



Honorary Life Members Newsletter July 2012

England Netball, 9 Paynes Park, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1EH
Tel: 01462 442344

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Redpath's Roundup

Welcome to the July edition of the HLM newsletter, which I'm writing as I look out of the window at the pouring rain two weeks after a very wet Wimbledon and two weeks before what could prove to be a very wet Olympics. I don't know about you, but I keep checking my toes to see if they've become webbed!

Preparations are now well underway for our second HLM lunch, which as before will be held on the same day as the AGM and Golden Globes Awards, 22 September. The venue for this year's event is the ICC in Birmingham, which is a short walk from Birmingham's main railway station, New Street, for those of you intending to travel by train. As

there is no charge for the lunch, but please can you let me know if you would like to come along because I will need to let the caterers know how many people to expect. Ian Holloway, EN's new Community Competition and Events Manager will be contacting you shortly regarding your complimentary ticket to the Golden Globe awards. This is a busy weekend which actually starts on the Friday with an England v Jamaica test match also in Birmingham. So why not look at making a weekend of it. Ian will also send details of the preferential rates negotiated with local hotels for those of you wishing to stay overnight.

Given the success of February's archive day, I will be packing the car with some archive boxes that still need to be sorted so I do hope that after lunch you will be able to stay on to help sort through the boxes. If you have some netball related memorabilia that you would like to give to EN, please bring it with you as it will be gratefully received.

I look forward to seeing as many of you that can make it on 22nd September.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheelagh".

Sheelagh
Editor



Highlights:

- News from Colette Thomson
- Tanzania Update
- Royal greetings
- Diary updates

Anita in Tanzania

Anita Navin shares about her passion for making a sustainable difference to the quality of coaching and netball provision in Africa



In May this year I had the privilege of visiting the beautiful country of Tanzania with Liz Broomhead, CAP member and central figure for developments in Africa. Netball has been a big sport in Tanzania since the end of World War I when the British people introduced it. Now, with the help of UK Sport, Olympic Legacy and IFNA funding, I have been fortunate enough to be involved with training coaches in Africa.

During this trip, coaches from across Africa congregated in Tanzania where they became the first to achieve Coach Developer status. If this wasn't enough to celebrate, they were also involved in the pilot IFNA Foundation Award for Coaching and they all passed with flying colours becoming the first coaches to gain the first African Award.

Whilst the coaches did their training, a parallel process was happening for Officiating. Margaret Deighan led this programme and facilitated several innovative sessions where umpires and coaches could share their learning experiences.

I was bowled over by the enthusiasm of the coaches I met: their eagerness to learn and desire to seize every opportunity and seek new knowledge was inspiring. I have seen in my own life how volunteering can have a huge impact but it was amazing to be reminded of how offering one's own experiences can make such a difference to others.

Back to reality and the coaches are all back home in their respective countries where they are passing on their learning to small groups of coaches. The Tanzania group will be back together again soon to gain further support for delivering the Foundation Award in the near future. I look forward to updating you on the progress of this amazing group of coaches and their protégées.



Mary Waya, coach and recently retired International player, was also present at the course. She was an inspiration to everyone in attendance

Colette Thomson, our newest HLM, writes

Following on from the last edition of the HLM newsletter and Janet Wrighton's article announcing my inclusion as a HLM, Sheelagh asked me for a few words for this edition of the newsletter.

Thoughtfully sitting on the bench at the end of the England Barbados test match and, to be honest, not really taking any notice of the on-going ceremonies, I was suddenly aware of Janet Wrighton addressing the crowd.

Still thinking about the game and what needed to be addressed before the next match I began to recognise a few dates, times and places!!



As they say, the rest is history and I wonder how many of you experienced the same dawning realisation when you were honoured to become an HLM.

I have been involved with England since playing at U18 level in 19.... (before the current players were even born!), yet it seems very strange listening to someone else tell your life history. I could say I had forgotten much of it, but anyone who knows me will not believe that! However it does make you feel very lucky to have had all the opportunities just because you

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are good at sport. So many people I would not have met and places I would not have gone if it had not been for netball. Now I have the opportunity to help others in their pursuit of excellence.

So many will have heard me say (bit like Steven Redgrave' and a boat) that 'I would never go full time netball'; yet here I am working as coach to England's under 21's. I suppose, at the end of the day, the opportunity to work in a sport that has given me so much pleasure was too much of a draw. What a change though! Five months has passed since my appointment and I now have no idea how I managed to do both 'jobs' before. It is definitely a challenge.

Finally I would just like to say 'Thank you for the life membership' and thank you Janet for your very kind words. I feel very honoured and privileged to join such an illustrious group.

A Royal month for Netball



There has been excitement at Head Office this month due to a couple of Royal visits. On 14th June, many of the Head Office staff joined thousands of residents to line the streets of Hitchin and welcome Her Majesty to the town. The Queen was in Hitchin to present The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to the team from the town's British Schools Museum. It was an occasion that replicated the visits the late Queen Mother took many years ago as she grew up in Hertford-

With the Olympics creeping ever closer, some of you may have been tracking the progress of the Olympic torch as it makes it's journey around England and you wouldn't be the only netballer's to do so! There will be a total of over 8,000 people carrying the flame and many of these have and will be netballers, ranging from players to coaches to umpires. One of those was Gena McGregor MBE who had the privilege of meeting the Queen and Prince Phillip at the end of her leg of the torch relay.

Other netballer's who've carried the torch are:

- Oliver Hooper (Youth Advisory Group)
- Denise Egan (national selector)
- Sophie Bingham (local netballer)
- Aisla MacArthur (netballer in Cheshire)
- Margaret Deighan (Umpire)



Contact us:

Editor: Sheelagh Redpath

Telephone: 01462 442344

Email: sheelaghR@englandnetball.co.uk

Assistant Editor: Yvonne Bacon

Telephone: 01462 442344

Email: yvonneb@englandnetball.co.uk

MyGame

SAVE THE DATE

ENGLAND NETBALL

presents

MAKE
THE GAME
LIVE
2012

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21 - 23 SEPTEMBER
BIRMINGHAM

A WEEKEND OF EVENTS
FOR PEOPLE WHO
MAKE NETBALL GREAT!

.....
International Netball Series Opener - England v Jamaica

National Coaching Conference

Golden Globe Awards

England Netball Annual General Meeting
.....

PACKAGES TO BE RELEASED SOON

IT'S GOOD TO SHARE

