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NEWSLETTER

Summer Issue 2007

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



As you should now be aware both Martin and Gillian Belton have decided to step down from their current roles on the Committee and deservedly take more of a backseat in the running of the club.

For those who attended the recent Presentation Day (especially the 2nd session) you will obviously be very aware that without both Martin and Gillian the club would not be here today as it was their idea (along with Dave Simmill's) to start the club nearly ten years ago. The growth and development of the club (and the high esteem it is currently held in by the leagues we play in and other local clubs) is primarily down to their drive and direction. The standing ovation they received at the end of the Presentation Day was testimony to this.

It is therefore a daunting task to take over from Martin but I hope I can help move the club forward in the way and standards that he has previously set.

For those who do not know me, I have been involved in the club for 8 years when my eldest son James started to play in the Moguls. I quickly got involved with Dave Simmill in the coaching of the team up until the point the team folded 2 years ago. My daughter Amy played with the Falcons and is now joining the expanded Kites side next season. My main involvement today is in the overall management of last season's U8s age group, in particular, Storm for whom my youngest son Daniel plays. My involvement in the committee over the past 6 years has been as Training Co-ordinator responsible for all our training facilities, FA coaching courses and referees.

Obviously I plan to continue to develop the club in the same way that Martin would have done and our main aim in the next 12 months is to achieve Charter Mark status for the club and Martin will remain on the committee with this remit. We also have some exciting news regarding Bearwood College, but more of that over the page.

As a result of the AGM, there have also been some new additions and changes of roles on the committee. We welcome Mark Binyon who joins as the Subscriptions Secretary. Sam Dean will move to the role of Health & Safety and Child Protection Officer. Louise Joyner is taking over from Gill Belton as Pitches and Fixtures Secretary and James Lindley joins the committee taking over my role as Training Co-ordinator. Finally we also welcome Andy Dean and Paul David to the committee although they will be without portfolio.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible and to contributing further to the continued success of Winnersh Rangers.

Best wishes

**Neil Chalfont**  
**Club Chairman**

### WINNERSH RANGERS FC CELEBRATION DINNER

**3rd November 2007**

**Bearwood Lakes Golf Club**

Please join us to acknowledge the contribution of  
Martin & Gill Belton to the club.

**So please put this date in your diaries.**  
**More details to follow!**



**Winnersh Rangers Kites U13 Young ladies Coach - Chris Cadman**

## NO BOYS, NO FOOTBALL. HOW WRONG I WAS!

*Too old to continue to play myself, unable to afford a season ticket to Reading, Two daughters and a Nephew who was into 'egg chasing'; I was resigned to TV to get my "Football Fix". Then one day my eldest daughter, Meredith asked if she could join a Football team!*

Quickly I gathered information about every local girl's football club and to my surprise there were very few. I was introduced to a very nice lady called Penny Jones and a club called Winnersh Rangers. Meredith and her friend Hannah attended a few training sessions to see if they liked it and were made very welcome by the Winnersh Rangers Falcons. I asked them what they thought about joining up and the response was typically lady like - "We love the purple kit! - we want to join!"

Word spread about the team in Meredith and Hannah's own unique way - "Come and join our football team, we play in purple!" The Kites were born.

In the 3 years since I've had tears, I've had tantrums, I've had 'Hissy fits' and Mood swings, and the girls have been just as bad! Nothing much has changed over the years, we were doing OK and making steady progress, but this year, to everyone's surprise, has brought unexpected success. Why? What was different?

It has taken me a while but at last I figured out the secret ingredients of this year's success: "The Acme Thunderer" whistle. It not only stops my girls dead in their tracks but most of the other teams training near us. Gemma French (Club Captain) and Clare Perkins (Team Captain) who have taken their responsibility with pride and gusto. It also helps that Gemma is as loud as an Acme Thunderer. Emma Duffield (Most Improved Player) has pretty much carried the team individually over the years but changed her style of play to be the best midfielder and team playmaker in the SCML. Amy Banning (Managers

Player) cannot give less than 100% at any time, even in a friendly or at training. Imisi Joseph (Golden boot and Supporters Player) is the female Thierry Henry. Every Squad member who have worked hard, been dedicated, listened to and applied the simple rules in their required order throughout the season:

1. Enjoy
2. Clean Sheet
3. Score

I was exceptionally proud to give a short speech this year stating "Played 16, Won 13, Drew 3, Lost 0, Scored 75 and only conceded 1 goal all season - SCML Division 2 (7 aside) Champions 2006/07!"

The girls and I would like to officially thank the club for allowing us this "purple patch". Also we'd like to thank Penny Jones, Carol Jennings, Richard Hopper, Steve French and Chris Jones for all their help in managing and coaching the team over the last few years and

the parents for their support because without them, we would not have persevered and achieved this success. It does not end there. While other girl's teams are re-organising and even disbanding - we are extremely fortunate that the Falcons have joined us so that we can play 11 aside.

It has always been important and paramount to the team that we have the right personalities. Again I think we are especially lucky that all the girls have coalesced quickly. (An even bigger social gathering!) I have no doubts it is the excellent team spirit that has brought success in our pre-season already.

**This "purple patch" is set to continue!**



**Keep Warm & Dry this Season**  
with a WRFC Fleece Lined Rainjacket  
**AVAILABLE NOW.**

To place your order, call **Dave Simmill** on

**07966 580543**

or email

**equipment@winnershrangers.com**



## BEARWOOD COLLEGE PITCHES

Due to the expansion that Winnersh Rangers has seen over the last few years, we have too many teams to accommodate on Bearwood Rec alone, especially on Saturdays. Therefore we are pleased to announce that this season some of our matches will be played at Bearwood College and we have signed a contract with them to use their facilities more and more in the future.

We intend to organise a **Winnersh Rangers Tournament** next spring which will also be held at the College. In the past there has been a lack of a facility for us to hold a tournament so this presents a great opportunity at a fabulous venue. We hope this will further enhance our relationship with the College as we already hold our Presentation Day there in June.



## EXTREME WEATHER WARNING...

**Don't blame us – we are only named after the weather!**

**As we all know the weather had a great impact on the 06-07 season but Winnersh Ranger's U8s really were not to blame despite being the most aptly named squads in the club.**

**STORM** play in Section A of the East Berks league in what is proving to be one of the most strongly contested divisions locally with many players being signed up by professional clubs. Indeed Sandhurst have 5 players registered with Chelsea's Academy. Therefore, it was always going to be a tough second season yet the team competed well throughout the season and every player gave 100% every game and the measure of the team's progress was in the individual development of each one of them resulting in some outstanding teamwork and excellent passing football. Despite losing more games than they won, the team was recognised by many of the opposition's managers for the style and technique the boys showed and in many ways this was more pleasing than the results.

This season has seen **LIGHTNING** consolidate their position in Section B of the East Berks League. Up to Christmas, Lightning had a mixed bag of results in-between the many cancelled games. But in the new year they started to play a better passing and attacking style of football resulting in Lightning going on a run of nine undefeated games, only to lose on the final day of the season. The effort shown during training has enabled Lightning to play exciting and entertaining matches including good wins at Ascot, Pinewood and Binfield, all teams that previously were very difficult to beat. Therefore as U9's Lightning will look forward to a new season, hoping to progress and improve by having fun during both training and matches.

**THUNDER** had a season of mixed fortunes and two halves! They started the season in Section C and managed to win most of their matches, in fact only losing once after a three week layoff due to the bad weather! Finishing in second position at Christmas, Thunder were promoted to Section B. Unfortunately this coincided with the team's main striker being promoted to Storm which initially disrupted the side. When games were possible, they came up against sides that had been playing week in week out, resulting in some disappointing losses. However, Thunder did manage one win – a 5-1 victory which proved their capabilities. This form then flowed into the tournament season where they ended top of their group in two tournaments. The team is really progressing and this bodes well for the future.

**BLIZZARD**, our fourth team, was formed early in the season and played together in a few friendly matches before Christmas with the objective of joining the league in the new year. The team joined Section E and after a first defeat, then remained undefeated throughout the remainder of the season. This is a credit to the boys showing how they have all gelled together and enjoyed playing as a team. Blizzard entered three end of season tournaments; winning their group at The Ascot Festival of Football, reaching the group semi finals at the East Berks Tournament only to be defeated in a penalty shoot out and finally finishing in the top half of the group at the Woodley Saints six-a-side. A tremendous first season.

*Here's looking to an equally successful season as the U9s and lets hope the squad's names do not continue to be a poor omen for the whole club!*



# Kit Sponsorship

If you own or work for a local company, why not sponsor a Winnersh Rangers team! A kit lasts a minimum of 2 seasons which provides excellent exposure locally and some great PR opportunities.

## What's in it for us?

Kit sponsors are very important to us, they enable the club to free up much funds for the hire of pitches & training venues, training for our managers & coaches, replacement of equipment such as new goals & footballs. An added advantage of this is that it reduces the Clubs expenditure and means we can minimise the subscription fees.

## What's in it for you?

Your logo on a kit for at least 2 seasons.  
PR opportunities with local press.  
A link on the Winnersh Rangers website.

Call Dave Simmill on **07966 580543**  
or email [equipment@winnershrangers.com](mailto:equipment@winnershrangers.com) to discuss kit sponsorship opportunities.

Below: The Crusaders in their **Troysoft** sponsored kit.



## SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE

Throughout the year I will be looking for articles to include in the coming issues.

If your team/someone in your team has achieved something you'd like to share with the rest of the club please send details to me, pictures are welcomed, - everyone likes to see themselves in print!

Email your articles to me at:  
[studio@artifactsdesign.com](mailto:studio@artifactsdesign.com)

## Welcome...

U7 Lions & Bears who are newly formed this season, we wish you every success for the years to come.

## Sorry to see you go...

It's with much regret that we must say goodbye to the U17 Execs, U15 Tigers & Girls U13 Kestrels, we wish you all the very best for the future.



## Team Photographs

The Presentation Day team photograph is a special memento to celebrate the end of the football season.

Professionally produced with the club logo and season 2006/2007 discreetly positioned on the print.

**8"x6" print £3**  
**2 prints for £5**



Photograph proofs and details on how to order are available at

**[www.digi-studio.co.uk](http://www.digi-studio.co.uk)**

**All proceeds for photographs go to  
Winnersh Rangers FC.**

## AND FINALLY...

*Have a wonderful Summer,  
we look forward to seeing you all next season!*

