## 

**HOLCOMBE PARK** 

16/09/2023

6pm





### MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2023/2024



### WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to Reading HC and their travelling support today for our opening game of the new 2023/24 England Hockey Premier Division season. We also welcome our officials - umpires Mark Jarvis and Mason Wright supported by our match official Matt White.

It hasn't been an especially quiet summer of hockey for Holcombe players with EuroHockey Championships taking place. Back in July, Robert Field helped Scotland secure bronze at the EuroHockey Championship II. Roll on to August and Rhodri Furlong represented Wales and Ollie Payne, David Ames, Phil Roper and Nick Bandurak helped England to silver in the EuroHockey Championship. During that time, Barry Middleton MBE was inducted into the EuroHockey Hall of Fame. That wasn't the end of the international success for our men as Sean Parker and Jon Gurney helped England over-55s to a European Championship bronze.

The club were pleased to see David Ames sign a new contract and see former players Brad Read and Louis Duprez re-join along with new signing Alex Pendle.

Reading who have won this title three times in the past have also secured the signings of Sam Armitage, Ben Mackey and Ben Hooper.

A great game to kick start the new season – enjoy your hockey tonight!

Brian Field Men's Chair – Holcombe HC











### **MATCH PREVIEW**

By Lucas Ball

Last season's Premier Division runners-up Holcombe begin their 2023/24 campaign with a home match against Reading at 6pm on Saturday, looking to kick off the new campaign with three points.

New signings Alex Pendle and Brad Read will both be involved for Barry Middleton's side, who have a Euro Hockey League campaign to contend with this season alongside their Premier Division fixtures.

Internationals Ollie Payne, Phil Roper, Nick Bandurak, Rhodri Furlong, Rob Field and Hayden Phillips all experienced a busy summer in the European Championships at various levels and Olympic qualifiers respectively, with England's men taking home a silver medal from the top tier of the European event.

Middleton's side took six points from their opponents last season, winning 5-4 at Sonning Lane and 6-0 at Holcombe Park on their way to a place at Finals Weekend.

Reading, meanwhile, have made three additions to last season's squad as they look to build on a sixth-placed finish in 2022/23.

Sam Armitage, Ben Hooper and Ben Mackey have all joined Jason Lee's side, with Hooper and Mackey coming straight into the squad for their competitive Reading debuts this weekend.

Entry is free at Holcombe Park on Saturday, as well as for Holcombe's other first-team fixtures across our men's and women's outfits.

Live updates of the match will also be available through our social media channels:

Facebook: Holcombe Hockey Club

Instagram: holcombehc

X: @HolcombeHC



### TODAY'S TEAMS





7. Monty Neave

9. Ben Hooper

11. Ben Mackey

12. Adam Pescod

13. Gregor Hearn

14. Matt Richards

18. Harrison Smith 19. George Fletcher

25. Harry Grinham

30. Chris Wyver (GK)

26. Johann Perera

20. Toby Heywood-Bourne

15. Tom Minall

23. Dan Cox

Staff:

8. Will Holderness (C)

Umpires: Mark Jarvis & Mason Wright; Match Official: Matt White 2. Tim Guise-Brown 2. Lewis Fraser

4. Sam Taylor

6. Greg Nolan

7. Phil Roper

8. Hayden Phillips

9. Rhodri Furlong

10. Jake Owen

12. Alex Pendle

13. Tom Russell

14. Brad Read

16. Rob Field

18. Barry Middleton

19. Mo Mea

20. Ollie Payne (GK)

23. Nick Bandurak (C)

25. Tom O'Keeffe

Staff:

Coach: David Ames Coach: Jason Lee Assistant Coach: Giles Osborne Assistant Coach: Danny Newcombe

Physio: Sam Jessup Manager: Ben McElroy

Manager: Keith Martin

Ball Patrol: Freddie Snell, Jessica Foakes, Alex South, Harrison Andrews





Image *-* Eva Gilbert



Image - Andy Smith

# BARRY MIDDLETON "EXCITED" TO GET UNDERWAY

By Lucas Ball

Men's 1s' player/head coach Barry Middleton is excited about his team's hopes heading into the 2023/24 season, with Holcombe fighting on two fronts in both the Premier Division and Euro Hockey League (EHL) having earned qualification at last season's Finals Weekend.

Holcombe were victorious over hosts Surbiton 2-1 to secure their European spot, and are set to take on Racing Club de France in Barcelona in October, before facing either hosts Real Club de Polo or CA Montrouge in the next round or a classification match.

Middleton's side begin their campaign with a home match against Reading on Saturday (6pm), with three more fixtures to come ahead of their Barcelona trip - a home match against Old Georgians sandwiched by two away trips to newly-promoted Southgate and Surbiton.



"It feels like a long time ago but I really enjoyed it, obviously I enjoyed one day of it a lot more than the other. In terms of the whole weekend, the set-up and everything around that, I really enjoyed it.

"Being at a club was nice, the atmosphere was really good and we were lucky playing Surbiton within that, facing the home team and getting the crowd. I thought they did the whole weekend really well.

"Naturally from where we started the season and not knowing where we'd end up, it was quite an exciting one for us as well. There was disappointment at the end but that's just sport, you're always searching for more.

"Over the season, where OGs ended up was well-deserved so we can't argue too much with that.

"There was a good chance that one win over the weekend got us into Europe so that was certainly one of the goals and then re-setting and looking at the final, which ended up being a step too far for us. That's what energises us this year to try to go again and get further.

"It's time for us to get back to how we played at the end of last season and remember what got us to those big games at the end of the season, not forgetting that. It's always hard for teams to start again, everyone's back on zero points.



"There were games last year where we finished five or six places above teams but only beat them by one goal, you can't forget that it's still tough and we've got to come out and earn every win, respect every opposition we play.

"It's nice, last year was really good as well we had a home game first up,

big crowd for a Saturday night game.

"The excitement and buzz that comes with it is always really nice to set you off, hopefully it's still warm.

"For us as a team and group but also the club as a whole, hopefully it will get the season off to a really good start."

Holcombe have strengthened with three additions over the summer - two of those players are returning to the club following previous spells in Brad Read and Louis Duprez, while Alex Pendle - a Great Britain Elite Development Programme (EDP) forward joins having finished university.

"I'm really happy with the guys coming in - one from a playing side and what they can bring on the pitch but they also fit into our group really nicely as people, which is something we're always looking at.

"One of our big things has been retaining the group that we had last year, so we're starting from where we finished last season and just adding a couple on, rather than bringing six new people in and trying to start again re-shaping the team and what we look like.



"That's been a massive thing for us meaning we could get straight back into playing in pre-season."

Last season also saw the implementation of a brand new league structure, one which will continue in 2023/24.

"It's always one you answer depending on how it's gone for you so naturally with where we were in the league, being in the top-six and after Christmas feeling like they were really good, competitive games gave everyone a real motivation so from a coaching side it was nice because you didn't have to fight people to be motivated for the weekend.

"I really liked it, it depends where you fall within it - if we were at the other end and scrambling around then I might think differently. I did enjoy it.

"Anything that makes you busier is good for us! It's coming, we know where we want it to get to, we want to see the game keep growing and the atmosphere building.

"We want players to be able to be more professional and more players to be professional, not just the guys in the senior international team. From that, the quality builds but we know a lot goes into that as well - it's not just a case of get more players, it's not only the hard work you're doing but all the clubs and stuff behind the scenes as well.

"We rely on volunteers a lot for that still so we want to keep pushing as far as we can and grow as far as we can. I'll have stopped running around before it gets to any level like that but I love hockey so I want to see it be rewarded."



Meanwhile, a number of Holcombe players were busy for their

respective international sides over the summer - Ollie Payne, David Ames, Phil Roper and Nick Bandurak [all England] won silver at both the Spanish Hockey Federation Centenary Tournament and EuroHockey Championship, Rhodri Furlong played for Wales in the same tournament, Rob Field won bronze with Scotland at the EuroHockey Championship II and Hayden Phillips played for New Zealand in the Olympic qualifiers. Middleton was also involved with England's under-21s in Germany for a Four Nations tournament.

"It was a bit easier for me physically than the guys playing internationally just standing on the sideline!

"A lot of the guys, luckily for us, have had a lot of hockey through the summer still so there are challenges in terms of making sure they're rested and mentally in the right place but from a touch side, playing and their sharpness it feels like we've got a lot of guys who've had a really good pre-season, even though it's not necessarily all been with us so seeing the level they're at is exciting to see."

Middleton himself was also inducted into the EuroHockey Hall of Fame during the showpiece continental tournament, alongside a number of other players, staff and volunteers including former Holcombe goalkeeper Maddie Hinch.

"People who know me will know what it feels like, awkward, horrible in the moment and not knowing what to do but naturally it's always nice and a proud moment with things like that.

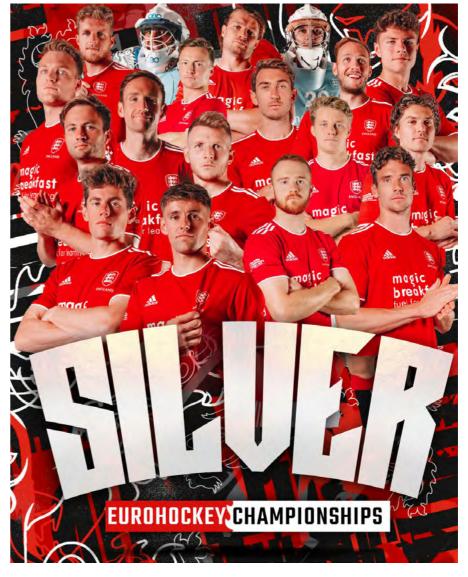
"Always for me, those things are not just individual but about the team - that's recognition of the England and Great Britain sides that I came through and was a big part of for 10, 12 years, whatever it was.

"If you don't have a team that's achieving something and putting GB hockey on the map a little bit, then you don't get these kind of things happening. It's always on my side looking from where we were when I started to where English hockey is now and it's a massive one that we need to put onto those people as well, there's a lot of people within that."

Images: Eva Gilbert

### NEWS Furnese silver for four Holcon

European silver for four Holcombe Men By Lucas Ball



England captain David Ames, Ollie Payne, Phil Roper and Nick Bandurak were involved in all of England's matches at the EuroHockey Championship as Paul Revington's side won a silver medal in Germany, losing 2-1 to the Netherlands in the final.

Bandurak scored twice as England began their campaign with a 5-3 defeat to Belgium, netting once more in a 3-0 win over Austria and in a crazy 4-3 victory over Spain which secured England's spot in the semifinals.

Revington's side drew 0-0 against hosts Germany in the last-four before winning 5-4 in a shootout, with Ames and Roper both converting their efforts in the shootout.

England were 2-0 down in the final before a spirited late comeback saw them come close to drawing level, with former Holcombe player Sam Ward scoring before Roper controversially had a late goal disallowed.

Image: England Hockey

Fourth-place for England under-21s at Four Nations

By Lucas Ball



Lottie Bingham was involved for England under-21s in all four matches at the Four Nations Invitational in Dusseldorf, with England finishing fourth following their third/fourth-place play-off defeat to India.

England drew 2-2 with Spain and 3-3 with India before a 2-1 defeat to Germany. England were beaten 6-2 by India in their final match, with Bingham on the scoresheet.

Image: England Hockey

Barry Middleton inducted into EuroHockey Hall of Fame By Lucas Ball



M1s' player/head coach Barry Middleton has been inducted into the EuroHockey Hall of Fame.

Middleton retired from international hockey in 2019 having won 432 caps and scored 119 goals for England and Great Britain, and is now involved in Great Britain's coaching set-up with the Elite Development Programme (EDP).

On his induction, he said: "It feels strange, unexpected, but just so nice to acknowledge not just my career but also the strong England team that I was part of over a number of years. A really proud moment."

Image: England Hockey

Holcombe's England contingent finish as runners-up in Spanish Hockey Federation Centenary Tournament By Lucas Ball



Holcombe's Ollie Payne, David Ames, Phil Roper and Nick Bandurak were all involved throughout the Spanish Hockey Federation Centenary tournament for Paul Revington's England, with the side eventually losing out to hosts Spain in Sunday's final on a shoot-out.

England secured top spot in the pool stage via wins with a win over Spain (3-1) which Bandurak scored twice in sandwiched by 1-1 draws with both the Netherlands and India respectively.

Hosts Spain booked their spot in the final by beating India 2-1 and holding the Dutch to a 3-3 draw in Barcelona.

Revington's side played out a 1-1 draw with Max Caldas' side in normal time, with Zach Wallace's goal cancelling out Bruno Font's opener before the hosts went on to win in the shootout, by a scoreline of 3-2.

Payne kept the first two Spanish efforts out with scores eventually level at 1-1 after three attempts each before Roper scored England's fifth.

Image: Spanish Hockey Federation

Bronze for Holcombe man at EuroHockey Championship II By Lucas Ball



Holcombe player Rob Field was part of a Scotland side that won bronze at the EuroHockey Championship II in Dublin on Saturday following their 4-1 win over Italy in the third/fourth-place play-off.

Field, vice-captain for Holcombe, started every match for Jonny Caren's side as they progressed through the group stage in second place courtesy of wins against Switzerland (3-0) and Turkey (10-0) and a narrow defeat to Italy (2-1).

Scotland were beaten 4-1 by hosts Ireland in the semi-finals but recovered well to beat Pool B opponents Italy in their final match to claim a place on the podium.

Image: Hockey Ireland

European bronze for two Holcombe men By Lucas Ball



Holcombe players Sean Parker and Jon Gurney won European Championships bronze over the weekend with England over-55s in Valencia, Spain.

England finished second in their pool having beaten Italy 6-0 and France 1-0 as well as losing 2-1 to the Netherlands, the eventual champions.

Gurney started every match with Parker involved from the bench each time, including England's 1-0 win over Wales in the third/fourth-place play-off match to secure the bronze medal on Sunday.

If you are interested in picking up a stick at Holcombe Park, please contact Chris Doyle (Back To Hockey coach) on cdstripes2@gmail.com to discuss attending an upcoming session, currently held on Tuesdays from 7:30-9:30pm.

Holcombe star becomes European champion By Lucas Ball



Jennie Hoyte is a European champion following the England women's over-50s' 1-0 triumph over the Netherlands in Nottingham over the summer.

England progressed to the last-eight with three wins out of three in the group stage, then beating Spain 5-0 and Germany 3-0 in a shoot-out after a 2-2 draw to set up a final clash against the Netherlands.

Hoyte, winner of Holcombe's top-scorer award in 2022/23, played in five of England's six matches, scoring two goals in England's opener against Wales and adding to her tally in the quarter-final match against Spain.

Prince's Trust fundraising

Harriers player Chris Shillabeer will be cycling from Buckingham Palace to Windsor Castle as part of the Palace to Palace event in support of The Prince's Trust in October!

The Prince's Trust has tailored programmes and provides long-term support give young people the practical skills and emotional resilience to pick themselves back up and create their own positive futures.

You can donate via this link.

Summer hockey

As we approach the start of a new season, we have had another successful summer of intra-club hockey at Holcombe Park. Across eight teams, we had over 170 players involved from the men's, women's and junior sections of the club, as well as welcoming a number of new players who have subsequently joined the club for the winter league.

It doesn't run itself, and the team captains are instrumental in making sure the matches go ahead each week with an even number of players in each side. Ian Shelley, Emma Payne, Josh Lee, Ben Martin, Lee Allchorne, Rob South, Ali Brooks and Lucas Ball/Lauren Cook put lots of time in and the club benefitted from that.

We finished the summer with an excellent social event organised by Lee Allchorne with the support of his winter league team, the men's Harriers. The awards given out by a 6'2" parrot will probably never be repeated!

Adrian Hull Summer Hockey Co-Ordinator

Umpiring Corner

While most hockey stops over the summer, that isn't the case for some of our umpires. Ali Shelley has progressed through the East ranks and having ended the season as an unassessed outdoor umpire, he is now not only Level 1 assessed but is also on the National Youth Programme Umpiring Assocation (NYPUA), as well as being Level 1 assessed for indoor hockey!

As part of our summer hockey, we opened up the opportunity for new and young umpires to get involved supported by our team of Level 2 and 3 umpires. The uptake for this was amazing with 49 players offering to umpire as well! This include 12 of our under-14 and under-16 boys and girls, many of whom have since done the online Level 1 course and are ready to umpire this season!

This couldn't happen without the support of Liam Sutton, John Beckett, Harry Jarvis, Graham Sutton and Ian Shelley in a mentoring capacity, as well as our regular umpires supporting at the other end. Hopefully there will be plenty of newly-qualified umpires joining our third team this winter.

Adrian Hull Umpire Development Officer

Social Dates

Currently, the below dates are planned for socials until Christmas. Any updates will be announced via club social media channels.

14th October - Oktoberfest 4th November - Beer Pong Tournament 11th November - Decade Party (dress as a decade) 2nd December - club Christmas party

10th December - Ryan Ravenscroft returns and junior Christmas social





## FIRST TEAM FIXTURES & RESULTS

Men's 1s				
Date & time	Opponent	Venue	Result	Scorers
16/09, 6:00pm	Reading	Holcombe Park		
23/09, 7:00pm	Southgate	Southgate Hockey Centre		
28/09, 8:30pm	Old Georgians	Holcombe Park		
30/09, 6:00pm	Surbiton	Sugden Road		
06/10, 2:45pm	Racing Club de	Real Club		
_	France (EHL)			
		Barcelona		
07/10, 3:00pm	Real Club	Real Club		
or 08/10,	de Polo de	de Polo de		
11:00am	Barcelona/CA Montrouge (EHL)	Barcelona		
14/10, 6:00pm	Oxted	Holcombe Park		
21/10, 4:00pm	East Grinstead	East Grinstead Sports Club		
22/10, 3:00pm	Wimbledon	Holcombe Park		
28/10, 6:30pm	. •	Nottingham		
	Nottingham	Hockey Centre		
04/11, 6:00pm	Beeston	Holcombe Park		
11/11, 6:00pm	Cardiff & Met	Holcombe Park		

Date & time	Opponent	Venue	Result	Scorers
18/11, 6:00pm	Hampstead & Westminster	Paddington Recreation Ground		
Women's 1s				
Date & time	Opponent	Venue	Result	Scorers
23/09, 4:30pm	Southgate	Southgate Hockey Centre		
30/09, 3:30pm	Surbiton 2s	Sugden Road		
07/10, 5:00pm		Holcombe		
, , 1		Park		
14/10, 2:00pm	Slough	Holcombe Park		
21/10, 2:30pm	Harleston	Harleston		
. , .	Magpies	Magpies HC		
04/11, 2:00pm	O1	Holcombe		
, , 1	Buccaneers	Park		
11/11, 2:00pm	Canterbury	Holcombe		
, , ,	1	Park		
18/11,	Barnes	Dukes		
12:00pm		Meadow		
^	Wimbledon 2s			
, , ,		High School		
02/11, 5:00pm	Southgate	Holcombe		
, , ,	O	Park		
03/02	Surbiton 2s	Holcombe		
		Park		
10/02, 1:30pm	Sevenoaks	Holly Bush		
Î		Lane		
17/02,	Slough	Upton Court		
12:30pm		Road		
24/02	Harleston	Holcombe		
	Magpies	Park		
02/03,	Team Bath	Bath		
12:30pm	Buccaneers	University		

Date & time Opponent Venue Result Scorers 09/03, 1:15pm Canterbury Polo Farm Holcombe 16/03 Barnes Park 23/03 Wimbledon 2s Holcombe



### NATIONAL LEAGUE

Men's Premier Division - 16th September, 2023

Venue & Time **Away** Home Wimbledon Raynes Park High vs. Beeston School (4:30pm) Cardiff & Met Welsh Institute of vs. Southgate Sport (6:00pm) East Grinstead East Grinstead vs. Oxted Sports Club (6:00pm) vs. Reading Holcombe Holcombe Park Pitch One (6:00pm) Surbiton vs. Hampstead & Sugden Road Pitch Westminster One (6:00pm) University of vs. Old Georgians Nottingham Hockey Centre Pitch Four Nottingham

Men's Premier Division - 23rd September, 2023

Beeston

Venue & Time Home Away Oxted vs. Wimbledon Caterham School (4:30pm)

> Nottingham Hockey vs. East Grinstead

Centre Pitch One (6:00pm)

(6:30pm)

Hampstead & vs. University of Paddington

Westminster Recreation Ground Nottingham

(6:00pm)

Old Georgians St. George's College vs. Surbiton Pitch One (6:00pm)

vs. Cardiff & Met Sonning Lane Pitch Reading

One (6:30pm)

Southgate vs. Holcombe Southgate Hockey

Centre Pitch One

(7:00pm)



Men's Division One South - 23rd September, 2023					
Home		Away	Venue & Time		
Old Loughtonians	VS.	Teddington	Old Loughtonians		
			HC Pitch One		
			(5:00pm)		
Canterbury	VS.	University of Exeter	Polo Farm Pitch One		
			(6:00pm)		
Old Cranleighan	VS.	Brighton & Hove	Old Cranleighan		
			Sports Club (6:00pm)		
Men's Division One So	outh	ı - 24th September, 202	23		
Richmond	VS.	Sevenoaks	Quintin Hogg		
			Memorial Ground		
			Pitch One (1:30pm)		
Havant	VS.	Team Bath	Havant College		
		Buccaneers	(2:00pm)		
Men's Division One N	orth	a - 23rd September, 202	23		
Home		Away	Venue & Time		
Durham University	VS.	Leeds	4:00pm		
•			•		
Brooklands	VS.	Harborne	6:00pm		
Manchester			•		
University					
Men's Division One North - 24th September, 2023					
Olton & West	VS.	Deeside Ramblers	Olton & WW Sports		
Warwickshire			Club (1:30pm)		
Bowdon	VS.	University of	Bowdon Club		
		Birmingham	(2:30pm)		
Loughborough	VS.	Cambridge City	Loughborough		
Students		- <del>-</del>	University Pitch One		
			(2:30pm)		

Men's Conference West - 24th September, 2023				
Home		Away	Venue & Time	
Clifton Robinsons	VS.	Ashmoor	Clifton College (12:00pm)	
Isca	VS.	University of Bristol	University of Exeter Pitch One (12:00pm)	
Plymouth Marjon	VS.	Oxford Hawks	Plymouth Marjon Pitch One (1:00pm)	
Fareham	VS.	Cheltenham	Henry Cort Community School (1:30pm)	
Chichester	VS.	University of Exeter 2s	Chichester College (2:00pm)	
Men's Conference No:	rth -	- 23rd September, 2023		
Home		Away	Venue & Time	
Wakefield	VS.	Ben Rhydding	Wakefield HC Pitch One (4:00pm)	
Sheffield	VS.	Oxton	Abbeydale Sports Club (4:30pm)	
Men's Conference North - 24th September, 2023				
Brooklands Manchester University 2s	vs.	Doncaster	Brooklands Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club (2:00pm)	
Lindum	VS.	Belper	Lindum Sports Association (2:00pm)	
Timperley	VS.	Beeston 2s	Timperley HC Pitch One (2:30pm)	





Men's Conference East - 23rd September, 2023				
Home		Away	Venue & Time	
London Wayfarers	VS.	Spencer	King's House Sports Ground (2:30pm)	
Old Georgians 2s	VS.	Surbiton 2s	St. George's College Pitch One (4:00pm)	
Indian Gymkhana	VS.	Hampstead & Westminster 2s	Indian Gymkhana (6:00pm)	
Wimbledon 2s	VS.	Guildford	Raynes Park High School (6:00pm)	
Men's Conference No	rth -	24th September, 2023	_	
Bromley & Beckenham	VS.	Ipswich	Langley Park School (2:00pm)	
Men's Conference Mic	llan	ds - 24th September, 20	023	
Home		Away	Venue & Time	
Harleston Magpies	VS.	Stourport	Harleston Magpies HC Pitch One (1:30pm)	
Bedford	VS.	University of Birmingham 2s	Bedford Hockey Centre Pitch One (1:30pm)	
City of Peterborough	VS.	Banbury	City of Peterborough Hockey Club (2:00pm)	
St. Albans	VS.	Norwich City	Oaklands Pitch One (2:00pm)	
University of Nottingham 2s	vs.	Barford Tigers	Nottingham Hockey Centre Pitch Four (2:30pm)	







Vitality Women's Division One South - 23rd September, 2023			
Home		Away	Venue & Time
Surbiton 2s	VS.	Team Bath	Sugden Road Pitch
		Buccaneers	One (1:00pm)
Canterbury	VS.	Harleston Magpies	Polo Farm Pitch One (1:15pm)
Wimbledon 2s	VS.	Barnes	Raynes Park High School (2:30pm)
Southgate	VS.	Holcombe	Southgate Hockey
			Centre Pitch One
			(4:30pm)
Sevenoaks	VS.	Slough	Holly Bush Lane
			(4:30pm)
Vitality Women's Divi	isio	n One North - 23rd Sep	tember, 2023
Home		Away	Venue & Time
Sutton Coldfield	VS.	Buckingham	Wyndley Leisure
		_	Centre (12:00pm)
Swansea	VS.	Durham University	King George V
		•	Playing Fields
			(12:00pm)
Gloucester City	VS.	Leicester City	Oxstalls Sports Park
_			(1:30pm)
Wakefield	VS.	Ben Rhydding	Wakefield HC Pitch
			One (2:00pm)
Olton & West	VS.	Stourport	Olton & WW Sports
Warwickshire			Club (4:30pm)

Vitality Women's Conference West - 23rd September, 2023				
Home		Away	Venue & Time	
Oxford Hawks	VS.	Clifton Robinsons 2s	Banbury Road North	
			Pitch One (12:00pm)	
Witney	VS.	Fareham	Wood Green Scchool (12:30pm)	
Reading 2s	VS.	Exeter	Sonning Lane Pitch	
			One (1:30pm)	
Basingstoke	VS.	Trojans	Basingstoke Hockey	
			Club Pitch Two	
			(2:00pm)	
Cheltenham	VS.	Bristol Firebrands	Balcarras School	
			(2:00pm)	
Vitality Women's Con	fere	nce North - 23rd Septe	ember, 2023	
Home		Away	Venue & Time	
Pendle Forest	VS.	Didsbury Northern	Pendle Vale College	
			(11:30am)	
Newcastle University	VS.	Bowdon 2s	Newcastle University	
			Sports Ground	
			(1:15pm)	
Brooklands-Poynton	VS.	Fylde	Brooklands Cricket	
			& Lawn Tennis Club	
			(2:00pm)	
Durham University 2s	VS.	Leeds	2:00pm	
Timperley	VS.	Harrogate	Timperley HC Pitch One (4:00pm)	





Vitality Women's Conference East - 23rd September, 2023			
Home		Away	Venue & Time
London Wayfarers	VS.	Spencer	King's House Sports
			Ground (12:30pm)
Guildford	VS.	Hampstead &	Broadwater School
		Westminster 2s	Pitch One (3:00pm)
Horsham	VS.	Ipswich	Christ's Hospital
			School Pitch One
			(3:00pm)
Old Loughtonians	VS.	Teddington	Old Loughtonians
			HC Pitch One
			(3:00pm)
East London	VS.	Old Georgians	Lee Valley Hockey &
			Tennis Centre Pitch
			One (6:00pm)
Vitality Women's Con	ifere	ence Midlands - 23rd Se	eptember, 2023
Home		Away	Venue & Time
Cannock	VS.	Cambridge City	Chase Park Pitch
			Two (12:00pm)
Repton	VS.	Belper	Repton School
			(12:00pm)
St. Albans	VS.	Oxford University	Oaklands Pitch One
		_	(1:00pm)
Bedford	VS.	University of	Bedford Hockey
		Birmingham 2s	Centre Pitch One
		<b>O</b>	(1:30pm)
Doncaster	VS.	Beeston 2s	John S Marshall
			Arena (6:00pm)



# THREE NEW SIGNINGS FOR HOLCOMBE MEN

By Lucas Ball

We are delighted to announce the arrivals of Alex Pendle, Brad Read and Louis Duprez to our Men's 1s' squad following David Ames' contract extension.

Pendle, a Great Britain Elite Development Programme (EDP) player, joins from Loughborough University ahead of the 2023/24 campaign while Read, a New Zealand international, and Duprez return to the club following previous spells at Holcombe.

Read also takes on a role as assistant coach with our Women's 1s.

On signing, Pendle said: "I'm really looking forward to getting on the pitch with the boys, especially given the successful season last year."

Read added: "I'm super excited to be returning to Holcombe Park for the upcoming season. I'm really looking forward to getting back with the group very soon and to be back at such a great club."

Head coach Barry Middleton commented: "Alex is an exciting and versatile young player. I'm really looking forward to working with him and excited to see the value he can add to our group throughout the season.

"Louis is a player we know well from his time at the club in the past. His energy and enthusiasm are infectious for any group he is a part of. He also has great quality in both attack and defence and is another brilliant addition to the squad.

"Brad is an experienced international with good technical ability and a smart hockey brain. He knows a lot of the players from his time with us a couple of years ago and is a great person to have in the team."

Women's 1s' head coach Nick Bandurak added: "It's great to have Brad on board for such an exciting season with the Women's 1s. Alongside his playing pedigree, Brad is a top coach and a top bloke and I'm looking forward to him taking ownership of our defensive prowess."

You can watch Holcombe's new signings back in action for the first





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### SIX NEW SIGNINGS FOR HOLCOMBE WOMEN

By Lucas Ball

We are delighted to announce the signings of Jade van der Zwan, Deanna Ritchie, Lucy Whalley, Tilly Tillings, Hannah Bond and Lottie Bingham to our Women's 1s' squad.

"I can't wait to begin my journey with Holcombe," said van der Zwan. "I am excited to be signing with the team and also excited to step out of my comfort zone and play in a different country, learn from experienced players and coaches and make new friendships."

Ritchie said: "I am incredibly excited and honoured to be joining the Holcombe family.

"I can't wait to be over in the UK to meet the rest of the team and dive into the season ahead."

Whalley added: "I am looking forward to meeting my new teammates, training and performing at a high level, and contributing to the team's success."

Tillings said: "I'm excited to start at Holcombe this season and looking forward to meeting my new team-mates."

Bond joined from Sevenoaks and said: "I'm really excited to be part of a new team and to hopefully achieve lots of success this season!"

Bingham, who has represented England at various youth levels, added: "I am thrilled about the new challenge at Holcombe. It presents an exciting opportunity to team up with new players and coaches in an entirely different competitive environment. I can't wait to see what our collective efforts can achieve this season."

Head coach Nick Bandurak said: "Jade is a really exciting, attacking player and I'm thrilled to have her on board for this coming season.

"Jade has the drive and determination to take big steps forward in her game and I'm excited for her to bring that energy to our play in the final third.

"It is great to have Deanna on board and I'm really looking forward to working with her in such an exciting year.

"As a senior international, Deanna has a wealth of experience at the top of the game and her ruthlessness in and around the circle will form a crucial part of our attacking threat.

"Lucy has a wealth of National League experience alongside playing collegiately in America and this will be an integral asset to the group throughout such an exciting season.

"I'm really looking forward to having Tilly on board with the Women's 1s this season.

"Tilly is a quick and exciting forward with a keen eye for goal and experience of the league with Canterbury. I'm thrilled she's chosen to join our group ahead of this year.

"Hannah is a fantastic player both indoor and out and I'm really looking forward to working with her this year. Hannah brings a wealth of experience of challenging for titles within this league with Sevenoaks and this will be a hugely important asset for the group this season.

"Lottie is an extremely talented attacking player with a big future ahead of her. I'm really looking forward to working with her this season and excited to see the impact she can have through such an exciting year."

Bandurak's side begin their season with back-to-back away fixtures against Southgate (23rd September, 4:30pm) and Surbiton (30th September, 3:30pm) before they take on Sevenoaks (7th October, 5pm) in their first competitive outing at Holcombe Park of 2023/24.

### **CLUB RESULTS**

Home (09/09) M4s (Isaac Johnson 2, Ben Rye, Ben Ashford 4s 2-3 (Charlotte Wellings, Martin, Ben May) 5-0 Sittingbourne 2s (Friendly) (Umpires: Adrian Hull & Harry Jarvis)

Harriers (Chris Shillabeer) 1-1 Burnt Ash 5s (Friendly) (Umpire: Parminder Singh)

M2s (Louis Parker, Ian Harvey, Rob Brunt) 3-0 St. Albans (Friendly) (Umpires: John Beckett & Graham Sutton)

W3s (Flo Wood 2, Amber Matthews) Ashford 2s (Friendly) (Umpires: Ian Shelley & Gary Lambkin)

Away (09/09)Claire Hales, Ali Brooks) W4s (Friendly) Sittingbourne 2s 5-0 W5s (Friendly)

Gravesham & Wellcome 1-4 (Simon Lawrence, Jamie Pepper, Blake Jones, Dave Hobbes) M5s (Friendly) (Umpire: Richard Spackman) East Grinstead 3-2 (Jade van der Zwan, Leisa Randall) W1s (Friendly)

Gravesham & Wellcome 2s 2-2 (Billy Pepper, Owen Davies) Hawks (Friendly) (Umpire: Richard Spackman)

Sittingbourne 4s 2-0 Heroes (Friendly)

Hampstead & Westminster 1-2 M1s (Nick Bandurak, Jake Owen) (Friendly) Follow us on social media:

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### FAITHDEAN PLC

### **CLUB FIXTURES**

Home (16/09)

10:30am (Pitch One) - Heroes vs. Gravesham & Wellcome 4s (Friendly)

11:00am (Pitch Two) - W5s vs. Gillingham Anchorians 2s (Friendly)

1:00pm (Pitch Two) - W4s vs. Gore Court 2s (Friendly)

2:00pm (Pitch One) - Hurricanes vs.

Canterbury Friars (Friendly)

2:30pm (Pitch Two) - Hawks vs.

Canterbury 7s (Friendly)

4pm (Pitch One) - M3s vs.

Canterbury Pilgrims (Friendly) 6:00pm (Pitch One) - M1s vs.

Reading (Premier Division)

Home (23/09)

10:30am (Pitch One) - Heroes vs. Maidstone 4s (SE Division Eight Invicta)

11:00am (Pitch Two) - Harriers vs. Herne Bay 4s (SE Division Six Invicta)

12:00pm (Pitch One) - W2s vs. Ashford (SE Division One East) 12:30pm (Pitch Two) - M6s vs.

Marden Russets 4s (SE Division Four Invicta)

1:30pm (Pitch One) - W3s vs. Sittingbourne (SE Division One Invista)

Invicta) 2:00pm (Pitch Two) - M4s vs. Marden Russets 2s (SE Division

Two Invicta)

3:00pm (Pitch One) - M2s vs. Oxted 2s (SE Premier Division) Away (16/09)

11:00am - Canterbury 4s vs. M4s (Friendly)

11:45am - Gore Court vs. W4s (Friendly)

1:30pm - Brighton & Hove vs. M2s (Friendly)

3:00pm - Canterbury 5s vs. M5s (Friendly)

Away (23/09)

10:30am - Cliftonville vs. M3s (SE Division One East)

10:45am - Gillingham Anchorians 3s vs. Hurricanes (SE Division Seven Invicta)

12:00pm - K Sports vs. W4s (SE Division Three Invicta)

2:30pm - Blackheath & Elthamians 4s vs. W5s (SE Division Five Invicta)

2:45pm - Knole Park vs. M5s (SE Division Two Invicta)

4:00pm - Blackheath & Elthamians Outlaws vs. Hawks (SE Division Five Invicta)

> 4:30pm - Southgate vs. W1s (Vitality Division One South) 7:00pm - Southgate vs. M1s (Premier Division)

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