts of the Chairman



*John J Shanahan,
Chairman*

Welcome to the Year of the Rooster and Kung Hei Fat Choy! I wish you all a healthy, happy and prosperous new year ahead. By the time you read this, the traditional **Lion Dance** to welcome in the New Year and usher in good fortune for the Club and its Members will be imminent and will be held at the front entrance of the Clubhouse commencing **11.30am on Sunday 5th February**. This is always an enjoyable event for Members and their children as they watch the acrobatics of the dancers and follow them around the Club as the Lion goes from room to room to perform the traditional custom of “cai qing”, which literally means “plucking the greens”; a quest by the Lion to pluck auspicious green vegetables such as lettuce and spring onions which are placed around the Clubhouse at various locations. I should remind you that just before and during the acrobatic display the entrance to the Car Park will be closed to set up the high poles for use by the acrobats (and to accommodate the crowd of Members and their children watching the display),

so please do not bring your car to park at the Club during this time as you will be denied entry until it is safe to do so.

I will also mention that the Club has been awarded the Caring Company Logo in recognition of our club’s commitment in Caring for the Community, Employees and the Environment over the past few years. This award is given to companies who have demonstrated good corporate citizenship, recognized the concept of corporate social responsibility, and taken on responsibility to care for the community.

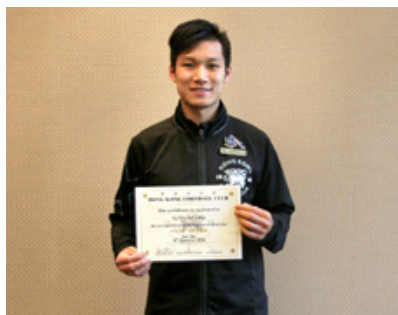
In closing, may I say congratulations to the three Staff members pictured below who are winners of the fourth quarter Star Award. They will go forward with the other quarterly Star Award winners to the finals of the Star Awards; the lucky winners of which will be announced at the **Staff Party on Sunday 12th February**.

*John J Shanahan,
Chairman*

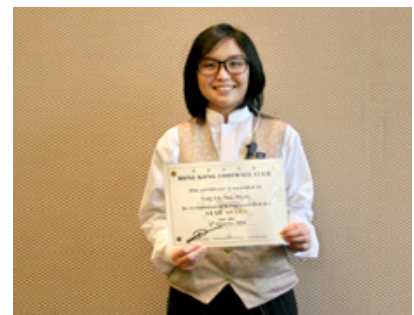
2016 Q4 Staff Star Award



Clara Chan - Front Office



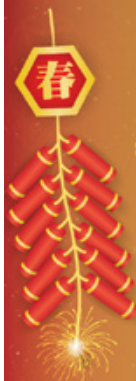
Eddie Ng – Sports



Mandy Tong - F&B (Coffee Shop)

Lion Dance

at the Club
Sunday 5th February 2017



We will be holding our special Lion Dance at the Club which starts at the Front Entrance of the Club at 11.30am.

For those of you that have not seen this spectacle then do, try and make a date to watch it! A must watch entertainment for all our Members.



Club Closure for Annual Staff Party

Sunday 12th February
CLOSE AT 5PM
(Car Park will also be closed)

Monday 13th February
RE-OPEN AT 9AM



For Sale CORPORATE SUBSCRIBERSHIPS

The HKFC is currently offering 50 Corporate Subscriberships for sale, at a price of HK\$3.3m each, to help fund the future renovation of the HKFC.

On purchase of a Corporate Subscribership a company becomes a Corporate Member and is entitled to nominate an individual and their immediate family to enjoy the benefits of membership of the HKFC.

More information can be obtained by contacting Kerry Ogle, Membership Services Manager on 2830 9502 or by email to membership@hkfc.com.

For information on HKFC facilities please view the website at www.hkfc.com.hk

Interested parties should submit a written application to:

The Membership Services Manager
Hong Kong Football Club,
3 Sports Road, Happy Valley, Hong Kong



香港足球會
HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

From the Desk of Mark Pawley



Mark Pawley,
General Manager

For those of you who attended the Club's Christmas Fete and New Year's Eve Party please see some of the photographs from both of these events on pages 7-9 of this magazine. If you're not pictured or simply want to see more photographs from the Fete or the Party, then you can download a QR code reader on your smartphone and scan the code on those pages for more photographs.

On the food and beverage front, I note the **Italian Wine Tour Dinner** which will be held in the Restaurant on **Friday 10th February**. The wines look very interesting as does the dinner menu. As ever, please, do look to book early to avoid disappointment.

Lunch times at the Club these days, during the week, are also quite interesting where we have the **Weekday Light Lunch Buffet** in the Coffee Shop, the **Set Lunch with Starter Buffet** in the Restaurant and **Lunchscape** in the Chairman's Bar where the **Carvery Set Lunch** (with our renowned slow cooked Prime Rib) is the major feature. In short, we have something for everyone so do please try and make it down to the Club during the week for Lunch, if you are not already, that is!

These days the Chairman's Bar is putting on an **Afternoon Tea** daily from 3pm and 6pm. I note too the special promotional price for a glass of "bubbly" in the form of **Veuve Clicquot** in the Chairman's Bar — a nice complement to an Afternoon Tea, perhaps?

In the Coffee Shop we continue with the popular **Raclette Dinner** promotion available every evening Monday to Thursday. And, this month we re-introduce the **All You Can Eat Shabu Shabu Winter Warmer** promotion available every Friday and Saturday evening.

Not to be outdone, the Sportsman's Bar introduces a **Bowl Pie** promotion available daily and, every Friday from 6pm to 10pm and every Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon to 2.30pm and 6pm to 10pm we have our **Curry Temptations** promotion where the Buffet features four different curries along with a salad, traditional condiments, naan bread and rice etc.

Don't forget too, the **NFL Super Bowl and the Super Big Breakfast** in the Sportsman's Bar on **Monday 7th February**. Doors open (to the Sportsman's Bar) at 6am with the match "Live" from 7am onwards. You will definitely need to book for this event so please do so by ringing the Sportsman's Bar on 2830 9531 or email sportsmans@hkfc.com.

And, finally, two things not to forget is **Valentine's Day** (at the Club) on the **14th February** and a reminder that **the Club, including the Car Park, will be closed from 5pm on Sunday 12th February, due to the Annual Staff Party, reopening on Monday 13th February at 9am.**

Mark Pawley,
General Manager

Notice to Members: Digital Publications available at the Library

Please note that the Club has now subscribed to a UK digital media company to provide a wide variety of UK newspapers (around a dozen) and magazines (over 70 different publications) for you to read on the Movie and Book Library computer or on iPad (provided by us in the Library). Enjoy your reading at the Club!



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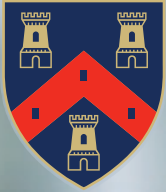
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- Reception (K2)

Opening September 2017

Preparatory City Campus

- Years 1 – 6

Opening September 2017

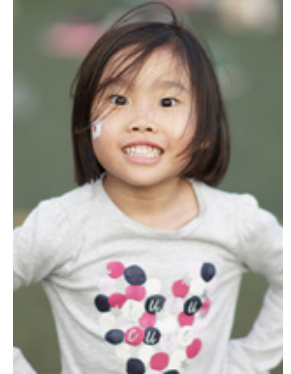
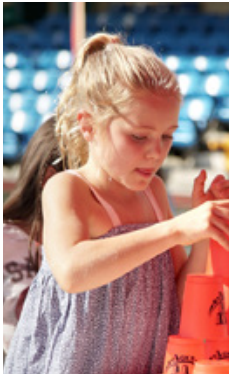
Tuen Mun Campus

- Year 1 – 8

Opening September 2018

Photos from the Christmas Fête Saturday 10th December

A fun-filled afternoon of Christmas Festivities including face painting, games, fantastic music and great entertainers!



Download a QR code reader on your smartphone and scan this code to download and view more pictures.



Photos from the New Year's Eve Party Saturday 31st December

Members and Guests kicked off the new year in style in one of the biggest NYE party in town.



Download a QR code reader on your smartphone and scan this code to download pictures.





IN THE RESTAURANT

Italian Wine Tour Dinner

Pre-dinner Drink and Canapés

Terenzi, Morellino di Scansano DOCG, 2013, *Tuscany, Italy*
Mussel with Pancetta
Slowed Cook Beef with Horseradish Mayonnaise

Dinner Menu

1st Course

Foffani, Pinot Grigio, 2014, *Friuli, Italy*
Broiled Cod Fish Fillet Meunière
Baby Root Vegetables

2nd Course

Cusumano, Benuara, 2014, *Sicily, Italy*
Roasted Porchetta Stuffed with Spinach and Minced Mushroom
and Shanghai Pak Choi

Main Course

Musella, Amarone della Valpolicella, 2009, *Veneto, Italy*
Grilled US Fillet Mignon with Truffles Mashed Potatoes
Sautéed Spinach with Pine Nuts
Red Wine Reduction

Dessert

Giribaldi, Moscato d'Asti, 2014, *Piedmont, Italy*
Homemade Chocolate Fondant with Vanilla Ice cream
Chocolate Sauce

Coffee or Tea
Petits Fours

in the Restaurant Friday 10th February

7.30pm to 7.50pm: Pre-dinner drinks
8.00pm to 11.00pm: Dinner

\$598 per member
\$648 per member's guest

Limited Seats Available

Please contact the Restaurant at
2830 9562 for a reservation or email:
restaurant@hkfc.com

**All the wines will be served in limited quantity*

**Cancellations or amendments must be
emailed to the restaurant and must be made
before Monday 30th January 2017; otherwise
full payment will be debited to the member's
account unless there are exceptional
circumstances*

**A la Carte will not be available on that evening*

IN THE RESTAURANT AND COFFEE SHOP

VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

Saturday 11th and Tuesday 14th February

IN THE RESTAURANT

Pre-Valentine's Day - Saturday 11th February

Time : 7pm to 10.30pm

Price : 4-course menu at \$498 per person
*(with a glass of complementary Veuve Clicquot
Yellow Label)*

*A La Carte Menu will also be available.

For bookings please call the Restaurant at 2830 9562 or email
at restaurant@hkfc.com

IN THE COFFEE SHOP

Special Evening with Family and Friends: Chinese Hot Pot Buffet inclusive of a Steamed Jumbo Scallop with Garlic per Adult - Tuesday 14th February

Time : 6.30pm to 9.30pm

Price : \$298 per Adult, \$178 per Child (age 3-12)

Our hot pot selection will spoil you for choice. Cooked with lavish ingredients like Wagyu Beef, Japanese Black Pork, Prawns and Scallops in various soup bases. **Every Adult ordering the Hot Pot Buffet will receive a complimentary Steamed Jumbo Scallop with Garlic.**

You can also enjoy free flow of soft drinks or chilled juice for 2 hours for just \$45 more per person, or enjoy free flow of Carlsberg for 2 hours for just \$68 more per person.

Please call the Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 for more details.

IN THE RESTAURANT

Valentine's Day - Tuesday 14th February A Valentine Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label Champagne Dinner

Time : 7pm to 10.30pm

Price : \$750 per person *(with welcome Champagne Rosé
and unlimited flow of Champagne)*
\$680 per person *(without Champagne)*

Price includes a welcome glass of Veuve Clicquot Rosé and a 5-course "His and Her Set Menu" with unlimited flow of Champagne Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label.

*A La Carte Menu will not be available.

For bookings please call the Restaurant at 2830 9562 or
email at restaurant@hkfc.com

Last day for Cancellation: **Friday 3rd February**

*Cancellation made after this date will be charged in full to the Member's account, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Valentine's Day 5-course Menu

Amuse Bouche

(Her) Lobster Roulade / Oscietra Caviar and
(His) Seared Foie Gras / Quince Paste /
Cranberry Reduction / Brioche

1st Course

(Her) Spanish Red Prawn Carpaccio and
(His) Beef Tartar / Mache Lettuce / Quail Egg / Caviar

2nd Course

(Both) King Crab Bisque / Lobster Foam / Chives /
Sweet Pimento Powder

3rd Course

(Both) Yuzu Sorbet / Sesame Tuile / Raspberry Pearl

4th Course

(Her) Salmon Confit / Champagne Cream Sauce /
Salmon Roe / Seasonal Vegetables and Baby Fennel and
(His) Herb Crusted Lamb Loin / Pommes Anna /
Morel Mushroom / Lamb Reduction

5th Course

(Both) Dessert Temptation
Valrhona Chocolate Mousse
Cocoa Sponge Cake/Praline Feuilletine

Coffee and Tea | Petits Fours





Lunch at the Club

THE RESTAURANT

Monday to Friday
from Noon to 2.30pm
Set Lunch with Starter Buffet
2 Courses: \$175
3 Courses: \$195
includes Coffee or Tea

THE COFFEE SHOP

Monday to Thursday
from Noon to 2.30pm
Light Lunch Buffet
\$138 (Adult); \$75 (Child)
Friday to Sunday
from Noon to 2.30pm
International Lunch Buffet
\$165 (Adult); \$80 (Child)

THE CHAIRMAN'S BAR

Monday to Friday
from Noon to 2.30pm
"Carvery" Set Lunch
2 Courses: \$125
3 Courses: \$148

'LUNCHSCAPE'

in the Chairman's Bar

Monday to Friday from Noon to 2.30pm

Make the Chairman's Bar your midday getaway for a delicious lunch.

The "Carvery Set Lunch" features our famous slow cooked Prime Rib during the weekday. Starter as well as dessert will be served.

It's great value with unmatched ambience.

BEER, GREAT WHISKY AND WINE COLLECTION

in the Chairman's Bar

throughout the month of February

Featuring a selection of locally brewed beers, 24 whiskies from around the world (single malt and blended), 14 unique craft whiskies from USA, Taiwan, India, Iceland, Japan, Scotland and England and 11 highly rated wines carefully selected from Bordeaux, Burgundy, Italy and Australia.

Opening hours:

Mon - Sat: Noon - Midnight

Sunday: 11am - Midnight

SUNDAY BRUNCH

in the Restaurant and Chairman's Bar

every Sunday from 11am to 2.30pm throughout the month of February

The Brunch will now feature an extended buffet spread, with more varieties and options to choose from. Live cooking stations are still here, as well as old favourites such as the cascading chocolate fountain, delectable sushi and fresh oysters corner.

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

Dress Code: Club Casual

No Collarless T-shirts, no Flip Flops or sandals with socks, no short Casual Shorts (Knee length – no beach wear).

Ladies are required to dress to a comparable standard.

SUNDAY DINNER BUFFET WITH MORE SEAFOOD CHOICES

In the Restaurant

every Sunday for dinner from 6.30pm to 9.30pm throughout the month of February

Throughout the month of February, the Restaurant will be offering a mouth-watering Sunday Dinner Buffet featuring Asian-style fish and Seafood.

Seafood will include Atlantic cold-water scallops, salmon, mussels, calamari, cod fish, abalone and garoupa. *(All items are served on a rotation basis.)*

IRRESISTIBLE OYSTER EXPERIENCE

in the Chairman's Bar

every day from 4.30pm to 10.30pm

Available daily at only \$15 each *(minimum order of a half dozen)*

Oysters are a good source of iron, which helps the body to transport oxygen to individual cells to give us more energy. They are also high in potassium and calcium. Enjoy this offer while it lasts!





**SAVE WATER
DRINK
VEUVE CLICQUOT**

Every day at the Chairman's Bar
Join us for Bubbles!
You buy a glass,
the next is on us!

Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label

\$68 PER GLASS



*Afternoon Tea
in the Chairman's Bar*

*Available daily
from 3pm to 6pm*


*Enjoy an afternoon tea set with
family and friends. Tea set
includes home-made canapés,
savouries and pastries with your
choice of tea and coffee.*



\$84 per person
(minimum of two orders per table)

Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label for \$68 per glass
You buy a glass, the next is on us!

**This offer is only applicable if the Tea Set is ordered*



*All You Can Eat
"Irresistible
Asian Flavours"
at the Restaurant*

**Saturday 18th February
from Noon to 2.30pm**

\$178 per Adult Member
\$198 per Adult non-Member
\$88 per Child Member (age 3-12)
\$108 per Child non-Member (age 3-12)

A casual way to catch up with friends and family. Our Asian Lunch Buffet includes cuisine from Thailand, Singapore, Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia and some Dai Pai Dong specials too.

Served on a rotating basis, the Asian Lunch Buffet will include: *Tom Yam Kung, Sautéed Prawns and Mussels with Chili Paste and Basil Leaves, Sautéed Chilli Crab, Hainan Chicken Rice, Bat Kut Teh (Pork Spare Rib Soup with Mixed Spice and Herbs), Malaysian Satay, Ginseng Chicken Soup, Jap Chae (Stir-fried Potato Noodle with Prawn and Scallop), Bana Hoi (Rice Vermicelli in Lettuce Wrap), Tom Viet (Broiled Vietnamese Prawns with Garlic Butter), Kon Kaeb (Sautéed Frog Legs with Lemon Grass and Ginger), Ang dtray-meuk (Grilled Squid), Sautéed Clam in Black Bean and Chili Sauce and Crispy Pork Spare Rib with Golden Garlic.*

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

Raclette Dinner

In the Coffee Shop

**every Monday to Thursday
from 6.30pm to 9.30pm
throughout the month of February**

Experience Alpine flavours this month with a Raclette Dinner. Raclette is a type of melted cheese served on a platter with boiled potatoes, cold cuts and pickles. It also comes with a side of green salad to complete the meal. It is a must-try in the Coffee Shop this month.

\$132 / plate
\$298 / unlimited Raclette



Photo for reference only

ALL YOU CAN EAT SHABU SHABU WINTER WARMER

In the Coffee Shop

Friday and Saturday
from 6.30pm to 9.30pm
throughout the month of February

Shabu-shabu is traditionally served with only tofu and vegetables. Nowadays, a great variety of ingredients are used.

In the Coffee Shop, we are offering a Shabu-shabu experience with beef, pork, leafy vegetables, mushrooms, noodles, dumplings, prawns, fish, squid, crab legs and more.

For more information please call the Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 or email at coffeshop@hkfc.com.



SEMI DINNER BUFFET

In the Coffee Shop

Monday to Thursday
from 6.30pm to 9.30pm
throughout the month of February

Treat yourself to a selection from our appetizers buffet, made-to-order main courses and tempting desserts.

Please call the Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 for more details.



F&B promotion in the Sportsman's Bar

CURRY TEMPTATIONS

In the Sportsman's Bar

every Friday from 6pm to 10pm
every Saturday and Sunday:
Lunch from 12noon to 2.30pm,
Dinner from 6pm to 10pm

The special Curry Buffet features four different curries, salad, traditional condiments, naan bread and basmati rice.

\$118 per Adult
\$72 per Child





in the Sportsman's Bar

NFL SUPERBOWL 2017

For American Football lovers, the Super Bowl 2017 will be shown in the early hours of **Monday 6th February**, HK time, so mark your calendars!

Join us for the traditional **Super Bowl Early Breakfast** including all the Mary mixes and the full breakfast buffet selection. The **Sportsman's Bar will open from 6.00am** for the complete build up to what some say is the most watched final in the world. It is not just a game it is a party.

Please call the Sportsman's Bar at 2830 9531 to book your seat or email : sportsmans@hkfc.com

SOCCER

The English Premier League continues to take the spotlight with plenty of important games, please check the Sports Notice Board for updates.

RUGBY

The European Rugby Championship Cup and Aviva Premiership continues throughout the month of February. Also coming up is the Six Nations Championship. The first 2 matches are on Saturday 4th February 2017 and the last 2 matches will be on Saturday 18th March 2017.

GOLF

The Omega Dubai Desert Classic Golf Championship is from 2nd to 5th February and the USPGA Genesis Open is from 16th to 19th February, with Tiger Woods playing his first event in 2017.

F&B promotion in the Sportsman's Bar

BOWL PIE

in the Sportsman's Bar

We introduce a new pie menu this month, where you may enjoy different kinds of homemade pies throughout the month of February. Also, for an extra \$25, you can enjoy a bowl of soup with your "Bowl Pie".



IN THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

NFL SUPER BOWL AND THE SUPER BIG BREAKFAST



**Monday 6th February 2017
in the Sportsman's Bar
Live from 7am
\$128 per person**

**A full English Breakfast Buffet including:
Eggs, Fried Bread, Sausage, Mushrooms,
Grilled Tomato, Bacon, Baked Beans,
Hash Browns, Toast, Coffee or Tea**

Booking Procedures:

- Entrance to the Club at 6.00am is restricted to the Sportsman's Bar only. The rest of the Club will open at normal hours.
- Guests must be accompanied by a Member.
- Children under 12 years old are not permitted.
- Children between 13 and 17 years old must be accompanied by a Member.
- Tickets are non refundable and will be automatically charged to the Member's account.
- For further details and assistance please contact Sportsman's Bar at 2830 9531 or email: sportsmans@hkfc.com.
- Should the number of bookings be insufficient, the event may have to be cancelled.



MARCH PREVIEW

The Palate Friendly And Wallet Worthy Dinner

We have found some enjoyable and good value wines from small producers in the Loire Valley, Rhône Valley, Bordeaux, Languedoc and Provence and we are pairing them with uncomplicated food.

Join us for a fun, relaxing evening with a good selection of wines and a tasty menu prepared by our Executive Chef Patrick.

DATE and TIME

Friday 17th March

7:30pm - 7:50pm: Pre-dinner drink

8:00pm - 11:00pm: Dinner

PRICE

\$438 per Member

\$498 per non-Member

Limited Seats Available

RESERVATION

Tel: 2830 9562

Email: restaurant@hkfc.com

**All the wines will be served in limited quantity;*

Cancellations or amendments must be emailed to the Restaurant and must be made before **Tuesday 7th March 2017; otherwise full payment will be debited to the member's account unless there are exceptional circumstances;*

**A la Carte will not be available on that evening*

Canapés

Les Tourettes Rosé 2014

Provence, France

Black olive tapenade on toast

1st Course

Chateau Nicot, Entre Deux Mers 2015

Bordeaux, France

Cognac shrimp on a bed of linguine pasta

2nd Course

Delas Freres, Côtes du Rhône Blanc

"Saint Esprit" 2015

Rhône Valley, France

Confit salmon

sautéed marble potato and samphire in butter sauce

Main Course

Clos de L'Elu, Indigene 2014

Loire Valley, France

Slow braised lamb shoulder with rosemary jus green pea/feta/pine nut/quince jelly

Dessert

By Jeff Carrel "Les Darons" 2014

Languedoc, France

Caramel Pear Tarte Tatin
crème anglaise

feel small...

Society tells us to live large. To want bigger cars and even bigger houses.
But when you gaze up at towering glaciers, and see more stars than you could ever possibly count,
you feel something new. You feel small.

7 Days Mexican Riviera

Ruby Princess | Roundtrip from Los Angeles

Los Angeles, California | Puerto Vallarta, Mexico | Mazatlan, Mexico |
Cabo San Lucas, Mexico | Los Angeles, California

18, 25Feb# | 4, 11, 25Mar | 8Apr 2017

*This sailing will feature "Entertainer of the year" **HKD6,348^{up}**

How cool to "Feel Small":



All Fares INCLUDE Taxes, Fee & Port Expenses.



8 Days Circle Hokkaido 13, 26Jul* | 20Aug | 5, 18Sep | 10Oct2017

Diamond Princess | Roundtrip from Tokyo (Yokohama)

Tokyo (Yokohama), Japan | Kushiro, Japan | Shiretoko Peninsula [Scenic Cruising], Japan |
Korsakov (Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk), Russia | Otaru, Japan |
Hakodate, Japan | Tokyo (Yokohama), Japan

* This is a 9 days sailing, will feature **Nebuta Festival** and call to Aomori as well. **HKD12,083^{up}**



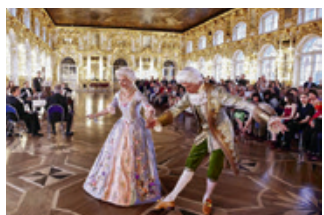
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8 Days Circle Japan 28Aug | 9Oct2017

Diamond Princess | Roundtrip from Tokyo (Yokohama)

Tokyo (Yokohama), Japan | Miyazaki (Aburatsu), Japan |
Busan, South Korea | Sakaiminato, Japan | Tsuruga, Japan |
Akita, Japan | Tokyo (Yokohama), Japan

HKD11,773^{up}



11 Days Scandinavia & Russia Apr to Aug2017

Regal Princess | Roundtrip from Copenhagen

Copenhagen, Denmark | Oslo, Norway | Berlin (Warnemunde),
Germany | Tallinn, Estonia | St. Petersburg, Russia [Overnight] |
Helsinki, Finland | Stockholm, Sweden | Copenhagen, Denmark

~~HKD18,477^{up}~~
HKD15,919^{up}



14 Days Iceland & British Isles 28Aug2017

Pacific Princess | Roundtrip from London (Dover)

London (Dover), England | Dublin, Ireland | Oban, Scotland | Seydisfjordur, Iceland |
Akureyri, Iceland | Grundarfjordur, Iceland | Reykjavik, Iceland |
Belfast, Northern Ireland | Liverpool, England | London (Dover), England

~~HKD31,459^{up}~~
HKD29,754^{up}



10th Wing Ding Squash Tournament

The 18th Wing Ding got underway in mid-November. Fourteen teams of ten players played in this frenetic running squash game where players have to get as many points as they can against each other team.

■ by John Thompson





This year the costumes were again a mix of the weird, wonderful and scary including minions, green monsters and undertakers. The entertainment around the courts was truly brilliant even if in some cases there wasn't too much to be left to the imagination with the outfits. The ISRC (Black) team took the top honours with their best costume.

Best Kit/Outfit Results (Top 3)

- 1. ISRC (Black) - 265 pts
- 2. LRC (Pink) - 245 pts
- 3. RHKYC (Green) - 245 pts

For the overall squash game, Simon Ng scored a very good 169 points and was the top number 10 player. For the top players, Hugo Ho scored 203 points as the top number 2 player and ISRC's Rudi Willemse was the top number one player and top scorer overall with a remarkable 215 points. The overall winners were the Kowloon

Cricket Club with an overall score of 1,524 points with the HK Cricket Club in second and Harrow Star in third.

As this is a charity event and also a part of **Operation Santa Claus (OSC)**, an annual charity campaign jointly organized by the South China Morning Post and RTHK, a mention goes to the **Spankers** team who raised **HKD 47,200** for charity and were the top overall fundraiser. The total amount raised was **HKD 242,950** before taking into account other donations and the raffle.

Over the years, Operation Santa Claus donors have raised over HK\$110 million in funds and encouraged Hongkongers to share their good fortune with the needy during the winter festive season.

Big thanks to **Dave Murray** and the **Wing Ding sub-committee** for their organizational skills and putting together this great event. ■



Wing Ding Tournament Results

Position	Team	Pts	Total Pts	Total Raised
1	Kowloon Cricket Club (Silver)	155	1,524	HK\$5,500
2	HK Cricket Club (Turquoise)	235	1,486	HK\$23,700
3	Harrow Star (Purple)	220	1,449	HK\$5,300
4	HKFC A-Team (Orange)	215	1,425	HK\$18,000
5	HK Swingers (Brown)	190	1,376	HK\$6,000
6	CWB ALLSORTS (Red)	125	1,372	HK\$42,750
7	American Club (White)	230	1,347	HK\$24,000
8	ISRC (Black)	265	1,322	HK\$31,100
9	Royal HK Yacht Club (Green)	245	1,315	HK\$9,300
10	Ladies Rec. Club (Pink)	245	1,271	HK\$7,000
11	Black Whistles (TROPICAL)	150	1,262	HK\$5,000
12	Revolution Chimera (Gold)	155	1,252	HK\$6,000
13	Utd Services Rec.Club (Yellow)	240	1,229	HK\$12,100
14	Spankers (Blue)	175	1,216	HK\$47,200

Name	Team	Points
Rudi Willemse	ISRC	215
Hugo Ho	Kowloon Cricket Cl	203
Ray Man	Harrow Star	197
Rajesh Nihalani	HK Swingers	150
Niaz Rehman	Kowloon Cricket Cl	154
Stuart Gates	HKFC A-Team	170
Alex O'Dell	HK Cricket Club	166
Jo Piasecki	Ladies Rec. Club	164
Phoebe Leung	Kowloon Cricket Cl	151
Simon Ng	Harrow Star	169

Total Donations Raised by Teams:
HK\$ 242,950

Position	Top Kits / Outfit	Points
1	ISRC (Black)	265
2	Ladies Rec. Club (Pink)	245
3	Royal HK Yacht Club (Green)	245

Top Fund Raisers	
Spankers	HK\$47,200
CWB ALLSORTS	HK\$42,750
ISRC	HK\$31,100

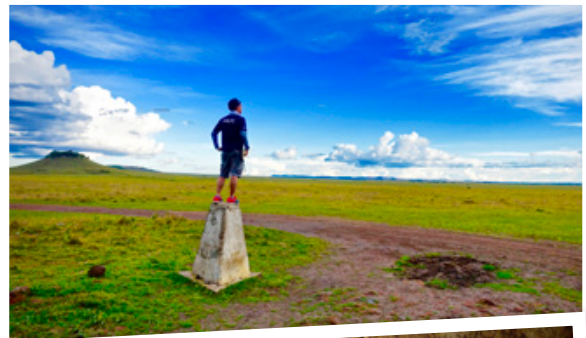


Squash Kit Must Travel

The Squash Kit continues to travel. This month, we have entries from **Jame Zhang** (from Kenya), **George Chan** (from Cuba) and **Eric Ho** (from Japan).



George Chan looking very local in Cuba



James Zhang at the Kenya/ Tanzania Border (top) and Hells Gate, Kenya (above)



Eric Ho looking cold but in good spirits in Otaru Sapporo

Monthly Ladder Movers

Men's

James Osmund (67)

Dave Robinson (53)

Max Kerr (51)

Simon Ho (50)

Ladies Ladder

Elizabeth Pompea (10)

Jenny Or (7)

Blade Junior

Fabrice Pascal (14)

Kayla Zheng (8)

HKFC Junior

Andrew Sheary (6)

Carlos Ng (4)





Conor Cole, Rugby Section Captain

At the Coleface

Happy New Year from the Rugby Section!

With all our Members looking forward to a decent break at the end of the month, our focus was on an intense 3 weeks of rugby and celebrations.

Club started the month with an unfortunate loss against HK Scottish at 34 – 22 points. They then went on to hammer USRC Tigers by 42 – 17 at King's Park. Our premiership side finished off 2016 with an emphatic win against Kowloon by 17-11, and went into the Christmas break with high spirits.

Dragons had good pre-Christmas results winning their two games, the first was against Gai Wu, whom Drags beat by 63 points, they then had a closer game against USRC Tigers, which they narrowly won by 16-13. Continuing their run at the top of the table.

Scorpions lost their first game in December

against USRC Tigers who have now bested our second team in NL1 on both occasions. They recovered quickly though and went on to beat Gai Wu by 42-24 in their only other game that month.

Select only had one fixture in December, however they continued their great run with a win against Valley by 43-10, always great to smash the rivals on our home turf.

Bulls beat Gai Wu in NL2 by 43-3 and then clocked a win against Kowloon Specials at 20-0.

Similarly to Select, Sequins only had one game in December, and they too beat Valley by 17-10, and this time away.

Unfortunately Expendables lost to Valley by 2 points in a close game at King's Park. However they bounced back quickly the next week with a massive win at Sandy Bay against the Disciplined Services Development

Squad at 52-9.

Due to scheduling Ice didn't have a game in December, though Fire won their game against Gai Wu Hawks at King's Park in the women's NL2 by 5 points at 10-5.

So across the board a lot of great results for the Section going into the Christmas break, leaving us in a good position going into the business end of the season in numerous leagues, and a lot to look forward to over the holidays. A number of the team managers have kindly written a few words about their Christmas parties below.

In January, we're looking forward to some key games across all leagues for our teams aiming to collect silverware, in the form of both league wins and GC's. I look forward to hopefully getting back with more great results and rugby news for you before Chinese New Year.

Cheers, **Conor**

Select and Scorpions' Traditional Christmas Party/Carol Service

■ by **Nicholas Conlon**

The Select and Scorpions teams held their traditional Christmas Party earlier in December, with their partners (bravely!) joining in the fun of the evening. It's always a great opportunity for the teams to get together around the festive period, sing Christmas carols and have the customary fine session to punish the various heinous crimes which seem very important at the time. This year was no exception!

After dinner, our very own 110kg ex-choir boy **Tim Carpenter** firmly cupped himself and opened up the singing with a wonderful,

although rather high pitched, rendition of *Once in Royal David's City*, much to the bewilderment of the staff but delight of the stray cat population. As per tradition, everyone then chipped in with a festive song before we moved onto the usual teams songs performed by the stalwart Select Captain **Robert Hartley**, Rugby Section Captain **Conor Cole** and joint effort for the cherished *Bohemian Rhapsody*.

The night was rounded off in superb style when **Rupert Gerald** gave us a delightful surprise by blowing a few songs on his



bagpipes. Especially impressive considering only moments earlier he'd performed another trick of reshewing much of the audience his dinner following a, firmly justified, series of fines.

The night then ascended into the usual high brow refinement of Wan Chai where the team continued their ongoing support for the local hospitality industry.

A few customary sore heads the next morning, but already looking forward to next year!



Bulls Christmas Dinner

■ by John Norris and Paudi Dundon

This year the annual HKFC Bulls/Expendables infamous Christmas Party took place on 3rd December. A strong attendance this year, which was made up of a healthy mixture of both current and former Bulls, along with Rugby Section Captain **Conor Cole**. The evening started in civilised fashion with a glass or two of champagne, swiftly followed by tasty starters and choice of wholesome steaks or gourmet burger for mains. As is the standard, the food was washed down with gallons of wine and beer. To accompany the feeding, **Paudie** stepped up as MC to ensure that all due persons received the awards and just recognition for both on and off pitch achievements so far this year. The Rugby Section Captain was also very much in the spirit (literally) by nominating a number of Santa's reindeers to enhance the festive atmosphere. Following the kangaroo court, the export quota of Bundaberg rum took a hammering and then the night turned a bit foggy for some...



Fire and Ice Christmas Party



Ice and Fire Christmas Bash

■ by Fiona Atkinson

The Women's Rugby held their annual Christmas bash on 10th December, and this year, decided to give the novelty jumpers a miss, in favour of sparkles and a touch of glamour. Kicking the evening off, the Ice and Fire ladies had a holly jolly time mingling under the iconic Hong Kong skyline, sharing stories from the past year. Canapés and copious amounts of prosecco were consumed followed by some serious selfies action.

Like all true Hong Kong rugby players, the party moved on to LKF but not before the final fine session of 2016 was called to order. Over the last couple of years, Women's Rugby has developed and grown into a formidable squad, thanks to its dedicated coaches, management and support from the Rugby Section. It was a joy to see all these talented ladies celebrate their hard work and what better way to enjoy it than dancing the night away.



Samurai's Nate Ebner in last year's GFI HKFC 10s

Wounded Samurai continue Cup quest at GFI HKFC 10s

Samurai will try again to win the one Cup missing from their trophy cabinet, while three-time champions Asia Pacific Dragons and two-time finalists Tradition YCAC are also among 13 teams returning in 2017.

Despite losing three finals in the past seven years, Samurai International have pledged to again try to win the GFI HKFC 10s when they compete at the tournament's 32nd edition from 5th to 6th April 2017.

The UK-based invitational side will make an eighth successive appearance – and 11th in total – at Hong Kong Football Club, where The Penguins will defend the Cup after beating Samurai 5-0 in this year's final following a try in the second period of sudden-death extra-time.

Three-time champions Asia Pacific Dragons and two-time finalists Tradition YCAC lost in the semi-finals this year and are also among the leading 13 teams from the 2016

competition who will compete in 2017.

A-Trade Overseas Old Boys, Scottish Exiles, Projex Waterboys, King's College at UQ, Kir Club Pyrenees, UBB Gavekal, Irish Vikings, GFI East Africans and hosts Natixis HKFC also return. Overseas Old Boys, Pyrenees and HKFC won the Plate, Bowl and Shield respectively in 2016.

Samurai could be the sentimental favourites in April as the GFI HKFC 10s is the only tournament the well travelled touring side have participated in that they haven't won at least once.

After appearances in 2003, 2004 and 2007, Samurai first reached the final in 2010, losing 10-0 to seven-time champions Aliens. In 2013, Samurai were denied a late try by the

touch judge before The Penguins counter-attacked to score and win 21-14.

Samurai manager Terry Sands still believes his side should have been awarded what would have been a winning try, but said the extra-time defeat in 2016 was even more painful following an exhausting half-hour final described as "the hardest game I've ever played" by Penguins co-captain Antonio Kiri Kiri, an All Blacks Sevens forward.

The star-studded Samurai squad featured 2015 Super Bowl winner Nate Ebner, four England Sevens players, the Canada 15s captain and six New Zealanders, but injuries and call-ups to the Hong Kong Sevens took their toll and Sands was heartbroken to see the trophy remain out of reach yet again.

“Both 2013 and 2016 losses hurt. In 2013 we had a try disallowed that was later shown as being a good try and not in touch. That hurt us bad, but 2016 hurt us hardest,” said Sands, who founded Samurai International RFC in 1996 and is a former England Sevens team manager.

“We lost John Brake before the semi-final as he was called up by England Sevens and then just before the kick-off for the Cup final we also lost our MVP Cameron Cowell to England Sevens.

“We only had a squad of 13 players for two 12-minute halves and gave everything we had, but then had to endure extra time. Maybe we’re destined never to win the HK10s. The GFI HKFC 10s is the only trophy missing in our cabinet and it’s getting harder to win every year.”

This year Sands’ side won the Super Sevens Series UK, the Bury 7s and Chester 7s in England, the Independence 7s in Nigeria and the Dublin 7s in Ireland.

“We have won several tournaments this year, but all are sevens, which is our speciality,” Sands said.

“The only 10s we play is in Hong Kong. We are not 10s specialists and it is a very different game, but we have been close! We will be back in 2017 and of course we would love to add the GFI HKFC 10s trophy to our list of successes.”

Immediately after this year’s GFI HKFC 10s, Ebner was called up for USA for the Hong Kong Sevens and later played in the Olympics, while New Zealand-born Dan Temm went on to make his England debut on the HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series in Dubai this month.

Renowned as the world’s best annual 10-a-side tournament, the GFI HKFC 10s has long attracted the game’s top players including seven of the New Zealand team who won the 2015 Rugby World Cup – Conrad Smith, Jerome Kaino, Ben Smith, Beauden Barrett, Nehe Milner-Skudder, Sam Cane and Charlie Faumuina.

Along with GFI, other sponsors in 2017 include Natixis (gold sponsor), DHL, Q-Net and Withers (silver), CBRE, CPA Global (bronze) and Pure Blonde (official beer). ■

“Renowned as the world’s best annual 10-a-side tournament, the GFI HKFC 10s has long attracted the game’s top players including seven of the New Zealand team who won the 2015 Rugby World Cup...”

For more information, visit:

Website: www.hongkongtens.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HKFC10s

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GFIHKFC10s>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/gfihkfc10s

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/hkfc10s

#HK10s #WorldsBest10s

About GFI HKFC 10s

Hong Kong Football Club has hosted the 10s every year since it was first staged in 1986 to celebrate the Club’s 100th anniversary. The GFI HKFC 10s is annually held on the Wednesday and Thursday before the world-famous Hong Kong Sevens and is also sanctioned by the Hong Kong Rugby Union (HKRU). GFI Group, a leading provider of brokerage services and trading support products, has title sponsored the event since 2006. The tournament traditionally attracts many stars of the game, including seven of the New Zealand squad that won the 2015 Rugby World Cup. In the past decade, the tournament has featured Joe Roff and Toutai Kefu (both 2006), Jonah Lomu (2007), Brian Lima and Israel Dagg (2008), Bob Skinstad (2009), Waisale Serevi, Beauden Barrett and Sam Cane (2010), George Gregan and Christian Cullen (2011), Justin Marshall (2011, 2012), Mils Muliana (2012), Marty Holah and Nehe Milner-Skudder (2013), George Smith, Alesana Tuilagi and Rupeni Caucaunibuca (2014), Todd Clever (2012, 2013, 2015) and Rico Gear (2011, 2013, 2015), Jimmy Cowan, Carl Hayman and Nate Ebner (2016).



Asia-Pacific Dragons' Jimmy Cowan

Flying Kukris and Richard Hawkes Cup and Kim Lam Cup

Sunday 11th December



Far left and left:
Under 12 Girls

Message from the Mini Rugby Chairman

Dear Club magazine readers, please find following highlights from the Flying Kukris Festival (U9-U11), Richard Hawkes Cup (U12) and Kim Lam Cup (U12).

The Flying Kukris Festival, the third of the season took place at Kings Park on Sunday 11th December on a beautiful sunny day. As this festival was for the contact age groups only; U9 – U12, both the Richard Hawkes Cup and Kim Lam Cup matches also took place at the same venue. This provided a welcome opportunity for both younger players and coaches alike to watch the U12's in action. In total the HKFC entered 36 teams and enjoyed a great day of competitive mini rugby.

■ **Bruce Ruffy,**
Mini Rugby Chairman

Under 12 Girls

With the U12 Girls squad again putting out two teams, expectations were high following the strong performances of both teams in Divisions 1 and 2 during the previous rounds.

For FC1, they again started out against Sai Kung Stingrays, which is fast becoming the deciding match of the Division. After an excellent start, FC1 were leading 1-0, but allowed the big Sai Kung team back into the match by conceding a breakaway try. Despite outperforming the Sai Kung girls in both the scrums and rucks, our girls could not prevent the opposition from coming out on top and eventually lost the match to the eventual round winners 3-1. Despite the disappointment, FC1 bounced back very strongly and beat VF 7-1 and a strong HKUSB team 4-0, before ending the round in the runners up spot again by comfortably beating FK 9-1.

In Division 2, FC2 began the round against a strong combined Lantau team that was at full strength after being relegated from Division 1 in the last round when they were missing some of their better players. Despite the strength of the opposition, the girls did extremely well to hold them to 2-4. The girls unfortunately lost their next match to USRC

Tigers before ending the round strongly with two very good wins against Valley Rays and HKUSB 2nds. All in all, a very decent performance by both teams.

Meanwhile the U12 Girls are in advanced preparations for the New Year's Day match against Peninsular and hopefully there will be a strong Football Club contingent in the match day squad. More of that in the next edition.

■ **Peter Whitton**

Under 12 Boys

HKFC 4 had a great Richard Hawkes festival, coming second in a tough group. Not only that but they came within a point of the top group. The players in HKFC 4 have been committed to training throughout the season and have really started to gel as a team. They started with a great performance against a combined team made up from smaller clubs. Playing some fantastic running and passing rugby they were too much for their opponents finishing up winners with 5 tries to 2 and gaining a bonus point win. In the next match they had HKFC's main rivals HKUSB. Playing against Sandy Bay's 4th team they really pulled out the stops in attack

and defence, winning 5 tries to nil, a big win against a team that on paper was their equal. Finally they faced tougher opposition in the form of Sandy Bay's 3rd team, who had been relegated after the previous tournament. Again the boys played above themselves. They were in the game right until the end when Sandy Bay scored a try to win 3-1. However, HKFC 4 did pick up a losing bonus point in this game and finished with a credible 9 points, only one behind the winners HKUSB 3. All players can be really proud of the way they have improved at training and the style and ambition they have shown in the field.

■ Steve Jones

Under 11

FC4's first match was against TC, and the boys started brightly, running straight and moving the ball through the hands creating space for **Jonathan Lai** to make a nice break up the touchline. Unfortunately we got turned over at the ruck and their quick winger ran the length of the field to score. FC4 got the rucking game going and after several good phases of play **Mateo De Bona Bottegal** went on a strong run, beating several tacklers to score. Under pressure, our defence was solid, including some lovely cover tackles from **Mateo**, **Hadrian Chung** and **Bangyan Huang**, catching their quick guys on the wing. Eventually TC won a penalty 5m out and, despite a brave tackle from **Conor Keating** on a guy much bigger than him, TC crashed over for their 2nd try. At the other end of the field, **Gus Mulcahy** went close to the line, but was stopped just short. A good game despite losing 1-2.

Second game against FK saw **Conor** move from his preferred spot on the wing to fill in at scrum half. Strong rucking and some great

tackling put FK on the back foot. **Jonathan** and **Felix Hatherall** tackled everything that moved, and **Carlo Panicco** cleared out ruck after ruck as well as making some great runs straight through the opposition. The pressure was effective, and Mateo took full advantage of the space, scoring 4 tries through some very strong and elusive running. Our defence fell asleep a couple of times with FK scoring 2 tries. Final score FC 4, FK 2.

Third match SKS2, and our toughest game. Stingrays scored first, but our strong tackling and rucking continued in this match, with **Hadrian** very effective at ripping the opposition ball away in the tackle, creating good turnover ball for us. **Achilles Wong** moved in from the wing to play centre providing good support for **Matthew Menzies**, whose strong running saw him score a lovely solo try, beating several defenders on his way with just 1 minute left on the clock.

A really committed performance from all the boys and, despite being 1 score down for most of the match, they battled hard and thoroughly deserved the draw.

Final match was against Monkeys, and a really good performance from all the boys. **Conor**, still at scrum half, had the vision and hands to move the ball into space and some great running from **Matthew** saw him cross the try line then generously pass to **Mateo** who had run a nice support line. **Felix** and **Carlo** continued their excellent work, making big tackles and **Aman Bhargava** supported them from the unfamiliar position of prop, doing the hard work clearing rucks that created space. After a short burst into space from **Sam Hussey**, the ball was recycled left for **Mateo** to outpace the defence and score in the corner. Monkeys didn't give up, and through some strong straight running scored a try. **Mateo** made another mazy run,



Under 11



Under 11

“ A really committed performance from all the boys ... ”

and was assured of the score only to pop the ball inside to **Hadrian** who picked the ball up off his toes to score. Great backing up from **Hadrian**, and very sporting play from **Mateo**. Monkeys pulled back another try, before **Gus** dummied his way over from short range for FC4 to win the match 5-2.

Despite a draw and a loss, the boys' performance today was excellent. They played some great rugby, worked hard for each other and there was some real spirit about their play that was a pleasure to watch.

■ Chris Hussey



Under 11



Under 11

“The FC3 squad continues to improve every week and the parents and coaches are very proud of how the team has shown true commitment.”

Under 10 Girls

The FC 3 U9/U10G team had been training hard in the last few weeks and wanted to put their skills to the test at this tournament. The squad had a tough start against VF 3, but showed some good footwork and wide ball movement to hit back with a late try. **Ellie Lam** and **Ellie Cox** led the backs with some excellent running and **Momoka Wantabe** led the forwards with some great bursts across the gain line. The game against HKU 3 provided an opportunity to improve on the slow start. **Vienna Wong** played a great game for the forwards with **Vincy Chan** and **Mia Wong** moved the ball around with great skill. The game against SKS2 was also a tough encounter. Playing with true heart the team managed to get a few tries over their larger opposition. The final game against FK's was a great tussle! The forwards defended well and their tackling skills had certainly improved. Again, the team used their wide game and were able to impress with some nice tries. The FC3 squad continues to improve every week and the parents and coaches are very proud of how the team has shown true commitment.

■ **Peter Hudson**

U10 Toranas

The Mighty HKFC Toranas came together at King's Park for a fun afternoon of rugby in the HK winter sun at the Flying Kukris tournament. The boys won relatively easy games against Sai Kung (5-0) and Sandy Bay (4-1) before a close loss (2-1) and a draw (2-2) to the old enemy, Valley Fort.

The Toranas improved their play at the recent Sandy Bay tournament and, to the (surprised) delight of their coaches put into effect what

we have been training over the past few weeks in attack: winning the breakdown, running forward, and passing to players in space. While there were some brilliant and battering individual tries, the most satisfying were the team tries where play moved up and across and up and across the field over multiple phases. The boys were supporting each other well – calling for the offload, rucking over to win clean ball and re-aligning for the next phase.

The intensity of the games built over the course of the afternoon with both games against Valley being ding-dong battles that turned on luck as much as anything else. The Toranas showed that their defence could be just as effective as their attack with good speed off the line and some driving tackles.

The day climaxed in a lovely farewell BBQ for **Alexei Wright**, one of our stalwarts since the under 5s who played his last tournament with the Toranas. The boys have all come a long way since they used to wander around holding hands while their coaches tried to fill an hour with games without going (more) crazy.

SQUAD:

Jack Bennie, Simon Carmichael, Dylan Ellison, Ben Jewsbury, Tommy Langley, Henry Lapham, Nicky Lester, Hajime Matsumoto, Lucas Munt, Rory O'Connor, Ciaran Pollard, Oliver Spizzirri, Alexei Wright, Brae Millar (absent)

■ **Patrick O'Connor**

Under 9 Pumas

The third mini rugby festival of the season was a real "Team Effort" for the HKFC U9s. Once again we fielded an impressive 8 teams. However, numbers were tight, a great deal of thanks must go to the coaches for re-jigging things on the day and to a number of players who played for more than one team.

This time we focus on the Pumas, both Blue and White.

The Blue Pumas showed some great individual efforts in both offense and defence. However as a team, they started off hesitantly with their offensive play, fortunately their tackling and defence was solid. This kept the early games very tight.



Under 9



Under 9



Under 9

“..The White Pumas, started as usual, like a group of small bears awaking from hibernation after a particularly long and restful sleep.”

As the games progressed, they started to drive the ball forward showing more confident rucking abilities. The main area to work on is the bunching of players in the middle of the pitch. This had the effect of compressing the defensive line and also reducing passing width in open play. Coach Kam feels that the players also need to be reminded that rugby is a team sport, and each player doesn't need to carry the ball to contribute to the team's success.

The White Pumas, started as usual, like a group of small bears awaking from hibernation after a particularly long and restful sleep. By the time they realised that they were in a match against Valley, they had shipped a few tries and it was a case of damage limitation and learning how to make tackles stick. The following games required the coaches to fire-up the cuddly bears, to become more like the Pumas we expect; focusing on aggressive defence, line speed, tackling and rucking. The improvement was massive and they won or drew all their

games thereafter, exhibiting far more focus and team cohesion. Looking ahead, Coach Jeremy feels it's clear we need to focus on our collective defence, making a bigger impact at the breakdown and then when we have the ball, remembering that old thing we used to do in touch rugby, called passing!

PUMAS BLUE SQUAD:

Arnock Lam, E Ching Fung, Jonathan Huen, Luke Titterington, Max James, Ollie Fairclough, Roy Marsh, Ryu Brouard, Sam Johnson, William Feung

PUMAS WHITE SQUAD:

Augustin Renier, Charlie Hamilton-Dick, Jack Radclyffe, Kyan Legge, Lachlan Drewe, Martin Meillassoux, Matthew McQuhae, Maximillian Marthinussen, Milo Parr, Noah Guede, Sam Fearnley, Thomas Winmill, Zadig Pedrono

■ *Chris Hattam*



Under 8



Under 8

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From the Soccer Captain



Stephen Tew,
Soccer Section Captain

Kung Hei Fat Choy, wishing all members a prosperous and healthy year of the Rooster.

This month, we have reports from teams who participated in the festival of football held on Boxing Day and Operation Santa Claus tournaments.

Key fixtures to look out for in February are as follows:

DATE	TEAMS	VENUE	KO TIME
5-Feb	Colts v GAS	HKFC	6.30pm
	Wanderers v KCC Dragons	HKFC	3pm
11-Feb	HKFC Ladies v Eastern	HKFC	8.30pm
17-Feb	HKFC v R&F	HKFC	8pm
19-Feb	Albion v KCC Dragons	HKFC	1.30pm
	Wanderers v GAS	HKFC	3pm
	Lucky Mile v Kwok Keung	HKFC	4.45pm

Boxing Day Festival of Football

While Soccer Section Chairman **Kieran Flynn** visited his mother-in-law in Kuala Lumpur, junior soccer players, parents, a good crowd of spectators were on hand to participate in the 3rd Annual Festive Season at the Club on Boxing Day. The annual England v Scotland fixture was sandwiched between youth games featuring age groups from Under 10s up to Under 16s, with select teams from the Hong Kong Junior Football League (HKJFL) doing battle with each other and local opposition in the form of South China Athletic Association.

The day started with a four team Under 10s tournament featuring the best players from the HKJFL playing for the Junior Challenge Cup (teams included the Tigers, Lions, Panthers and Cougars). HKFC was represented along with Asia Pacific Soccer Schools (APSS), Tai Tam Tigers, Kowloon Cricket Club (KCC), ACC Japan, Major League Football Association (MLFA), Brasil Top Skills (BTS), Hong Kong Dragons and Asian International Football Academy. In the semi-finals, the Tigers overcame the Panthers 3-2 while the Lions won 3-0 over the Cougars. The final saw the Lions win narrowly 1-0 over the Tigers. Winning



The Panthers and Tigers clash...



The U14 teams line up for a pre-match photo

coach **Neil Jewbury** (HKFC P5) was delighted, as were the boys who won Best Player awards – **Aiden Yeung** (P5) and **Joshua Baker** (P4) from HKFC and **Rintaro Chaen** (BTS), **Calum Bloxham** (MLFA) and **Sawyer Beatty** (APSS).

After an exciting 3-1 win for Scotland in the “veterans” game, the U12 boys and U12 girls took to the field. On Pitch 1, **Mark Grainger**’s HKJFL Island Team took on a Peninsular team coached by **Paul Smith** of APSS. A very close game, with some good football on both sides, ended 3-1 for the Peninsular side. **Turner Jackson** and **Byron Doughty**, both of Tai Tam Tigers were voted Best Players. Over on Pitch 2, **Ian Meekoms**’ Peninsular team squeezed home 2-0 over the Island Girls of coach **Jeremy Prepscius**, after another close game. **Lisa Trimmingham** (HKFC) and **Lacey Jackson** (Tai Tam Tigers) were deserved winners of the Best Player awards.

A large crowd rolled up to watch the next match between the HKJFL Under 14 select

and the South China Under 14 Team. The game was played at a high tempo in the first half and was very close, 1-1 at half time. However, in the second half, HKJFL (coached by **Eder Ferreira** of BTS) struggled after bringing on their full compliment of subs. It proved too much of a change and South China played some good football to emerge as 3-1 winners. The Best Player awards went to **Patrick Ng** for South China and **Ian Won** (BTS) for HKJFL, the latter for a well-taken free kick to bring the teams even at the end of the first half.

The final game was the Under 16 clash between a HKJFL Select Team and South China. The HKJFL team got off to a very good start but soon went behind against the run of play, 1-0. They seemed to maintain the upper hand for most of the game and equalised with a free kick from one of the Best Player winners, **Tom Angell**. However, South China made better use of their substitutes and



HKJFL Select struggled to hold a strong South China team in the U14 game, with the latter running out 3-1 winners

squeaked home 2-1 at full time. The other Best Player was **Wong Chun** from South China. ■

Boxing Day Annual Match: Scotland 3-1 England

■ **Scott Semple**



Victory is ours!

Scotland Management Team:
Scott Semple and Allan Fraser

Scotland Captain:
Andy Hunter

England Management Team:
Ashley Dyer

England Captain:
Mark Grainger



The ever determined Mark Grainger



Rory v Anto, Young v Old, Evil v Good



McInnes has a pop

Much of the pre-match preparations for this year surrounded the controversy of the continued denial to include penalty kicks in the event of a draw. Thankfully and completely unnecessarily they would not be required as this year we managed to have an outright winner by way of a Scotland victory following two years of draws including a stalemate last year for quite possibly the first time ever!

In a year of Brexit and Trump I had a feeling if we could put it to a vote it would shake up the establishment, which amazingly it did! This is what happens when you let the people rule and “We Are The People”! There has been a feeling that the match has been getting a bit too serious over the years, especially after I was told by former member **Tommy Banks** that one year the game finished 9-9, and following every goal each team would have a dram! **Tom Smith** shaved half his beard off, donned a kilt and England shirt and played a half for each team! I’m not sure if we’ll get back to those sort of antics but something to think about for next year!

With all of that out of the way, everyone could focus on the match at hand. Despite a small but perfectly formed squad, Scotland were feeling relaxed, no doubt helped with a bit of

Rod Stewart on the changing room speaker with “Da Ya Think I’m Sexy?” No need to answer that one folks.

England were also looking the part with their sizeable squad full of strength and depth, but I had the feeling we might have a chance today especially with the cry from **Graeme Lane** “What’s this? Are we playing Albion reserves?!” To be fair he may have had a point, although I wouldn’t have called them reserves!

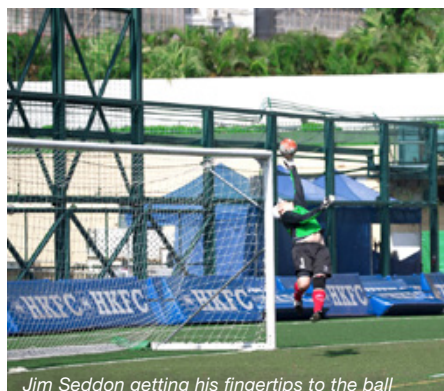
A fair bit of ducking and diving in the transfer window saw new Scotland caps for **Colin Spanos** (married into the Campbell Clan), **Fouad** (Auld Alliance), goalkeeper **Will Donker** (Dutch name. Dutch = Orange, which is another way of saying “Ginger”, **Irn Bru** is ginger hence he can play for Scotland! **Jack Charlton** would be proud of that one!) and our very own “Mo Johnson” **Tom Taw** (Scottish Grannie) who had foolishly played for England the year before. It was a turnaround he would not regret. The rest of the squad were made up of stalwarts of previous campaigns and famous victories.

The conditions were perfect and under a bright winter sun both team captains, **Andy Hunter** and **Mark Grainger**, exchanged pleasantries under the watchful eye of referee **Godwin Yan** and the match was soon underway.

It wasn’t long before chances were being made at each end. **Richard Maton**, with his lucky scoring record in this fixture was proving to be a handful for the Scottish back three of **Jamie Milne**, **Tom McGillycuddy** and **Colin Spanos**.

The middle of the pitch was also proving to be a key battleground. On one side you have the classy graceful England pairing of **Mark Grainger** and **Michael Campion** who were themselves duelling it out for the prize of nicest hair in the club. They were ably supported by the legs of **Joe Jenkinson** and **Niall Cox** and the grunt of **Simon Page** – someone has to do the ugly work and there is no one uglier than Pagey! Although partner in crime **Graeme Lane** can certainly give him a run for his Yen. Over the course of the first half appearances in central midfield included Liverpool’s own **Tim Bredbury**, Northern monkey **Gavin McDermott** and water pistol **Pete Hurst**.

On the flip side for the mighty Scots lined up with a 5-man midfield, including one of two father-son combinations in this match. **Andy Hunter** was anchoring the midfield with son **Charlie** in the right wing-back position. In the centre **Stew McInnes** was looking a lot fresher than last year’s match – it’s amazing what a night NOT on the tiles can do to you. Beside him, **Calum Henderson** under the



Jim Seddon getting his fingertips to the ball



Mick Lonergan looking for help



Andy Hunter in control



One nil to Scotland thanks to Hunter Junior



Who can I nutmeg next - you'll do



Man of the Match – Will Donker with his eye on the ball

proud and watchful eye of father **Tommy** in the stands, gave a standout performance. **Tom Taw** was in the left wing-back position and was making some great threatening runs down the flank. It was through one of these runs that **Tom** flighted an inch-perfect cross for his opposite wide man **Charlie Hunter** to coolly slot home the first goal of the match and keep up his impressive goal scoring record in this fixture. **1-0 Scotland.**

Russell Henderson was then introduced before half time to add some direct play with his usual hustle and bustle style.

At the other end, **Will Donker** was well on the way to securing the man of the match prize by consistently showing a safe pair of hands. Anything at him, he was holding, and anything that had the slightest sign of danger he would swat away to avert the danger. And even when England did get the beating of him following a quite beautiful stramash, he had **Spanos** on the line to throw his body on the line and “save” the day.

The confidence coming from the solid defensive performance was starting to filter throughout the team, and with Scottish strikers **Anto Grabo** and **Fouad**, we’re consistently putting the English defence to the test. **Liam Herbert** was a rock in defence, with **Ashley Dyer** and **Martin Sullivan** keeping guard ahead of veteran goalie Big Bad **Bob Sawhney**. Out in the full back positions, the other father son combination of **Mick Lonergan** and **Rory Lonergan** were keeping things tight, although **Mick** was left exposed when **Graeme Lane** was ahead of him.

Just before half time the English defence was breached once more. This time, by some tidy work from **Anto** on the left to setup **Fouad** to lift the ball into the net. **2-0 Scotland.**

In the second half both sides made a flurry of changes. For England, the ever reliable **Jim Seddon** came on in goals, **Rich Le**

Gallez, Rob Winmill, Melvyn Ford and **Ben Bradley** also made their appearance. Scotland brought on **Nam Ngyuen** and **Scott Semple** (yours truly) to add some much needed tempo, speed and flair to the match.

And it was during the opening exchanges of this half where Scotland extended their lead further.

Each side continued to probe without coming too close until there was a foul just outside the English box. **Calum Henderson** stepped up and struck a quite exquisite shot towards the postage stamp of the goal which **Sedders** somehow managed to get a hand to and push onto the bar, however unluckily for him the ever sprightly **McGrabo** was there to tap the rebound into the net and extend the lead. **3-0 Scotland.**

With the pressure now off, it was time for me to rub a wee bit of salt into the wound with my customary nutmeg, and **Ben Bradley** was a willing victim. Sorry Ben.

Wait, what is this? Manager **Ashley Dyer** has deserted the sinking ship? With about 20 minutes to go he was off, but to be fair to him he did have a flight to catch, although I’m sure he left to get some more time at the airport lounge to drown his sorrows with a pint of white wine.

With the match slowly winding down and only seconds on the clock, and out of sympathy, Godwin felt it was time to show the Christmas spirit had not completely departed, and awarded England with a penalty kick. Up stepped **Campo** to slot the ball beyond young **Will** in goals to give the score line a slightly more flattering and respectable look – so there at least was one penalty on the day! **3-1 Scotland.**

And that was that! The final whistle was blown much to the delight of the tartan army in the stands.

Special thanks to **Allan Fraser** for all of his help and key insight on the day and for letting me play for the last half hour even though I was on the verge of collapse. **Godwin** also deserves praise for how he once again handled the match and the players. Thanks also to Section Captain **Steve Tew**, Chairman **Kieran Flynn** and Dodgy Match Announcer **David “Willo” Williamson** for all their efforts to make the Boxing Day Football Festival what it is. ■



Majestic Milne

SCOTLAND SQUAD:

Will Donker, Jamie Milne, Tom McGillycuddy, Colin Spanos, Charlie Hunter, Andy Hunter (c), Tom Taw, Calum Henderson, Stewart McInnes, Anto Grabo, Fouad, Russell Henderson, Nam Ngyuen, Scott Semple

ENGLAND SQUAD:

James Seddon, Bob Sawhney, Michael Lonergan, Rory Lonergan, Liam Herbert, Joe Jenkinson, Peter Hurst, Tim Bredbury, Martin Sullivan, Mark Grainger(c), Ashley Dyer, Michael Champion, Simon Page, Gavin McDermott, Rich Gallez, Rob Winmill, Ben Bradley, Niall Cox, Richard Maton, Graeme Lane, Melvyn Ford.

REFEREE:

Godwin Yan



P4 HKFC 3 – Cup Winners



P4 HKFC 1 – Bowl Winners

Operation Santa Claus Tournament

another great day of football for a great cause

The Operation Santa Claus (OSC) Football Tournament took place on 4th December 2016 at Stanley Ho Sports Ground. This was the 19th anniversary for the event and like those before it, this was another great day of football and for a great cause. The Soccer Section continues to be a major contributor to the event, both financially and on the pitch. The Junior Soccer Programme ran the U9 tournament in the morning, the Crusaders played their annual intra-squad match, and our senior team competed in the senior tournament in the afternoon.



■ **Nam Nguyen, Chairman – Junior Soccer Programme**

Under 9 Junior Tournament

In the Junior Tournament, 14 teams competed in the Under 9 competition. Each team had a squad of up to 10 players meaning that 140 kids could enjoy the tournament. In addition to club teams and their supporters, who have been involved year-in year-out, this year we made an effort to bring in more schools and a girls team, in hopes of giving more kids a chance to play and exposing OSC to a wider community.

This season saw Quarry Bay School, Glenealy School and Chinese International School as

new school participants, and for the first time, we added an Under 10 Hong Kong Junior Football League (HKJFL) Girls team which comprised HKFC players playing alongside other HKJFL clubs. All in, we had 5 school teams, 8 club sides and the HKJFL girls team, with HKFC fielding 4 teams (3 x U9 teams and 1 x U8 team) and co-ordinating the HKJFL girls team.

Over the course of the morning a total of 54 matches were played, culminating in 4 finals (Cup, Plate, Shield and Bowl). The winners of



Santa giving out candy at OSC



HKJFL Girls All Star Team

the Cup and Bowl were our own HKFC teams, whilst KCC picked up the Plate and SC Dragons won the shield. It was a great fun day of football for all!

Our P4 (U9) age group had three teams entered due to the huge interest from our players. The uniqueness of this tournament was that we had several of our HKFC players playing instead for their school teams. Many familiar faces on both sides of the pitch with some fierce competition. Our P4 teams played quality football with HKFC3 winning the Cup and HKFC1 winning the bowl.

Our P3 (U8) team were in no way overawed by playing against the bigger kids from P4. They acquitted themselves admirably, winning four out of their six group matches. Their performance merited a quarter final in the Cup against HKFC 3, where they came up slightly short, losing 2-1 in a close fought and very competitive match. The HKJFL Girls team struggled to find points in the group stage but came on strong in the knockout round and finished runner up in the Shield Finals. Big big thanks to **Brendan Mcgraw** (P6 Head Coach and Tournaments Director) for organising an excellent tournament. Thanks also to the many HKFC volunteer coaches, including **Erik Palmetto** (P4 Head Coach) and **Tony Bruno** (P3 Head Coach) for organizing their respective age groups, **Rolf Geling** (U10 Girls Coach) for coaching the HKJFL Girls Team and **Jody Strong** (Girls Head Coach) for putting together the Girls team...as well as dressing up as an elf! And as Christmas would not be the same without Santa, thanks to **Dan Lawrence** (P1 Head Coach) for putting on the Santa outfit and giving out candy! ■

Senior Team Takes Home the Plate

HKFC have been an annual fixture in the senior 5-a-side tournament, and every year there is a threat to take home silverware. This year was no different. Manager **Darren "Daz" McEntee** clearly had the Cup in mind when he assembled a talented squad built around some of HKFC's greatest legends such as himself, **Graeme Lane**, **Jamie Milne** and **Nam Nguyen**. To complement this experience (or to make up for lack of speed and fitness), he added **Dan Lawrence** (Santa Claus) and three rising stars from our Youth Pathway academy programme – U16 goalie **Alessandro Systemans** and U18 field players **Clayton Gibb** and **Monty Higgins**.

HKFC made a statement in its first group match, beating perennial favourite CBRE 5-0. Poor finishing, however, led to a disappointing 0-0 draw against Savills before the team bounced back with a 4-0 win against Bank of America Merrill Lynch. In the final group match, a win was needed to win the group but once again dominating possession with poor finishing resulted in only a 0-0 draw against Societe Generale. We finished second in the group, moving on to play UBS, top of the other group, in the Cup Semi-finals.

In a tight and relatively even match, UBS took the lead on a rare defensive breakdown, the first goal conceded on the day. As we had to chase the match and push everyone including our goalie up to find the equalizer,



HKFC Plate Winners

we conceded the second goal with only a few minutes left. Disappointing but no shame in losing to a solid UBS team. We moved to the Plate Finals where we regained our finishing and won 3-1 against Linklaters to take home the Plate.

OSC continues to be one of the most enjoyable and meaningful tournaments for the Section. In addition to playing football for a great cause, this was a great opportunity for some of our younger academy players (and future senior stars) to play alongside Section veterans. ■

HKFC Crusaders wow the crowds at Operation Santa Claus

■ Nigel R Merritt - HKFC Crusaders Head Coach



Sunday 4th December saw the HKFC Crusaders wow the lunchtime crowds - players and parents who were assembled for the morning's Junior Soccer tournament at Sandy Bay, Pokfulam - with their silky skills and determination to make their presence felt on and off the pitch.

Running on to the pitch when their name was called, waving to the assembled crowds and receiving thunderous applause, it had all the trappings of a major sporting moment. In fact...

This exhibition match is now such a firm favourite in the OSC programme that it has turned into an "El Clasico" battle between the Crusaders White and Blue. As one would expect from the HKFC Crusaders, it was full of emotion, drama, crunching tackles, various levels of gesticulations and banter... and goals!!

Last year's Blue team were out to build on two straight wins at the OSC tournament, but this year the Whites had their secret weapon back on form - a fit and determined to score **Sean Browne!**

And score he did, but only after the Blues went ahead via an early break away goal by **Jennifer Means**. This did however spur the Whites on to step up a gear, and two goals then came in quick succession, one from Cheech (whose goal celebration was pure English Premiership material) and finally 2 minutes from the end of play, from Sean, to give the Whites a 2-1 final scoreline victory.

Congratulations to HKFC Crusaders White team of: **Sean, Gary, Alex, Elaine, William, Cheech, Anson** and **Timothy**, and HKFC Crusaders Blue team of: **Josh, Jennifer, Rooney, Henry, David, Toby** and **Paul**. A credit to themselves and the HKFC.



As Good As It Gets Hannah MacLeod

Christmas arrived one month early for all HKFC Hockey fans! As if hosting the HKFC Mini Hockey Festival wasn't exciting enough, we hosted **Hannah MacLeod**, double Olympic Games hockey medalist (Bronze in London, Gold in Rio). In Hong Kong for a week, her time was predominantly spent coaching the junior and senior hockey teams at HKFC, but Hannah also spent time delivering corporate talks, visiting school kids, catching up with family, socializing in the Sportsman's Bar and believe it or not, daily sessions in the gym in order to stay in shape for her next challenge.

It was absolutely amazing to have the pleasure of meeting Hannah. To see her in action as she signed hundreds of autographs, smiled for hundreds of photographs and answered as many questions combined, was testament to the ambassador role she clearly understands the importance of playing, and not just as a hockey player. For the hockey enthusiasts however, it was captivating to listen to her share her story. From the 8 year old who decided she wanted to be an Olympic athlete to the culmination of many set-backs (and successes) and the excruciating hard work and sacrifices she made to reach the ultimate reward. Through the highs and lows what clearly meant the most was the value placed on the team and the culture within the team in order to

achieve the desired outcomes. This cannot be understated nor undervalued as it was the cornerstone of the success stories created by this GB Women's Hockey Team and a key take-away from her time with us.

For everyone, regardless of whether a hockey fan or not, the major highlight undoubtedly was being able to see and touch the Rio Olympic Games Gold Medal. Hopefully, amongst the 700+ mini hockey participants who all got to meet Hannah, the dream of going to the Olympic Games someday has been ignited and in a few Olympic cycles from now, we may be cheering on an Olympian who was inspired by Hannah's visit. She certainly had that effect on most arm chair Olympians (widely considered to be past their athletic prime).

We look forward to building on our new friendship with Hannah and hope to be able to host her again in the New Year as a spokeswoman willing to support our charity focus, most notably with Operation Breakthrough, and in preparation for the **Guv Dillon Charity Hockey Ball – Saturday 11th March, 2017** (mark it in your calendars as it will be one party not to miss next year). We will be thrilled to have her continued involvement and support and wish her all the best on her next big adventure. ■



Q&A during Hannah's visit:

How many broken bones have you suffered playing for Team GB?

Two that I can remember! My ribs and finger.

What's the weirdest thing someone has asked you to sign?

Body parts are always a little strange!

What's been the biggest set-back you've had to overcome in your hockey career?

After a disastrous World Cup campaign with England in 2014 I was dropped for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. It was a long summer of training on my own to try and prove myself again and overcome some pretty raw emotions.

Which one of your team mates do you love playing with most? Who do you least like playing with? And why?

There are many players I love playing with but Kate Richardson-Walsh is certainly up there. She has such a good pass out of defense that I know I have a good chance of getting the ball when she's in possession! It's a harsh question asking who I least like playing with but if I have to answer, I'd say Lilly Owsley simply because she's a nightmare to try and keep up with and support the attack. She's so fast.

What do you miss most from hockey during the off season?

Well there is no off season for us but when we have a week or so off, I miss being around everyone. It all of a sudden becomes very quiet.

Aside from your medals, what souvenirs or keepsakes from London 2012 and Rio 2016 that you treasure the most?

The kit is always treasured. When you arrive into the athletes village, the British Olympic Association run a welcome ceremony for all British Athletes. We were given a necklace in London and a bracelet in Rio as a memento of our selection success. These are very precious to me as they symbolise the journey to get there rather than the outcome.

If you weren't a full time hockey player, what would your main sport be?

I love football and I'm a big Manchester United fan. I would like to get into tennis though as I think I'd be able to play that for much longer into my retirement.

As a nutritionist, what is best thing to eat in preparation for a big game?

I eat porridge with raisins before I play! I like to keep it simple and need something that

I can pack in my suitcase and take with me anywhere in the world. There's nothing worse than having to rely on hotel food when you're playing in Argentina. They love their steak!

Was this your first visit to Hong Kong?

No. I first came to HK in 2011 when my parents moved over here with work from England.

Did you get much time to sightsee? And what did you do?

I've done a lot of the sightseeing in past visits but I headed over to Macau with my dad to the old town. It wasn't quite what I expected but I can now tick that off my list. Next time I'm out I want to run the Dragons Back to Shek O route.

What's been your favourite thing to do whilst visiting?

I've really enjoyed feeling part of the community at HKFC. Whether that's coaching, meeting school kids, time in the bar or speaking to businesses, I met so many interesting, passionate and kind people.

Who was your favourite HKFC team to coach / meet?

That's not a fair question at all! I very much enjoyed meeting all the teams.



Interview with Lucho Portocarrero

HKFC Hockey Team:

This season, since it was short I am playing for the men's F team but I played the longest for the D team

Position: Goal Keeper

How long have you been playing, and where did you start?

I played for about a year for the Lima Cricket Club as a goalie, then I was asked to play for the Club once when there was a shortage of goalies, then I was offered a chance to

join the Club and the rest is history. All combined a total of 20 years of hockey.

How long have you been playing at HKFC?

Since 1995

What's been your HKFC hockey highlight?

I never won a league title but came second way too many times. A highlight would be playing for 4 teams in one day (Bs, C's D's and G's) two matches in KP, one at Club and one in Valley. Back then the rules were not as strict and of course I played under assumed names in some of those games. Won all 4!

What's been your overall hockey career highlight?

I won a few short tournaments but nothing compares to playing for the HKFC.

Favourite thing about playing for HKFC?

The Hockey Section, all the friends that I made and love so much. My Sundays will never be the same.

Where are you off to next and will you be continuing to play hockey?

Going back to New York. From research, I haven't found much men's hockey going on there, just ladies tournaments. As one of my team mates says, "maybe you should become a coach for one of those ladies teams then"...hmmm.

Tell us something about yourself you don't think other people would know:

During my first two years at the Club I played hockey having cataracts on both eyes. I was only 26. Not the greatest health problem for a goalie to have.

The Gorgeous G's

What's it all about? More than just the wins...



The G team had a tremendous first half of the season. With 26 players registered to the team, they make up the biggest squad of the women's section and have proved this year that a big squad can still pull off stellar attendance (**Christina Lum**, as always, proving her commitment time and time again with one of the best attendance records on the team). It started off in puddles with long time G Team player **Ashley Mann** setting up last year's Captain **Penny Austin** with a cracking goal against Vets. However, it wasn't long before the game had to be abandoned as it became apparent players were wading more than they were running.

Things got a little rocky as the squad got used to its many new members after having had a large exodus of G Team members the year before (due to relocation and work commitments). The current G squad is the epitome of commitment and sportsmanship and exemplifies the true range of the Football Club membership with a wide range of ages, and a variety of Members, some who have been Club Members since birth (**Isla Hughes**, **Christine Lloyd**) and others that are new joiners this year (**Dora Chan**, **Louise Clark**, **Liza Nel**). It has been great to have **Shaila Lambert** return to the G's (she first captained the team in 1997) and

Debra Taylor back with the team. The G's have been especially excited this year to benefit from the experience and skill of long time F Team players **Rhona Barr** (who also stepped into goal last minute when it was needed) and **Annabel Baillie** (who also proved her commitment to her new team by offering to do the same). With players like **Di Walters** offering her insight and willing to step in and coach from the sideline if needed the G's have a squad willing to roll up their sleeves and help in any way.

Despite the 2-2 draw against Skyers the G Team went on to win every subsequent match in the first half of the season. With a plethora of goal scorers (**Olivia O'Brien**, **Michelle Page**, **Karen Thorne**, **Chloe Sik** – to name only a few!) and a monumental team effort throughout the season the Gs disproved the old adage that only when you lose you show you are a good sport.

Whilst the G's celebrated their many wins with Champagne and Pop (for the under 18s) they also turned up to many a Saturday match to watch their teammates when they hadn't been selected to play, often staying on to cheer on the other teams (**Christine Wood** proving herself a valuable commentator and score keeper on the sideline). It has been impressive to

see the maturity and support the team has been given by its junior members (for example **Allegra Semoli, Millie Leinster-Holt, Jeannie Chan**) and by the families of Junior members who have made the effort to come and watch the team play (**Lilly Mann's** father making a game and **Linda O'Brien** showing up every time). G Team members have also been known to design posters and make up cheers for other teams (**Jane Wakeman**, one of the driving forces behind this). The G's are also proud to announce that **April Cheng** passed the umpiring theory test and that the team's winning streak also applied to the Section's "Where's Watto" competition (**Summer Fearnley** helping the team win some Gin twice in a row) and 'Best Costume' at the Christmas Party.

Lastly, the G's would like to thank coaches **Izzy O'Connor** and **Simon Chapman**, without whom they would not have won match after match. A particularly special mention to **Izzy** for holding a "rules night" for the team and making the effort to meet up with G Team members at (and after) our many social events!

I have heard it said that teamwork is essential because you have got to have someone to blame – but the G's say teamwork is essential because that's what being a Hockey Section member is all about- whether it's working together to find an umpire, order a drink, win a match or put together a cheerleading routine, the Section can rest easy because the G's have got it covered. Wedding planning is on our to do list next as we celebrate long term umpire and G Team stalwart **Renee Spencer's** engagement!



“...whether it's working together to find an umpire, order a drink, win a match or put together a cheerleading routine, the Section can rest easy because the G's have got it covered.”



Director's Cut

by **Simon Chapman, Director of Hockey**



The Guru Nanak Tournament on 27th December



The Kim Chee's on 3rd January

Festive Season Hockey Review

Whilst most were taking festive holidays and a break from the regular season, a number of our Hockey Section Members were participating in various social or competitive fixtures, tours or tournaments.

19th – 23rd December

A handful of the Men's D team juniors were in Singapore the week before Christmas participating in a new initiative supported by both national hockey organizations and government sporting bodies. The HK U18 girls' and boys' squads took part in training and games in Singapore as well as receiving some guided tours around various parts of city. The most impressive perhaps being the new stadium and sports hub where they were able to see all of the high performance training facilities.

Participants: **Michael Shepherdson, David Evans, Matthew Ma, Justin Mak**

26th December

The Boxing Day social hockey once again attracted a good number of juniors (and some willing parents) for the morning session. The senior 'Big Bash' game in the afternoon was also well attended and as is becoming a tradition, the festivities continued well after.

27th December

A strong A and B Men's mixed squad entered the Guru Nanak Tournament at King's Park. A well deserved spot in the final (a first for a number of years) was earned after some impressive pool-play. Beaten 2-1 during extra time in the final, the team proudly took home the silver and donated the 2nd place prize money to the Guv Dillon Fund.

Squad: **Philipp Boettger, James Shepherdson, Ken Tsang, Hon Lo, Windfall Monthong, Michael Gee, Vincent Cheung, Neil Norman, Daisuke Nosu, Ishtiaq Ahmed, Arif Ali** (Captain)

3rd January

It seemed Kim Chee's (the Section's Social Squad named after founding captain's **Kim Roberts** and **Chee Ip**) fervor for hockey had not waned one iota as they turned up in numbers for a 'social' game of Kim vs Chees (unfortunately minus the actual Chee). Perhaps players were also hoping to shed a few of the festive pounds – so futile considering how they lodge themselves in their home away from home, at the Sportsman's Bar after each game. The game oscillated between the 2 teams with Chees just edging out the Kims as winners. Roll on the rematch (likely over CNY).

7th January

The boys' U18 youth team participated in the inaugural NEC Harmony New Generation Fight Crime Hockey Invitation Tournament played at the Aberdeen Police College. The tournament presented a wonderful opportunity for the boys to get involved in a community event. It also provided a perfect occasion for the Section to begin a new relationship with the Western Police District and to establish a community connection for our Guv Dillon Fund to support. The boys finished 3rd overall and the Section also received special thanks for providing goals and support for the tournament.

Squad: **Philipp Boettger, James Shepherdson, Michael Shepherdson, Justin Mak, Conrad Szymanski, Matthew Ma, Linus Hui, Michael Gee** (coach)

The Guv Dillon Memorial Fund

The Guv Dillon Memorial Fund was created in 2015 in memory of Gurvinder "Guv" Dillon after he lost his short battle with cancer, age 34. Guv was a character who polarized opinion and was always challenging establishments to make the game he loved a better one for all.

Field hockey in Hong Kong benefitted greatly from his involvement both at club and national level. Guv was a Hong Kong representative as a player and coach at junior and senior levels, a registered umpire, and an active junior committee member – focused primarily on promotion and development. Likewise within the Hockey Section at Hong Kong Football Club, Guv devoted most of his time and talents to coaching. He had a supreme knowledge of the sport, wonderful eye for detail and a presentation manner that ensured everyone enjoyed and respected his coaching approach. Above all, he dedicated his time to everyone, regardless of their individual status.

In the spirit of Guv's dedication to coaching, to the passion he demonstrated to help develop the sport of hockey, and his commitment to the hockey community at large, the HKFC Hockey Section has established the Guv Dillon Memorial Fund to ensure continued support be given to young people in Hong Kong so that they may also follow their passions in life.

The Charity Hockey Ball, taking place on Saturday 11th March 2017, is an annual fundraising event for the Guv Dillon Memorial Fund.



Boxing Day Social Game group photo



Vivian won the Best Costume



Champion team



1st runner up team



2nd runner up team

Boxing Day Social Game 2016

48 bowlers turned up for the joyous Boxing Day Social Game, all ready to get a lucky start in the new year.

The annual event took the format of 2-wood-4-bowler rink game, where 12 teams competed against each other for the championship as well as for the highest number of touchers award. The results are as follows:

Winner of the Championship: **Wagner Chan, Raymond Au, Koon Cheng and Kenneth Wan**

1st Runner-up Team: **Terry Kung, Connie Wong, Raphael Chan and Keith Wan**

2nd Runner-up Team: **Johnny Tsang, Connie Chung, Christina Yeung and Clarissa Wong**

Highest Number of Touchers - Co-winning teams:
Johnny Tsang, Connie Chung, Christina Yeung and Clarissa Wong

Vivian Yip, Irene Chan, May Lee and Francise Yau

Drawing game winners:
Denis Hamelin, Connie Chan, Wanis Sze, Arthur Yiu, Anthony Yip and Terry Kung

Thanks also go to **Vivian Yip** for adding more colour to the event by putting on the most outstanding costume and won the Best-Dressed Award.



Winning teams for the Highest number of touchers



Drawing game winners

Indian Recreation Club Invitation Triples 2016

The team representing the Club, **Johnny Tsang, Frankie Siu** and **Yumi Wong**, won the Spoon Section's Champion at the annual Indian Recreation Club (IRC) Invitation on 27th December.

There were a total of 44 teams, including 7 teams from IRC. Many congratulations to our team.

Everyone enjoyed the hospitality and the authentic curry dishes.



Club Unisex 2-4-2 Pairs 2016

After many rounds of nail-biting knockout games, the team of **Frankie Siu** and **Yumi Wong** came out winners of the Club Unisex 2-4-2 Pairs on 6th January. The 1st runner-up team was **Terence Lee** and **May Poon**.

Many congratulations, and a big thank you to the other eight teams for their enthusiastic participation.



Champions Frankie Siu and Yumi Wong



Runners Up Terence Lee and May Poon

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Reminder: Lawn Bowls Section's Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday 16th February 2017

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Lockhart Room

All Lawn Bowls Section members are reminded to attend this important event.



Penny Angove
Netball DSA Chairperson

W elcome Back everyone! I trust you all enjoyed the Christmas break and are ready to work off all those mince pies with a great second half of the 2016/17 season. At the time of writing, we have one game under our belt and are off to a flying start! Club, who recently moved up into the newly established Premier Division, showed that they had their eyes on the Premiership trophy once again with a very comfortable win against Hantang. Typhoons also beat Hantang Chillin 36-14 showing the other Div 1 teams who's boss. In the Whirlies first game in their new home in Div 1, they narrowly lost to KRFC Sapphires. And the Hurricanes are holding steady in their finals campaign beating HKS Thistles 38-18. Tornadoes had another week off to work off the Christmas pudding and will be coming in strong next week to start their finals campaign. The Christmas break was also a time for our Juniors to rest and recharge the batteries. We are excited by the changes to the league this half and look forward to HKFC dominating all Divisions it represents. Bring on April and the finals! ■



HKFC Storm U19s

Junior Netball Academy

Term 2 and 3 updates

The Junior Netball Academy (JNA) has had a successful start to the 2016/17 season with the programme attracting more and more interest from the community and we now have a long wait list for players wanting to join the programme. We reached our current quota of 140 players very quickly.

This season we have a dramatic change in the way we are running the programme. In line with the HKNA who have changed the format of the autumn competition, we have

now grouped our training sessions into more defined age groupings. Our current structure includes our juniors (5 to 7 years), Netta juniors (7 to 8 years), U10s, U12s, U14s, U16s and U19s. This year we started the season by holding trials for all our competition players to ensure we grouped them in training groups that would challenge them as well as ensure that their skill sets were developing. You can see below from the fantastic first term results just how well they did.

HKNA - JNL AUTUMN 2016 COMPETITION RESULTS:

Team	Division	Final Ranking
HKFC Storm	19s and under - Division 2	1st
HKFC Mavericks	16s and under - Division 2	1st
HKFC Breakers	16s and under - Division 3	1st
HKFC Twisters	14s and under - Division 1	3rd
HKFC Rainstorms	14s and under - Division 2	1st
HKFC Tremors	14s and under - Division 3	3rd
HKFC Thunder	12s and under - Division 2	1st
HKFC Lightning	12s and under - Division 3	4th
**HKFC Blizzards	10 years and under - Netta Fun	N/A
**HKFC Snowstorm	10 years and under - Netta Fun	N/A
**HKFC Snowflakes	10 years and under - Netta Fun	N/A

Another big development for the JNA is that we decided to change the names of all the teams to mirror the seniors and we are now sporting some interesting weather patterns. Also check out our new look kit and a big thanks to **Cheryl Purcell** who worked on the design and ensured we got to show off our new kit just before the start of the HKNA autumn competition.

Here is a snapshot of the term:

HKNA - JNL 2016 Autumn Competition

What a great start to the season. The HKFC JNA finished off with 5 x 1st, 3 x 3rd and one 4th placing. The games were competitive and I believe the new age structures, our player's determination and commitment as well as the careful planning by the panel of

coaches, is the underlying reason for such a wonderful start to the 2016/17 season. I want to take a moment and acknowledge our fabulous coaching staff. So on behalf of the DSA committee I would like to thank them for all their support and attention to detail during the JNA training sessions and games. Thanks goes to - **Veronica Arnold, Kathryn Curley, Heather Probert, Jae Stuchbery, Nicola-Anne Rutkowski, Hayley Price, Kate Smith, Jane Peters, Debbie Thompson and Lauren Larouche.**

Awards for our Netta players

It was rewarding to watch the development of the Netta players over term one and they showed that they were a competitive group and were able to demonstrate their skill sets in the friendly games that were held over the eight competition weeks.

Awards were handed out in recognition of their commitment (*see table below*).

NETTA AWARDS

Awards	Blizzards	Snowstorm	Snowflakes
Best Team Member	Hillary Chow	Harmony Chow	Poppy Worthington
Most Improved Player	Astrid Cerullo	Ellabelle Purcell	Jasmine Lam
Most Enthusiastic Player	Jasmine Wong	Vaitiare York	Isabel Gudykunst

Team Photos



HKFC Mavericks U16s



HKFC Breakers U16s



HKFC Twisters U14s



HKFC Rainstorms U14s



HKFC Rainstorms U14s



HKFC Tremors U14s

...more team photos



HKFC Thunder U12s



Finishing off the term...and shouting out "Netball!"



HKFC U10s Snowflakes



HKFC U10s Blizzards



HKFC U10s Snowstorm



Junior Nettas



Juniors: Jellybeans and Icebreakers



Visiting Team

We were lucky to have the opportunity to host the North Vista Secondary School from Singapore on Wednesday 16th November. They brought with them two teams of 24 netballers for a sports immersion trip. During the Wednesday training session we organised a warm up with collaborative games and followed with some friendly matches. This

has been the first opportunity for the JNA to engage and share this experience and we will look to provide our players with more cross cultural sporting opportunities.

That's a wrap for this term and we look forward to a great start to Term 2. See you on court!

Calling All Netball Coaches!

We are currently recruiting qualified and experienced netball coaches to work with both our junior and senior squads.

Coaching will take place on Monday and/or Wednesday evenings.

All applicants must have the right to work in Hong Kong.

Foundation coaching qualification essential.

For further details please send your C.V. to:

info@hkfcnetball.com

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Group photo with Mads Conrad-Petersen



Mads demonstrated a perfect return of smash in style



Mads teamed up with Peggy in mixed doubles, with Amy on the other side



Not sure what Mads said while playing this graceful defence stroke; our ladies were obviously amused

Top Danish Player visits the Club

Top seeded Badminton player from Denmark — **Mads Conrad-Petersen**, paid a visit to the Club earlier in December. Currently ranked world number 12 (BWF rankings) in Badminton Men’s Doubles, he gave the Badminton Society a good workout as he join in the men’s and mixed doubles games. Our team players enjoyed the invaluable experience of playing with a world-class

badminton player first hand. Although our attempts to smash through Mads’ brick wall defence turned out to be quite unsuccessful, it was a delightful experience and we all enjoyed his great sense of humour. We would like to thank Mads for visiting the Club, and we look forward to similar visits by other world class badminton players in the future.

Trivia Quiz: How many racquets does a professional badminton player take when on the pro tour? **Answer:** Mads takes up to ten racquets on his long trips.

Year End Social Gathering

As the year 2016 drew to a close, we celebrated another joyous year of badminton in the Coffee Shop with a few rounds of drinks and snacks after playing some fierce games on Badminton Night on the 8th December. Over forty members and guests were at the gathering, although it was not yet the occasion to sing Auld Lang Syne, it was time to bid farewell to our dear friend **David McDonald**, who would be leaving Hong Kong soon due to job relocation. David has been a very active member of the Badminton Society (BS) for some years, and was a core member of the Club team. For the past few years, he also served on the BS Committee. On behalf of the Society, Ryan presented a souvenir to David and offered a toast, wishing David and his family great happiness in the many years to come! On a separate note, we also congratulated **Jaff Lo**, who recently won another badminton Men’s Singles championship in the Masters Games organized by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of Hong Kong (in the age 50 to 54 division). Well done Jaff!



Cheers, to good health and badminton!



David (3rd left), Jaff (4th left) and the jovial gang



A souvenir for David (first left), with best wishes and much appreciation



David: Thank you and bottoms up!

Tennis Courts updates:

Please be reminded that Tennis Courts 1 and 2 will be closed from 6th - 28th February 2017.



Upcoming Tennis Events 2017

March (TBA)	Junior Club Championship
March (TBA)	Cup of Nations
April 1-4 (Sat-Tue)	Overseas trip to Bangkok
April 22 (Sat)	Start of Season / Charity Cup
May 21 (Sun)	Social Sunday Brunch
June 9 (Fri)	Committee / Captain Dinner
June 10 (Sat)	French Open & Wimbledon Social
June 22 (Thurs)	AGM
Sept 9 (Sat)	US Open Social
October (TBA)	Professional Clinic / Gala Dinner
October (TBA)	Adult Club Championship
November (TBA)	Golf Match
November (TBA)	Parent Child Challenge
December (TBA)	Island Challenge
December (TBA)	Christmas Social

Update Email Contacts

To all members of the Tennis Society, please send us your most updated email contact to hkftennissociety@gmail.com marked for the attention of **Adrian Leung**, and please wait for his confirmation reply to avoid future confusion/misunderstanding. You can also send us a message on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/hkftennissociety



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Thursday 5th January

The first golf outing of 2017 kicked off nicely with a strong field of 20 players, with gorgeous warm and sunny weather.

The first 4-ball comprised of myself, **Jonny Brock**, **Dallas Reid** and “Delicate” **Nick Allen**.

As usual, there was a side wager with myself and Jonny battling it out against Dallas and Nick, with Nick gaining his new nickname by delicately sinking 3 amazing birdie putts all on the back 9, giving him a whopping 40 stableford points after 18 holes. Jonny and myself dovetailed well and managed to win the front 9, and with my birdie putt on the 18th lipping out the match with a draw. Fantastic match, guys.

Second to tee off were **Alastair Murray**, **David Lindsay**, **Gus Emmerson** and **Quentin Burrows**. David was playing out of his skin and managed to accumulate 39 stableford points. Alas, Quentin was not having such a great day, and with his stock of balls dwindling by the hole, Quentin conceded after 14 holes.

Next off were the pairs of **Owen** and **Shauna Davis**, and **Rebecca** and **Joseph Wong**, who reported some “super steady stuff” with Shauna paring the very tricky par 3 16th hole, and Joseph hitting his drive onto the roof of a golf cart to end up pin high on the

8th were some of the highlights.

The penultimate 4-ball were **King Tsui** and guest Anthony Ng, **Peter Nie** and **William Tsui**. With only King and Peter being eligible for the stableford competition, the scores weren't as competitive as the other groupings.

Last to tee off were the social grouping of **Lina** and **Ron Adrianse**, and **Angela Koo** and **Dominic Ng**. Well done to both Lina and Angela for both winning the longest Drive competition on hole 17, as both balls were equidistant and on the fairway.

So onto the prize giving in the 19th hole:

Nearest Pins:

Hole 2: **Dallas Reid**

Hole 5: **Phil Head**

Hole 11: **Nick Allen**

Hole 16: **Nick Allen**

Longest drive on Hole 17:

Men's: **Jonny Brock**

Women's: **Lina Adrianse** and **Angela Koo**

Stableford Competition

1st: **Nick Allen** (40 pts)

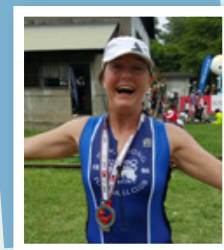
2nd: **David Lindsay** (39 pts)

3rd: **Phil Head** (38 pts on count back)

See you all at the next event.

Happy golfing.

Phil, Golf Event Organiser



Jessica McCarroll,
Swimming and Triathlon Society Captain

Swimming Captain's Report

December was a social month for the Swimming and Triathlon Society.

We held our Christmas Social on 2nd December, which was superbly organised by Susan Lowrey. The annual awards ceremony was accompanied by drinks and dinner, followed by copious rounds of tequila shots. The photos tell the story (see adjacent page).

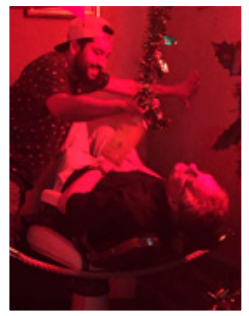
Lastly, we said goodbye to our coach of nine years, **Lloyd McBean**. He leaves us for Melbourne Australia. We sent him off in style, as we challenged him to a hardly fought water polo match, followed by champagne breakfast in the Coffee Shop (see adjacent page).

All the best and good luck, Lloyd!

Champagne Breakfast with Lloyd McBean



Snapshots from the Christmas Party



Movie and Book Library

New Books and Movies in the Library

New Books

100 Days of Real Food Fast & Fabulous by Lisa Leake
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles
A Child of Books by Oliver Jeffers
A Walk in the Park by Anthony Browne
Ada Twist, Scientist by David Roberts
Apprentice in Death by J.D. Robb
Big Nate Revenge of the Cream Puffs by Lincoln Peirce
Boom Snot Twitty by Doreen Cronin
Click, Clack, Surprise! by Betsy Lewin
Closed Casket by Sophie Hannah
Coffin Road by Peter Mayle
Commonwealth by Ann Patched
Countdown by Deborah Wiles
Delicious by Chungah Rhee
Detonator by Andy McNab
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Double Down by Jeff Kinney
Dinosaur Dance! by Sandra Boynton
Drama by Raina Telgemeier
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