

ENGLAND NETBALL SUPPORTERS CLUB

TRACEY NEVILLE had a great start to her career as **Head Coach** of the England Team when they cruised to a 3-0 victory over Trinidad & Tobago in Bath, London and Liverpool – trying several combinations to test the players in a variety of positions. With hardly time to draw breath they were off to Belfast for the Netball Europe Open, playing five matches in four days and giving them a taste of the intensity of matches that they can expect in Sydney in August. How refreshing to



hear Tracey say exactly what she thinks – no pussyfooting around – she calls ‘a spade a spade’ and no one is left in any doubt about what she expects from her players!

Next on the agenda for the England Squad is the selection of the team to participate in the Netball World Cup in Sydney – we’re all eagerly awaiting to see who will make the cut – an extremely tough job for the Selectors to whittle the long squad down to twelve players. I’m sure you, like ‘my gang’ have made your selection – I wonder how right we will be!

As part of their preparation for the Netball World Cup, the squad have arranged a series of matches against our Super League teams. As a season ticket holder for my local franchise, on the day I received the email about tickets, I quickly contacted my friends to see who wanted tickets and went on line the same day to buy

tickets, only to find that they had all gone! Such is the popularity of our sport now! Which is great news, but disappointing if you don’t have a ticket!

SARA SYMINGTON has been appointed England Netballs **Performance Director** and comes from an impressive sporting background, having competed for British Cycling in the Sydney and Athens Olympic Games. Sara knows what it takes to WIN having also competed at county, regional and national level in tennis, hockey, swimming, javelin, karate, squash and netball including a stint as a GB triathlete.

Sara came to England Netball from Archery GB where she led their Olympic and Paralympic teams. We wish Sara every success with England Netball and look forward to experiencing her expertise in England endeavours to reach the top!



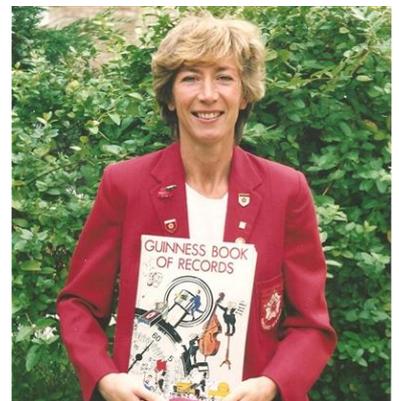
England’s Jo Harten who plays for Kia Magic has recently played her 50th match mid-way through her 4th season in the ANZ League. Jo is one of six England internationals playing in the ANZ Championship and close friend Serena Guthrie has just signed with SkyCity Mystics.

PAMELA COOKEY CELEBRATES 100 CAPS!

After the excitement of England beating Trinidad & Tobago at the Copper Box in London, an arena full of Cookey fans watched as teams mates from around the world sent their congratulations to Pamela, via video on the big screen, who had just played her 100th game for England.



England Netball also took advantage of the opportunity by acknowledging the first ever England Netballer to gain 100 caps, **Jillean Hipsey**, who was spectating in the crowd!



Jillean played her last game for England at the 1987 World Tournament in Glasgow and it was also her 100th Cap. This secured her a place in the “Guinness Book of Records” as the most capped England player.

**CONGRATULATIONS to both
on an amazing achievement!**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS!

The International Netball Federation has been awarded the “**Spirit of Sport Award**” at the SportAccord Awards ceremony. This award recognises the work the INF is carrying out in international ‘safeguarding’ in sport in conjunction with UNICEF.



President of INF, Molly Rhone, pictured with the Award.

The Gold Coast is hosting the 2018 Commonwealth Games (another trip to Oz for England Supporters!) and as part of the promotion of netball are hosting NetFest – Australia’s rapidly growing mass participation event.



SUPPORTERS CLUB KIT

Sweatshirts are now available on the England website – go to :

http://www.iheartnetballstore.co.uk/products/england_netball_supporters_sweatshirts_2015/24709/view



Polo’s and T-shirts are also available. If you’re going to Sydney for the Netball World Cup make sure your kitted out!



As I write this newsletter there are only 60 days to go before the opening of the 2015 Netball World Cup in Sydney.

We are in the process of organising a get together for all the England Supporters and the England Team are keen to join us, which is great news.

I’ve been compiling a list of those who I know are going to Sydney, but if you want to ensure that I’ve got your name down, please send me an email!

Don’t forget to get your Visa (done easily on line) and your travel insurance – and of course your supporters kit, flags, hats etc!



And finally :

The England Netball squad have come together to organise a one-off Sports Dinner to raise money for Cancer Research UK and Mind.

Athletes from a plethora of sports will be joining together to celebrate Women in Sport with confirmed guests including Olympic, World and European Champion Lizzy Yarnold. Also

attending are Olympian, double European Indoor champion and

Britain’s leading 400m hurdler Perri Shakes-Drayton, Women’s rugby World Cup champions and England vice-captain Tamara Taylor and Olympic medallist and Commonwealth champion Kelly Sotherton.

England defender Stacey Francis is looking forward to the evening and said “As a squad, we wanted to leave a legacy greater than our results on the netball court. It is important that we use our profile and contacts to raise awareness for and promote causes close to us.

“Being in a World Championship year, we thought what better time to get our sporting friends together and deliver a winning performance for CRUK and Mind.”

This unique event will give guests the opportunity to dine with their female sporting heroes, hear personal stories and participate in quirky activities. There will also be superb live entertainment and it is all towards raising money for two extremely worthwhile causes.

Netball Unites will be taking place on Thursday 18th June 2015 at the fabulous Hotel Football in Manchester and tickets are available NOW, grab yours by emailing netballunites1@btconnect.com

SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWSLETTER “uniteinred”

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