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Note: Polo can be a dangerous sport and whilst we welcome all visitors we would like to point out that any persons at Ham Polo Club are present at their own risk and should ensure that they, their property and particularly their children, are kept at a safe distance from the field of play and from the pony lines and practice areas. HPC will accept no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any kind of injury, loss or damage suffered by any person to their property while present at HPC, whatsoever or howsoever that injury, loss or damage is caused. Full details on the website.

Photography by Stephen Bartholomew, Eva Espresso, Tony Gamble, Mark Greenwood, Julie Priestley, Emelie Scrase

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EVERY GREAT STORY BEGINS WITH AN ENCOUNTER...



With a long and varied history dating back to its beginnings in 1785, Piper-Heidsieck is one of Champagne's most renowned Houses for inspiring legendary tales.

Every great story begins with an encounter. Piper-Heidsieck's story began with the encounter between Agathe Perthois and the German merchant Florens-Louis Heidsieck in 1777. He founded his Champagne House for her and created a "cuvée worthy of a queen".

In 1785, the ambitious self-starter presented his first cuvée to Marie-Antoinette, it was love at first sip, and the Queen became the first Ambassador of the House.

In 1795, Christian Heidsieck (Florens-Louis' nephew) and Henri-Guillaume Piper, joined the Reims venture. They quickly became inseparable and together would promote the Champagne House's reputation well beyond the border of France. From Hapsburg Princes to Chinese Emperors, fourteen royal and imperial courts would accord the privilege of royal warrant-holder to the Champagne House. When Florens-Louis died in 1828, the duo continued the adventure side by side.

Unfortunately, in 1835, Christian Heidsieck suddenly passed away ending this partnership.

After a suitably respectful mourning period, his widow would remarry... and none other than Henri-Guillaume Piper. Once again, love would shape the destiny of the House and seal the indivisible union between the names PIPER-HEIDSIECK.

In 1933, Piper-Heidsieck encountered the big screen in Laurel and Hardy's film "Son of the Desert", it was the first screen appearance for any bottle of champagne. A few years later, the entire cast of Hollywood had taken a fancy to Piper-Heidsieck and in 1953, none other than Marilyn Monroe herself declared "I go to bed with a few drops of Chanel No5 and I wake up each morning with a glass of Piper-Heidsieck; it warms my body up."

Today, Piper-Heidsieck maintains its strong connection with the cinema as the official champagne of the Oscars and Cannes Film Festival.

Still family owned, Piper-Heidsieck is one of the most awarded Champagne Houses of the century. Chef de Cave Émilien Boutillat is the current custodian, whose philosophy is simple: preserving the quality, elegance and generosity of style that has always characterised the Piper-Heidsieck wines.

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WITH TOM & TEDDY

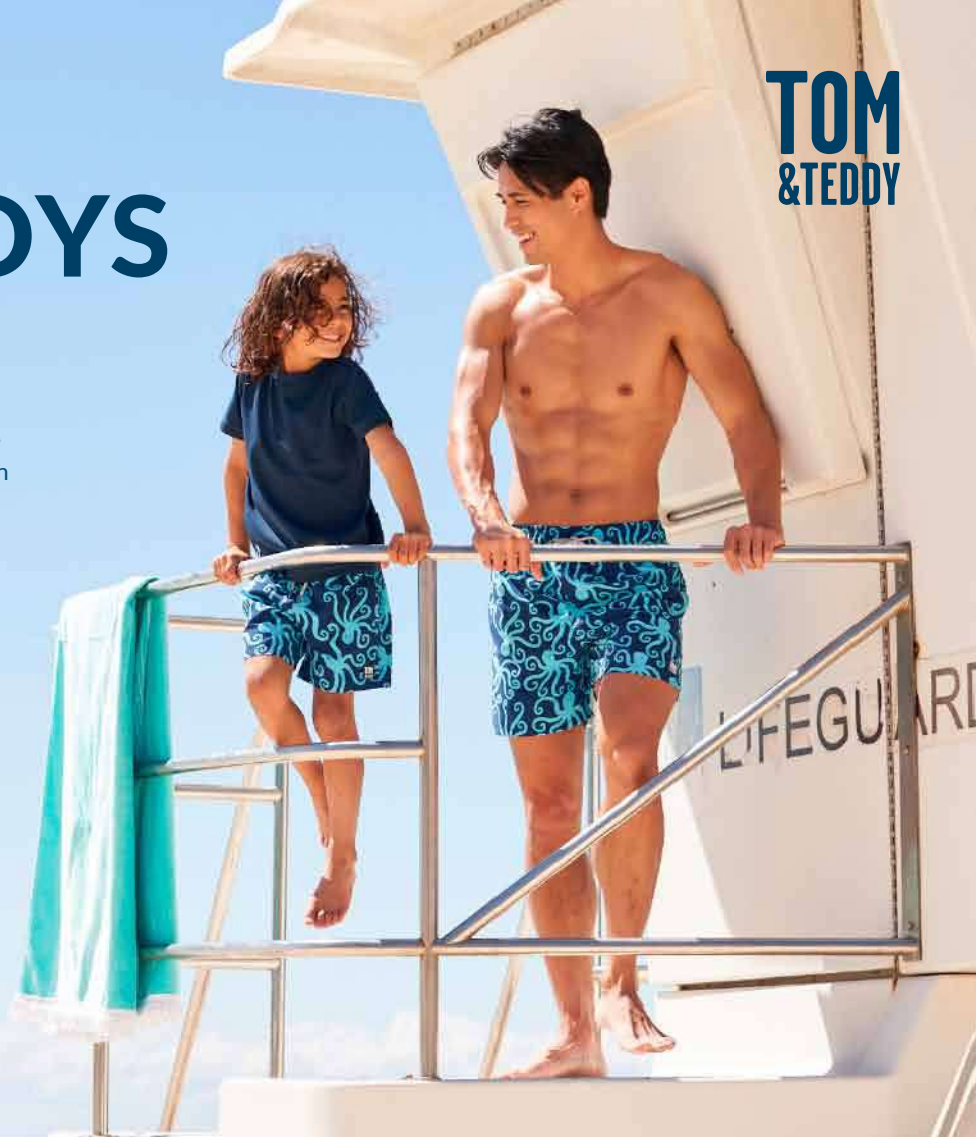
Tom & Teddy's matching men's and boys' trunks are perfect for celebrating and strengthening the very special bond between fathers and their sons – after all, every boy wants to be just like his dad! And with a whole host of designs and colours, there's something to suit everyone, even the grandads in the family. Match up your boys with a wonderful birthday or Father's Day gift!

SWIM SHORTS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN SUN SEWN IN!

Tom & Teddy's distinctive trunks in two-colour patterns "have a little bit of the Australian sunshine sewn in". With bright shades and bold shapes, the prints are fresh and playful without being too cute. And the ultra-soft outer fabric and inner mesh brief make them extra comfortable – they can be worn all day long, both in and out of the water!

Online store: www.tomandteddy.co.uk

Instagram: @tomandteddy



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As we rapidly approach season 2020 I look back on quite a year. There have been many changes at our beloved club in a short time and that can sometimes feel unsettling especially as we have been used to a very long period of more gradual change.

There are however many constants and we all have many very happy memories to cherish as we pause briefly post season to 'catch our breath'!

Sometimes coming to Ham can seem like a bit of a dream. For example where else can one rub shoulders with Princes, Ambassadors, Air Marshalls, Maharajas and a host of world class polo players and yet feel as relaxed in their presence as they do in ours when unwinding in Ham's special home of London polo.

Where else in the UK would it have been possible to watch a 32 goal match replete with many of the best Argentine players on the planet. Where else could one have listened to an Ambassadorial 'double act' between their excellencies the Argentinian and Uruguayan Ambassadors.

The annual visit of the RAF team and the BCS Anglo-Japanese trophy presented by his excellency Ambassador Tsuruoka, the Laureus Trophy, Lux Afrique, the Asia Cup and the Hong Kong match in early September all stand out as special occasions when our family friendly club made our visitors feel most welcome.

Ham's teams travelled far and wide again during the Summer representing the club at home and abroad in what is a very important ambassadorial role of our own. To show that we continue to match the best of our fellow clubs in their tournaments, as they participate in ours, is a thrilling way to build bridges with our fellow HPA friends and the wider international polo family. My second 'spectatorial' trip to Newport Rhode Island proved equally exciting and I'm delighted to report that our Ham team won albeit by the narrowest of margins in a US style penalty shoot-out!

All these activities, and many more, contributed to make our past season a great success and reflect so well on the Ham team whether it be under Will Healy's steady hand on the polo reins or Sam Pedder's innovative efforts to help grow our club. Their solid input and those of all the staff, coaches, pros, grooms, caterers, General Committee and above all our loyal Members, whether Playing or Social, have and can naturally count on their Chairman's enthusiastic support going forward.

Howard Davis – Chairman



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VICE PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

Ham Polo Club is one of the original names in English Polo, let's not forget that in a few years' time Ham will be celebrating its 100th year. Today though we are lucky enough to have a magnificent collection of playing members who are keeping the spirit of fun, friendly and inclusive polo alive at our club. A dedicated committee are taking care of the running of our club and making plans to ensure its future is safe so polo players, and those who appreciate this wonderful sport, can enjoy it here for many generations to come.

This year we welcome Blue Strawberry Group as Ham's new hospitality service providers and I very much look forward to enjoying the clubhouse under their management. A highly capable team in the Polo Office continues to operate the club from day to day and I hope all the members will continue to support them as helpfully as they have in recent years. As I have said before, if we all row together this club will continue to thrive.

Ham remains one of the most idyllic places in England to absorb everything that is polo. I wish you all a tremendous season in 2020 filled with exciting tournaments (and hopefully even another win against Cowdray) and look forward to joining you at our wonderful club.

Colonel Geoffrey Godbold OBE TD DL



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GENERAL

- The ground is 30 yards long, 200 yards wide.
- Each chukka is 7 1/2 minutes. In the last chukka the game ends on the bell unless there is a tie.
- There are intervals of 3 minutes between chukkas; 5 minutes at half-time. Ends are changed after each goal.
- Each player is handicapped from -2 up to 10 goals (the best players).
- The aggregate handicap of the four players in a team is the team handicap.

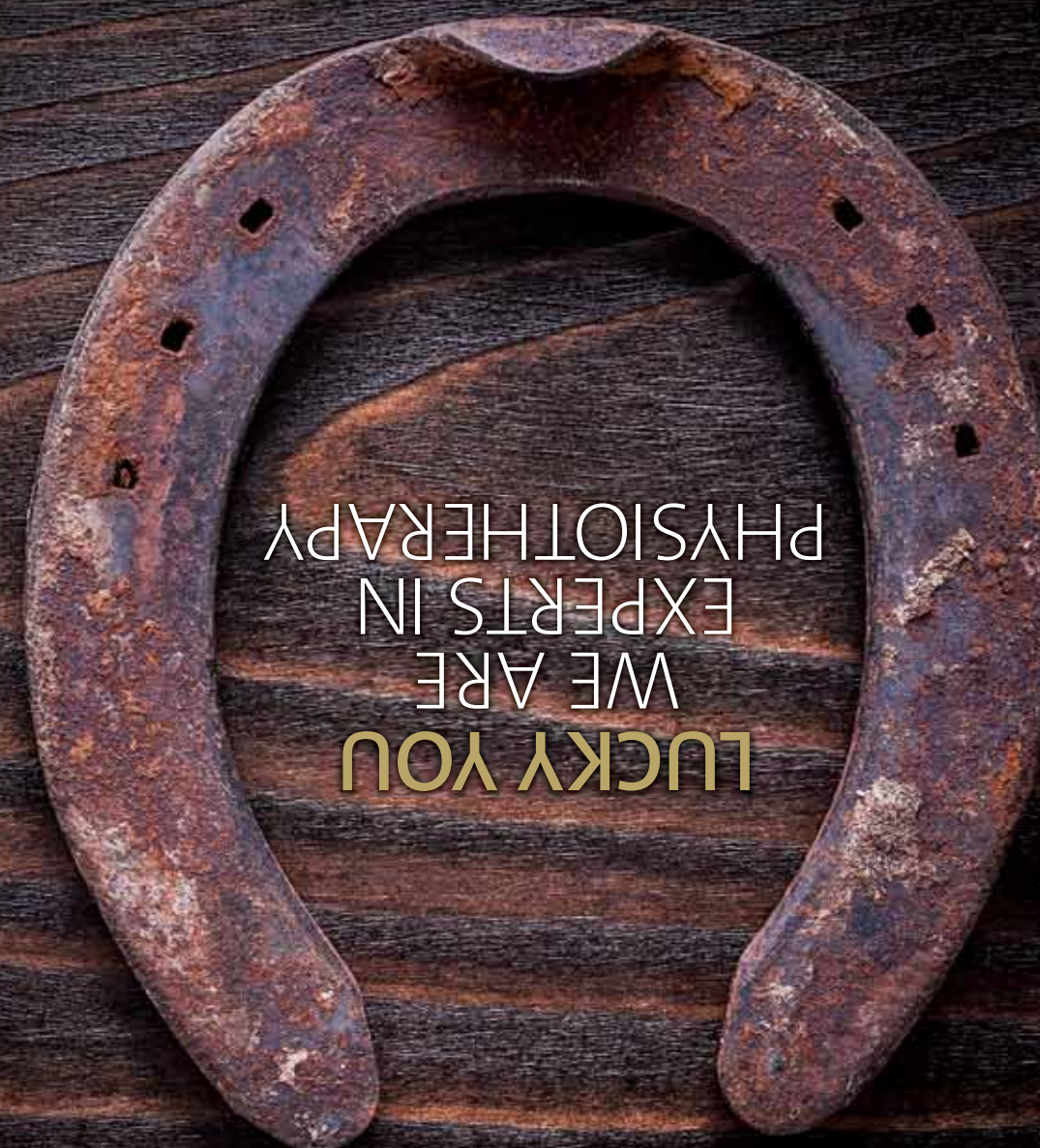
FOULS

- Crossing the right of way is one of the most dangerous fouls in polo and can result in a very serious accident.
- A player following the ball on its exact line has the right of way over all players. Any other player who crosses the player on the right of way close enough to be dangerous commits a foul.
- Penalties vary according to the degree of danger and closeness of the cross.
- When travelling in the same direction a player may draw level with another and then force him across the line and take possession of the ball without committing a foul.
- A player may move in parallel with the line and play a shot, providing he can do so without interfering with another player - mount, or causing him to check back.
- Two players riding for a ball from opposite directions in the open must both give way to the left and take the ball on their right or off side.
- It is forbidden to hit across the legs of a pony.
- The elbow may not be used when riding off.
- A player may hook an opponent's stick but never across a pony or above the shoulders.
- When two players are approaching a ball in the open from different directions, the player approaching at the least angle to the line of the ball has the right of way.
- Dangerous riding or rough handling is not allowed - a player may ride an opponent off.

PENALTIES

- A goal is given if the cross is dangerous or deliberate in the vicinity of the goal. The ball is thrown in 10 yards in front of the goal without ends being changed.
- Free hit from 30 yards opposite the centre of the goal - defenders to be behind the back line and outside the goal posts which they must not ride through when the ball is hit.

PAIN OR SPORTS INJURY?
BAD LUCK



Sometimes an injury can just be bad luck! If you are suffering from a sport injury, The London Clinic gives fast access to leading, expert physiotherapists who can determine the best course of action and get you back in the saddle. We are the UK's largest independent private hospital with some of the UK's best medical experts, facilities and services available in Central London.

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FIXTURES 2020

FEBRUARY

Saturday 16 ■ Copa Califa Final, Esperanza PC (Away)

MARCH

Saturday 7 ■ Ham vs Accra PC, Ghana (Away)

Monday 23 Polo Liveries Open

APRIL

Sunday 12 ■ Easter Family Lunch & Easter Egg Hunt – visitors welcome

Tuesday 21 ■ Pre Season Cocktail Party

MAY

Sunday 3 Double Bett Trophy

Saturday 9 Ham House Tournament Matches

Sunday 10 ■ Ham House Tournament Final
Hine Cognac Trophy

Thursday 14 ■ Supper Club, American Evening

Saturday 16 ■ League – David Healy

Sunday 17 Learn to Play Day – find out all about polo as well as watching the games
H R Owen Trophy
BBVA Bowl

Friday 22 ■ Friday Night Polo Party – visitors welcome, polo & DJ until late

Saturday 23 ■ Family Brunch and Chukkas – visitors welcome
■ RAF Cranwell Tournament, RAF Cranwell (Away)

Sunday 24 ■ Mixed Doubles Tournament Final
Erskine Trophy
■ RAF Cranwell Tournament, RAF Cranwell (Away)

Saturday 30 ■ League – David Healy

Sunday 31
Armed Forces Day Richmond Park Cup – attendance free for all past & present Armed Forces
Doug Brown Plate



Features

■ TOURNAMENT FINAL	■ SUMMER FESTIVAL
■ VISITING TEAM	■ SOCIAL EVENT
■ SATURDAY LEAGUE	■ AWAY MATCH

JUNE

Saturday 6 ■ League – David Healy

Sunday 7 Japan Day – Polo BCS Cup
Tiger Tops
Tiger Mountain

Saturday 13 ■ Family Brunch and Chukkas – visitors welcome

Sunday 14 ■ Petersham Bowl Tournament Final
John Player Plate

Thursday 18 ■ Laureus Polo Cup (private ticketed event)

Friday 19 ■ Friday Night Polo Party – visitors welcome, polo & DJ until late

Saturday 20 ■ League – David Healy
■ RAF Polo Day (private ticketed event)
■ Ham vs RAF

Sunday 21
Gentlemen's Day Wimbledon Brewery Trophy
Ventura – Pauly Trophy
Penny Farthing Polo

Thursday 25 ■ Supper Club – the Gastronomic Experience

Sunday 28 ■ Summer Tournament Final for the Rosie Adams Bowl
Rerrieson Trophy

JULY

Friday 3 ■ Friday Night Polo Party – Visitors Welcome, polo & DJ until late

Saturday 4 ■ American Tournament & Brunch

Sunday 5 ■ Cheval Cup
Peter Pitts II

Sunday 12 ■ Piper Heidsieck Tournament Final

Friday 17 ■ Friday Night Polo Party – Visitors Welcome, polo & DJ until late

Saturday 18 ■ League - David Healy Final
■ Family Brunch and Chukkas – visitors welcome

Sunday 19 Don Zolio
Tigerstream

Saturday 25 ■ League - Peggy Healy

Sunday 26
Ladies' Day Godbold Trophy
Treleven Cup
Quatros Amigos

AUGUST

Sunday 2 ■ Argentine Cup Final

Saturday 8 ■ League – Peggy Healy

Sunday 9
Family Fun Day Hurlingham Perpetual Cup
Finalista Cup

Thursday 13 ■ Supper Club – Game Evening

Saturday 15 ■ League – Peggy Healy

Sunday 16 Stagshead (Ride London Cycle Event)
Indian Army Trophy

Saturday 22 ■ League – Peggy Healy

Sunday 23 ■ Faberge Roehampton Cup Final
Critchley Trophy

Sunday 30 ■ Ladies Tournament Final
Bannister Bowl
Peter Pitts I

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 5 ■ League – Peggy Healy
■ Ham vs Newport, USA (Away)

Sunday 6 Autumn Cup
Polo Challenge Cup
Candillio Cup
■ Ham vs Cowdray, Cowdray (Away)

Sunday 13 ■ Kenham Building Billy Walsh Final
Kingfisher Trophy
Floating Seat

Saturday 19 ■ League – Peggy Healy Final
■ Family Brunch and Chukkas – visitors welcome

Sunday 20 East v West for The Oriental Cup
Jimmy Edwards Trophy

Sunday 27 Farewell Cup
Asprey Red Cross Cup
Aylesford Trophy
■ End of Season Party

DECEMBER

Thursday 10 ■ Christmas Cocktail Party



COPA CALIFA

ARGENTINA

HAM POLO CLUB	LA ESPERANZA
Will Healy 3	Emelie Scrase 0
Martin French-Blake 4	Fede Boudou 5
Benjie Davis 2	Jose Bertola 4
India Parker-Smith 0	Russell Tyre 0
9	9

Every February La Esperanza Polo Club in Coronel Suarez hosts the Copa Califa, a fun week long tournament all members of Ham Polo Club are invited to enter as reciprocal guests. Jose Bertola, Martin French-Blake and Ham's Will Healy have been organising the competition for many years now and a plethora of international players and Ham regulars have enjoyed competing.

This year after a week of games on the immaculate La Esperanza fields the trophy was awarded to the team representing Ham comprised of Will Healy, Benjie Davis, India Parker-Smith and Martin French-Blake. Huge thanks go to the Bertola family for their continued support and long standing reciprocal invitation they extend to members of Ham.

There truly is something for everyone in Coronel Suarez, the vibrant area is the spiritual home of polo with a record number of Open winners hailing from the town. Polo holidays can be booked with the assistance of either Will Healy or Juan Cruz Araya.

(Photos by Emelie Scrase)

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HOW CAN I START PLAYING POLO AT HAM?

1. Speak to our Head Coach, fill in the form on the website Learn to Play section or email lessons@hampoloclub.com
2. Learn how to ride with us (if you can't already) or have an assessment lesson.
3. Learn how to play polo in individual and group lessons with our Head Coach.
4. Join the Academy to participate instructional polo games.
5. Enough practice with the Academy and you are on your way to joining the Club as a chukka member.



THE ACADEMY 18YRS +

When learning polo at Ham Polo Club, players can join The Academy which includes:

- Clubhouse access all season and Sunday polo
- Members events
- Participation in instructional chukkas working towards participation in matches: instructional chukkas take place on Wednesday evening and Saturday & Sunday mornings with our Head Coach.

May- September Ham Polo Club has a number of HPA qualified coaches and a range of trained school ponies for novices to learn on.

October - March We offer Winter polo lessons at our partner arena polo clubs with our Head Coach, please contact lessons@hampoloclub.com; at Ham, we do offer the opportunity to learn to ride in advance of learning how to play polo in the Winter Season.

THE JUNIOR ACADEMY

The Junior Academy runs from May to September.

The Junior Academy (JA) introduces children aged 8-17 to polo with the aim of becoming adult players at Ham, the JA also offers the opportunity for parents and guardians to become involved through Social Membership. There is a range of experienced ponies and DBS checked, experienced instructors available and children have the opportunity to learn how to play polo, umpire, become a goal judge and how to play in matches.

To be involved in the JA, a child will need to be able to ride and hit the ball sufficiently well; lessons for this purpose are available. HPA membership is compulsory.



LEARN TO PLAY



Ham Polo Club is a friendly polo Club and welcomes beginners in a supportive and qualified environment among other beginner and intermediate players. During the season the Club pros and the office team guide new players through becoming involved in all Club activities both playing and social.



SATURDAYS 45MINS-1 HOUR

- Stick & Ball warm-up; each member receives individual instruction
- Instructional chukka using the Stick & Ball field or Pitch 2
- Occasional rules & tactics sessions
- Monthly Sunday Chukka during the match schedule

For more information on how to LEARN TO PLAY at HPC please contact office@hampoloclub.com

or call 0208 334 0000

or see our great 'LEARN TO PLAY' video at hampoloclub.com

CORPORATE EVENTS, PRIVATE PARTIES, WEDDINGS & FILMING

Conveniently located only eight miles from Hyde Park Corner, Ham Polo Club is the last remaining polo club in Greater London. Events benefit from the proximity to London and its transport network while experiencing the unrivalled open space and glorious views at the Club.

The stunning facilities provide a memorable experience and our picturesque Clubhouse and grounds are ideal for entertaining guests on all occasions.

Ham Polo Club is proud to work in partnership with Blue Strawberry, specialist caterers known for their sensational food, bespoke events and exceptional design.

The Clubhouse is flexible and can be expanded in various ways to accommodate larger events, weddings and parties, the Club offers ample outdoor space for marquees and parking. There is a full bar available, dancefloor and soft seating areas if required. Without extension the Clubhouse can seat 140 and the Roof Garden 80 or 140 standing.



POLO WITH A CORPORATE EVENT

A popular option for our corporate clients is to combine polo with a meeting and/ or hospitality this is usually offered Tuesday-Friday. All abilities can be accommodated including complete beginners, numbers for polo depend on the experience required and can be discussed with our Head Coach.

Half days – morning coffee & croissant, wooden horse tuition, stick & ball & a mini match. Lunch at our own Clubhouse.

Full days – morning coffee & croissant, wooden horse tuition, stick & ball & a match. Lunch at at own Clubhouse.

All tuition is conducted by HPA qualified instructors. We do suggest that all participants can ride a horse to a level of confident canter; however, we can tailor a package to a smaller number for complete beginners.

We are able to offer further capacity for other outdoor activities should you wish to include this within your day such as croquet, bowls, badminton...

FILMING

Ham Polo Club is a popular filming venue for a variety of media, film, television, music videos, promotional videos and the team is experienced in facilitating film crews on site.

Recent clients have included high profile popular television programmes, feature films, music videos, corporate promotional experience videos.

“The team at Ham Polo Club have been a true delight work with. They looked into every request we had with a positive attitude and were always extremely accommodating and understanding of the fast-paced film & TV industry.”

Location Manager, London Filming Studio

The Club can facilitate large vehicles including overnight parking, helicopter landings and food & beverage provision for crews.


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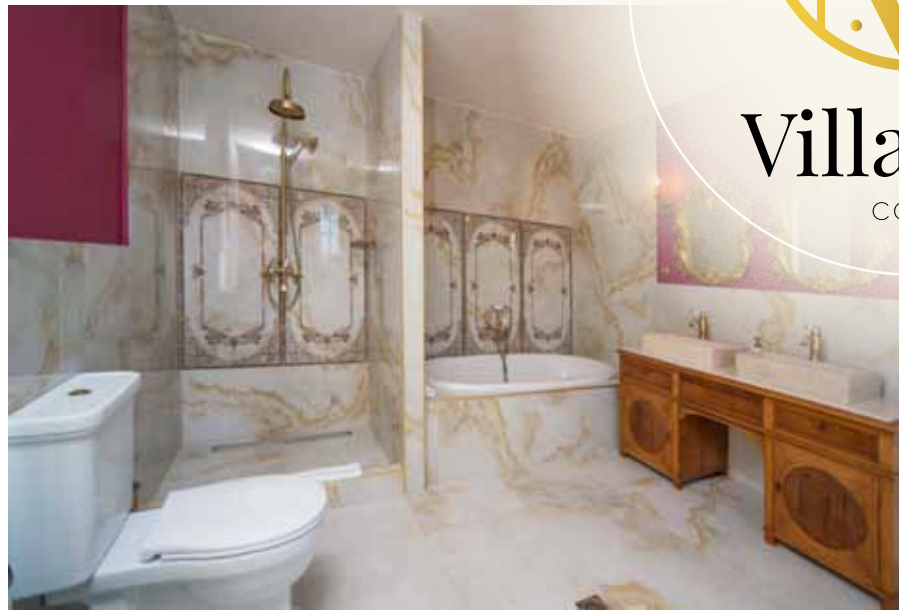
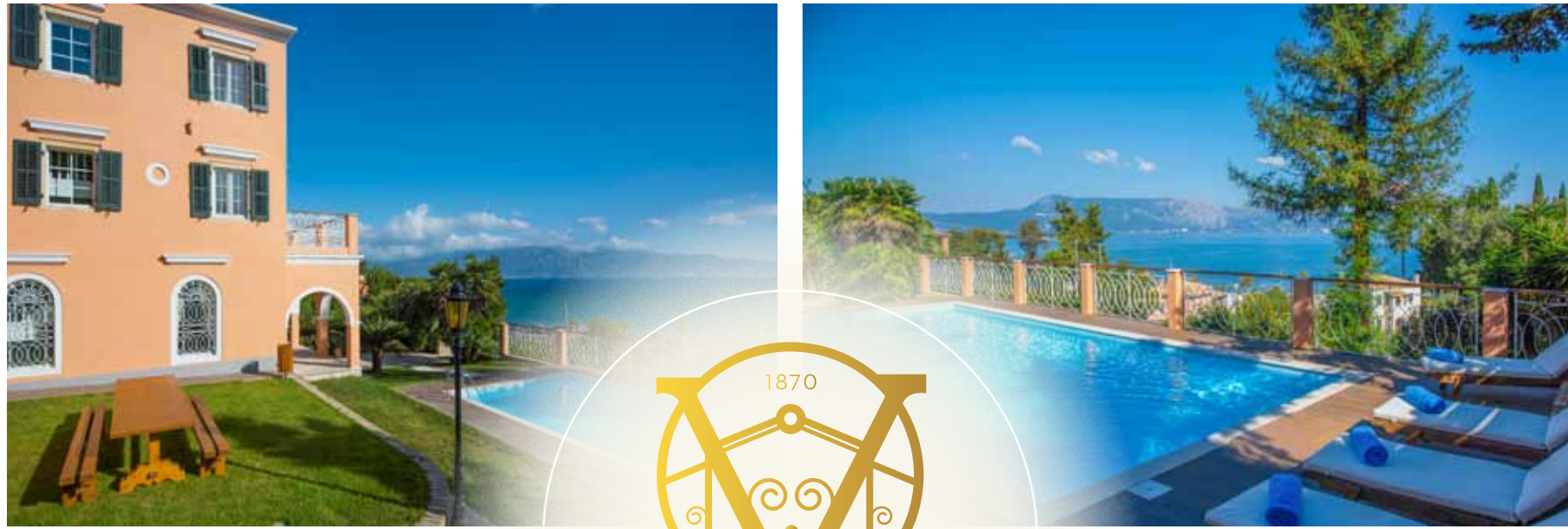
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www.villa1870corfu.com

MEMBERSHIP OF HAM POLO CLUB



Ham Polo Club is a friendly, family polo club and we welcome both playing and social members of all ages.

SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020 SEASON

Social Membership is available via application on the website and offers excellent value with each Sunday of polo at around only £15 per visit and complimentary entry to Friday Nights. There are a huge number of benefits to being a social member of the Club special members events, guest allowances, midweek chukkas & the Clubhouse, reciprocals with other equine clubs and preferential rates for services local to Richmond.

- Social Membership £350 plus £130 joining fee
- Partner Social Membership £515 plus £130 joining fee (same residential address, children under 18 complimentary)
- Young Social Membership 18-25 years £125
- Young Social Membership 26-30 years £225

PLAYING MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020 SEASON

To join as a playing member, applicants are advised to email or telephone the Club.

- Chukka Membership £2,525 plus £618 joining fee
- Young Membership 18-25 years in full time education £980

Playing Members enjoy the opportunity to play Chukkas on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings in a friendly atmosphere with pro support and advice. Matches are played every Sunday and there are monthly tournaments and a league to participate in all organised by the Club's Polo Manager.

Full and professional livery is available at the Club, further details on page 73.

FUN & SOCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2020

- Easter Sunday Family Lunch & Easter Egg Hunt
- Pre Season Cocktail Party
- Saturday morning Family Brunch & Chukkas
- Ladies' & Gentlemen's Days
- Gastronomic Clubhouse Experience Evening
- 4 Friday Night Polo Parties with DJ
- Summer Polo Festival
- Family Fun Day



WATCH POLO AND ENJOY THE CLUBHOUSE



Conveniently located only eight miles from Hyde Park Corner, Ham Polo Club is the last remaining polo club in Greater London. The Club is one of the oldest in the UK and is proud of its heritage and tradition of being a friendly, family polo club.

Parking is available though the Club encourages the use of public transport; cars should be booked online with tickets. Richmond is both on the mainline and London Underground train networks. The Club is 5 minutes away by taxi or by the number 65 bus; visitors can also enjoy a magnificent walk to the Club through the tree lined footpath to the historic National Trust property Ham House. For the more energetic, the Club is a flat, 25 minute walk along the river from Richmond town centre.

Dress is casual for the picnic area and smart casual for The Clubhouse, further details are available on the website.

Dogs must be on leads at all times without exception and please pick up after dogs and dispose of responsibly. Any dogs behaving in an anti social manner will be required to be taken home.

Polo can be a dangerous sport and visitors do attend at their own risk, visitors are urged to ensure that they are aware of the safety zones and that children and dogs in particular are monitored closely at all times. The Club will accept no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any kind of injury, loss or damage suffered by any person to their property while present at the Club, whatsoever or howsoever that injury, loss or damage is caused. The full waiver of is available on the website.



The stunning facilities provide a memorable experience and our picturesque Clubhouse and grounds are ideal for entertaining guests on all occasions.

SUNDAY POLO

Visitors are welcome at the Club on matchdays. Tickets are available for purchase on the website. Pre-paid prices range from £10-15, pre-booking by the day before will always offer the best value tickets.



THE PICNIC

The Picnic area is a grassed area on the side of the polo pitch, visitors can bring their own picnic, please note that there are seasonal toilet facilities and visitors do need to bring their own food and beverage provisions.

Picnic refuse must be taken home with visitors, no refuse facilities are provided at the Club.



THE CLUBHOUSE

The Clubhouse is primarily reserved for members and social membership is open to applicants offering fantastic value for money across the season for every Sunday and exclusive member events & privileges. Lunch for members may be booked on all Sundays via the website or by calling the Polo Office, lunch is usually served from midday until 4pm, there is also a bar and indoor and outdoor seating areas. Non members may access the Clubhouse on certain days with a lunch booking available via the website which includes Day Membership of the Club.

The Clubhouse is available for private hire throughout the year.



FRIDAY POLO SESSIONS

Start your weekend in style with evening polo at Ham Polo Club. Music, sundowner cocktails and an exciting game of polo create a unique and glamorous atmosphere. Following polo the clubhouse fills and the house DJs take over to take the party into the night.



Book your tickets online and party like the polo set at one of the most prestigious polo clubs in the UK.

FRIDAY 22ND MAY

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE

FRIDAY 3RD JULY

FRIDAY 17TH JULY

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THE PLAYERS DINNER

The Players Dinner is a chance for Ham to reflect on the season's highlights and gather all those who have contributed to polo over the year. The event was held at Richmond Golf Club, the Club's friend and neighbour as part of our renewed reciprocal relationship.

The Club's chairman Howard Davis gave a review of the season thanking the many people who had made it another fantastic year at Ham. He then moved on to the Chairman's awards assisted by William Healy :

Most Improved Player – MARK HALLAM

Alan Wyatt Fellowship Award – BRUNO BENSOUSSAN

Umpire of the Year – TRISTAN PEMBALL

Lady Player of the Year – ABI ANDERSON

Player of the Year – SIMON CHAMBERLAIN

Benjie Davis then made the Billy Awards speech focusing on the more light hearted aspects of the season. The best dismounts and worst hangovers were among the topics covered as Billys were handed out for all manner of entertaining behaviour.

Many thanks to Richmond Golf club for hosting the dinner and huge congratulations to all of the evening's winners.



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Simon Chamberlain (Finance Officer)
Benjie Davis
Hugo Davis
Kate Lindsay-Fynn
Katharine Smithwick
Freddie Ventura

Chairman of Trustees – Quentin Davis
Chief Umpire – William Healy
Official Photographers – Mark Beaumont,
Mark Greenwood, Stephen Bartholomew,
Edward Lloyd, Gabor Szantai – Fashion
Club Lawyer – Athelstane Aamodt
President – Mohammed Almarzooqi
Vice President – Col. Geoffrey Godbold OBE, TD, DL
Vice President – Nicholas Colquhoun-Denvers

Managing Director – Samantha Pedder
Polo Manager – William Healy
Stable Managers – Juan Cruz Araya –
Martelli & Lucy Dowie
Head Polo Coach – Jason Warren
Club & Membership – Sarah Ferguson Jones
Events Manager – Isabel Stewart
Financial Controller – Lovena Mootoosamy
Timekeeper – Anne De'Ath

CLUB POLO PROFESSIONALS

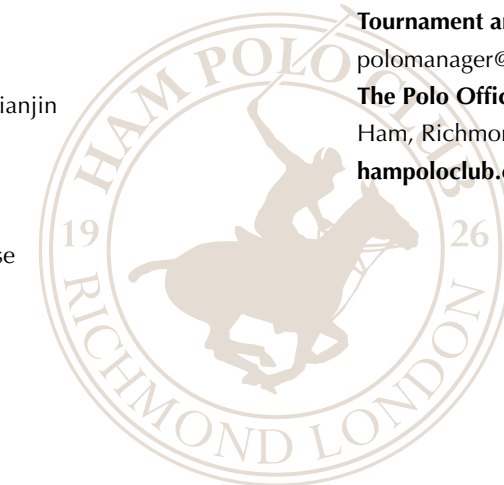
Juan Cruz Araya-Martelli
Jason Warren
William Healy
Santiago Araya

CONTACTS

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The Polo Office: Petersham Road,
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“Early on, we realised that if we wanted to truly transform people’s lives through their living environments, we needed to develop more deeply our fascination with, and knowledge of, the ‘science of silence’ and then apply that expertise to our products and our process.”

Jacob Gwalbert Figura, CEO

That’s why we approached experts from the Institute of Acoustics for help and have built a business working relationship with Solent University, Southampton.

It’s also why we measure noise levels with the very latest analysers, install using the same acoustic materials found in recording studios, and always use engineered timber - the ultimate noise suppressor.

And it’s why in 2019 our Silent Windows were voted “Best Window and Door Manufacturer & Most Innovative Noise Reduction Product”... and are loved by thousands of homeowners across the UK.

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Many people wrongly assume that double glazing is the height of their noise reduction options... only to discover how woefully inadequate it can prove.

Take the example of a busy street that registers 75 dB. If that noise is reduced via traditional double glazing, then the new sound level of 45 dB is still likely to cause sleepless nights. By contrast, our own acoustic glazing solution can reduce the same noise to below 30dB - the equivalent of a soft whisper.

Now you can see why we’re the natural choice for hotels in city centres. Take the Radisson Blu Hotel on Tottenham Court Road, where we created ‘quiet rooms’ across the hotel’s entire first floor. According to Steve Holmes, the hotel’s chief engineer:

“The difference was unbelievable. Absolutely amazing.”

A welcome return to tranquility

Equally impressive have been the testimonials we’ve received from homeowners. On TrustPilot, 98% of all reviewers give us five stars. But then we do offer the most advanced noise reduction windows and doors.

People also love our process. For your initial home visit, you won’t be visited by a sales person - but by an engineer. You’ll then get an invaluable analysis of the noise exposure; that’s whether you proceed with us or not.

We never subcontract. It means that for the entire process - from the timber sourcing to the installation and follow-up maintenance - you benefit from our expertise in ‘the science of silence’.

Hearing really is believing.

To learn more, get in touch today.



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On Wednesday 10th July all our juniors and their respective parents excitedly set off by train or car to arrive at sunny Courances in the late afternoon. Driving in, the beautiful Château, which was built in the 17th century in the typical style of Louis XIII, picturesquely nestled into a “water garden” park of over 75 hectares dating back to the Renaissance on the Île de France, an hour south of Paris, left everyone stunned.

We were cordially welcomed by the Château’s estate manager Patrick Deedes who helped us to settle into the accommodations. The same evening, our group enjoyed a meet & greet with the other participants Vladi, Daria, Jakob and Leopold over Pizza hosted by Patrick, his wife Isabelle and their two daughters Eleonor and Constantine, while Lucy and Will were stuck at Gatwick Airport and their flight cancelled due to technical issues at flight control.

The following morning everyone headed for the polo field to have a look at the horses, that had just arrived, tacked them up with great

technical and language support from Eleonor and started the first coaching session, that was run by the resident Pro Julien Reynes. Meanwhile Will and Lucy gave up on changing their airline tickets and decided to switch transport and headed towards the continent through the tunnel by car. During lunch at the ‘La Foulerie’ tea room the players relaxed and replenished, while parents and grandparents connected over wraps, salads and sandwiches before heading off to part two of the coaching session. The moment, the children came off the field for the day, Lucy and Will finally arrived safe, to complete the HPC delegation. After a short break everyone got dressed up and gathered to walk to the Château, where we were kindly received by the owner Serge de Ganay to enjoy cocktails on the balcony, before going out to dinner at the ‘Les paniers de Nicolas’ where delights based on the produce from the Château’s own organic gardens were served and savoured.

Friday morning held a special surprise for all the kids, as Patrick was able to win France’s only 8 goaler Stéphane Macaire to work with the juniors all day in one-on-one sessions, as well as group settings and share a few good secrets about the perfect swing, including a bit of theory over lunch at the tea room. The fabulous dinner at the ‘Grand Café’ at the neighbouring town of Fontainebleau was a splendid completion of an instructional and busy day.

After a good rest, Saturday, the day of the Championship tournament had finally arrived and all the juniors, withstanding all sore limbs and blisters on their hands, were eager to learn the draw plan and play. Arriving at the polo pitch the group was joined by two French brothers, Tom and Hugo to get the horses ready, while the parents helped with the remaining preps around the field, when the team setting was finally revealed: two teams of 5 players, playing 5 chukkas. Team Courances got dressed in green, while Team Fleury got in the grey shirts. Last hectic touch ups, the sign was given to line up on the field, the time keeper set the clock, when the umpire blew his whistle and off they went. Lucy and Will, alongside cheering parents and grandparents, excitedly watched their protégés excel in fast paced game, with team Courances taking the lead soon.

The pace of the match was fast and furious from the outset. The addition of Tom and Hugo certainly increasing the pace from the day before. Our Ham juniors acquitted themselves very well, rising to the occasion. Team Courances led for most of the way with Koko and Darius shining. But late in the game

a staggering come back by the greys ably supported by Celine and Erik meant the game was tied in the last seconds.

Ensuing a little rest, everyone gathered for a final dinner at the tea room, where a long table was set up with various delicious entrées and salads alongside the sizzling BBQ. Over the past days the juniors and adults had grown into a lovely group and this evening with great food, good conversations, lots of laughter and the champagne flowing meant a fabulous conclusion to this wonderful adventure.

A special thank you to Patrick and his family for being incredibly gracious hosts, as well as the Junior academy coaching team Lucy and Will for teaching and supporting our Juniors with so much passion.

Meanwhile Céline, Koko, Darius and Erik already started to plan next year’s return to Courances for seconds.

COURANCES

Hugo German

Leopold Ludorf

Eric Romain

Vladi Hermes/Céline Rizos

FLEURY

Tom German

Daria Brobinski

Jakob Samonis

Darius Gilbert/Konstantina Rizos



COURANCES JUNIOR CAMP

BY JULIA RIZOS

This trip to France from 10th July to 14th July 2019 entailed a lot of firsts, new friendships and a lot of fun for Céline, Koko, Darius and Erik, who represented HPC and our Junior Academy in Courances.

The first polo bootcamp together, the first trip together as a Junior Academy team, the first Junior Academy group to go and play abroad and the first real tournament for our young players, which also happened to be the first French National Youth Championships.



HAM VS RAF



Rain had been forecast for the Ham Challenge Sponsors' Day in June 19 but the day in Richmond did not disappoint! Ham Polo Club had kindly invited the RAF Polo Association to participate in a match against Club members and before the 12:30 start we had first to negotiate the bustling London roads in a horse lorry. With our excited ponies on board and a dog or two squeezed into the cab we arrived at the pitch ready to play in one of our favourite fixtures of the year. As we approached the luscious green pitch at Ham Polo Club to disembark on the pony lines, it was like taking a deep breath of fresh air in the middle of the city: spacious, picturesque and all in style. Not only were we lucky enough to be hosted by one of the premier clubs in the London area but the teams and spectators were also blessed with blissful sunshine just in the nick of time. For some, this meant sitting back, popping open some bubbly and relishing all the excitement polo can offer – and for others, it was time to polish boots, tighten the girths, and swing some mallets.

2019 saw the arrival of Aston Martin as the RAF Polo Association's main sponsor and Ham Polo Club was an ideal luxurious setting to initiate the partnership. For the team line-up, two high-performance DBS Aston Martins accompanied the teams down the pitch. It was a smooth and steady parade of both gun-metal alloys and steadfast hooves.

Marking the 150th year of modern Polo, the 'Polo 150' ball was thrown in. This is the 8th year the RAF has had the pleasure of playing at Ham Polo Club, finding their 5th win this season. In a fast-paced match that saw the teams charge from end to end, the RAF narrowly ran out the winners by two goals, despite the best efforts of the opposition trying to equalise the score in the final few seconds. Flt Lt Eleanor Hoogewerf stated her delight for Mr Will Healy's participation on the RAF team, as Number 4, for the second year running. Will is not only a skilled 2 goal player, the manager of Ham Polo Club but a pilot in his own right. Perhaps a great strategy for the team, but this symbiosis of clubs and players seems to be at the very heart of what makes Polo so special. Not only is this a sport in which both men and women can play at equal measure, but any player will always seem to pour all of their passion into a chukka, regardless of the shirt colour they wear. Polo seems to uphold unyielding values of community and sportsmanship, and for a sport older than the FA Cup and the Ashes, it's wonderful to see them still

beating strong. 'Polo 150' is so much more than just a milestone in UK sport, it is a celebration of its legacy.

This inter-team camaraderie with Ham was seen on a previous fixture at the RAF Cranwell Weekend in May when one Ham player's misfortune due to injury became another RAF player's chance to debut on the pitch as a reserve. Her very first Polo season as a -2, trading a blue shirt for the vibrant red, the fresh player was under no illusion that she had big boots to fill. She did her best to bring the same spirit and determination, only by ten-fold - she had to make up for the skill difference in both riding and swing! Even though the injured player was missed by his team, he was still able to impress us all that very evening when he was spotted on the dancefloor showing us some of his moves with his new crutches, as if they were merely an accessory to his dinner suit! On the final day of the weekend, the RAF polo beginner was absolutely humbled by Ham's warm welcome onto their team, as they completely empathised with her beginner's nerves and provided the support she needed. Their concise leadership on the pitch gave her direction and a sense of purpose within the team, and off the pitch, they made her feel at home at their own picnic table. This weekend in Cranwell was RAF Polo's chance to return the favour for Ham's generous hospitality at their own Sponsors' Day Event, but it was us that were so grateful for the panache and kind-heartedness they keep on bringing on and off the pitch.



POLO PONY SHOW 2019



ENTRIES

	HORSE	CATEGORY	PRESENTED BY	BREEDING/ORIGIN
QUENTIN DAVIS	Manchito	Heavy	Benjamin Davis	Primavera - Argentina
	Filosa	Heavy	Benjamin Davis	Primavera - Argentina
	Davinci	Heavy	Benjamin Davis	Primavera - Argentina
JINNI FEATHERSTONE WITTY	Zaeta	Light	Santi Araya	Cahuel-Hue Argentina
	Blanquecina	Light	J. Featherstone-Witty	Cahuel-Hue Argentina
	Picassa	Light	J. Featherstone-Witty	Larumbe - Argentina
ABIGAIL ANDERSON	Chilli	Light	Santi Araya	Cria Dalponte
	Negrita	Heavy	Santi Araya	Nonhue - San Francisco - Argentina
	Jazmín	Light	Santi Araya	Quarter Horse
STEPHEN FITZPATRICK	Gitano	Light	Jasón Warren	
LUCY DOWIE	Gala	Heavy	Lucy Dowie	Primavera- Argentina
	Rosito	Light	Lucy Dowie	YPF - Picun Leufu
	Lola	Youngsters	Lucy Dowie	Chapel Farm Stud
KATHARINE SMITHWICK	Bandoneon	Heavy	Katharine Smithwick	Cahuel - Hue - Argentina
	Espadaña	Heavy	Katharine Smithwick	La Estrella - Argentina
	Pampita	Light	Katharine Smithwick	
MARK HALLAM	Cantor	Heavy	Santi Araya	Cahuel - Hue - Argentina
PATRICK TEROERDE	Spartacus	Heavy	Sarka Tomaskova	Retrained Racehorse
	Pink	Youngster	Sarka Tomaskova	Retrained Racehorse
WILL HEALY	Roo	Heavy	Dominika Ticha	Primavera - Argentina
	Casualidad	Light	Dominika Ticha	Primavera - Argentina
HANNAH FIRMANN	Tormenta	Light	Denisa Psenicna	San Francisco - Argentina
	Coco	Light	Santi Araya	
BIANCA STEFAN	Laucha	Light	Justina Pacesova	
BRUNO BENSOUSSON	Viborita	Heavy	Fede Vitali	Tecno - Argentina

WINNERS

LIGHT CATEGORY

1ST	ZAETA
2ND	CASUALIDAD
3RD	JAZMIN
4TH	LAUCHA

HEAVY CATEGORY

1ST=	BANDONEON/GALA
3RD	ESPADANA
4TH	FILOSA
5TH	VIBORITA

GRAND CHAMPION

1ST	BANDONEON
2ND	GALA



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For an individual visit contact admissions@haileybury.com 01992 706 353



Haileybury



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For advance bookings, please contact administrator@hampoloclub.com or call +44 7808 041446.
For specific flight information or late bookings, please call +44 20 8334 0000.

There is ample parking for quick and easy limo access to nearby central London and the surrounding area. Its close proximity to the River Thames means the nearby River Boat service at Richmond can be accessed for trips into and out of London. Twickenham Rugby stadium is just 3 miles away. Agreed and paid for in advance, we welcome helicopter landings from all over the country, and are happy to offer 30 minutes parking included free of charge within the landing fee.

The cost for landing at the Club is from £550 +VAT, paid in advance; waiting time is also chargeable.

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POLO IN THE PORT RETURNS TO **PORTO** **MONTENEGRO**

**Porto Montenegro brings Polo to the
Tivat Riviera for the second year running**

Three days of sporting entertainment

Scheduled for August 2020



Porto Montenegro plans its second annual Polo in the Port tournament in August 2020, following the huge success of the inaugural event in summer 2019. Last year, the world's best polo players competed in front of a sell-out crowd for three days of cocktails and canapés in the heart of the Porto Montenegro village.

Polo in the Port has become one of the principle sporting events on the Porto Montenegro social calendar, fusing world-class sport with 'A life less ordinary', the lifestyle promise and brand motto of the superyacht marina village. "Porto Montenegro is one of the most spectacular places that I have ever had the fortune to play polo in. I really hope to come back next year," comments Maharaja of Jaipur, Sawai Padmanabh Singh.

Organisers had the pleasure of working with some of the most prestigious global and regional sponsors, among them Arton Capital, Petite Geneve/Rolex, Beluga Vodka, Regent Porto Montenegro, Universal Capital Bank, Voli Motors, Plantaže, Azimut Yachts, La Martina, Boadicea the Victorious and Sunreef Yachts, whose generous contributions helped bring Montenegro's first ever polo tournament to fruition in the stunning waterside setting of the Porto Montenegro marina village.

The 2020 event will be open to the public, giving guests and spectators an opportunity to sip champagne under the blue skies and majestic mountains of the Boka Bay, all steps away from the waterfront and superyacht-lined marina, whilst watching world class polo.

Among this year's polo patrons are Jos Houben, Garry Renucci, James McCarthy and Charlie Wooldridge, who are already hard at work putting together this year's teams and tactics ahead of the tournament.

An offshoot of Polo in the Port is bringing together the community, local artists, school children and other members of the community to drive the village spirit of what is aimed to become an annual tradition on the shores of the Tivat Riviera.



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ROEHAMPTON CUP MATCH REPORT

The Roehampton Cup is a 6-goal tournament played for the oldest trophy in the UK; it was donated to Ham by the Roehampton Club following their closure of polo. It is always hotly contested and this year was no exception.

LEAGUE A

YABADABADOO

Katharine Smithwick	-1
Russell Tyre	0
Pedro Harrison	4
Juan C Araya-Martelli	3
Total	6

THE WALL/CUERVOS NEGROS

Julian Drake	0
Octavio Pinto	0
Adolfo Casabal	3
Mariano Darritchon	3
Total	6

OJO CALIENTE/MOUNT LOFTUS

Ana Escobedo	0
Georgina Brittain	0
Segundo Darritchon	2
Jonny Good	4
Total	6

LEAGUE B

CANI

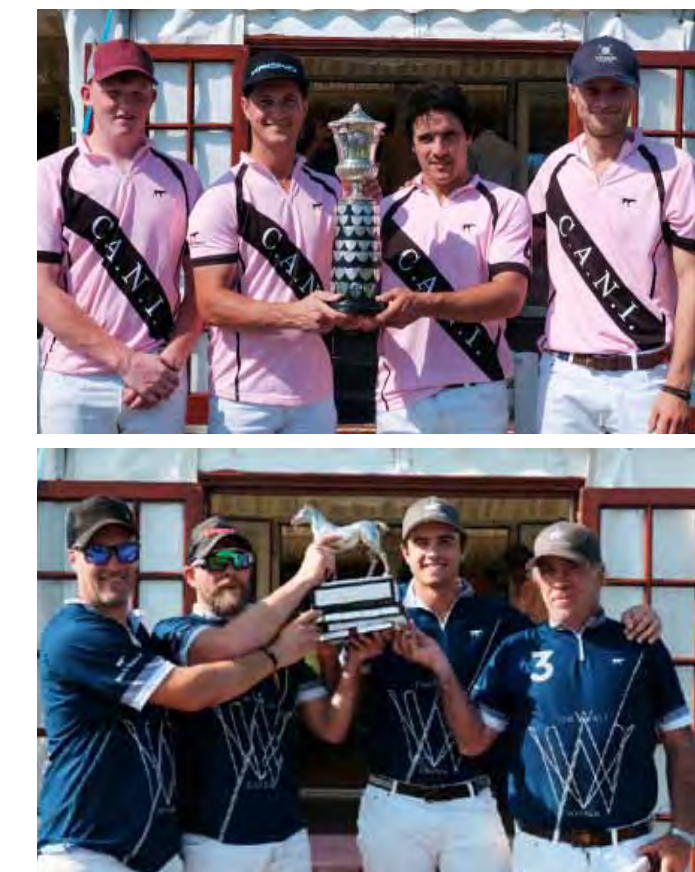
Louise Jebson	0
Celio Garcera	0
Jack Aldridge	1
Matias Amaya	5
Total	6

VENDETTA

Garrie Renucci	-1
Ollie Cork	3
Jimmy Wood	4
Nick Rogerson	0
Total	6

LA ROSADA

Johnny Beck-Brown	1
Roger Brown	1
Neil Cox	0
Nico Fontanarossa	4
Total	6



Six teams entered the tournament and were put into two leagues. All the league matches and the semi finals were played at Black Bears on their excellent grounds – definitely a treat for players and horses alike. The semi finals were played by the top two teams in each league, and at this stage were knock out games. The two teams with Ham members represented, Yabadabadoo and Vendetta, were sadly knocked out at this stage, despite spirited play and in the case of Yabadabadoo an extra chukka to find the winner.

The finals were played on Sunday August 25th. There was a large crowd, and we were very pleased to welcome over 100 members of the Roehampton club.

The final was played between Ojo Caliente/Mount Loftus and Cani. The scoring was opened by Jack Aldridge with a field goal, with Ojo Caliente/Mount Loftus in reply scoring two goals to give them 2-1 lead. The second chukka was dominated by Cani, scoring one penalty and two goals, with Matias Amaya fully justifying his 5 goal handicap, and well backed up by his team. The half time score was 4-2 to Cani.





Segundo Darritchon opened the scoring for Ojo Caliente/Mout Loftus in the third chukka, with Ojo Caliente/Mount Loftus responding with 2 goals. The chukka ended with Cani having a lead of 6-3. Although Ojo Caliente/Mount Loftus came out with a fine defensive effort in the fourth chukka, it was dominated by Cani, with Matias Amaya, Evan Power and Jack Aldridge all scoring goals. The final score was 9-3 but this did not fully reflect the fast and furious pace of the match. The commentary was provided by Benjie Davis and was informative, exciting and as good as ever.

The Roehampton Cup was presented to the patrons of the Cani team, Evan Power and Celiko Garcera, by Marc Newey, CEO of Roehampton Club.

The match between the two teams who did not qualify for the semi finals was played between The Wall/Cuervos Negros and La Rosada. This was another fast paced match, fun to watch. Mariano Darritchon (father of Segundo who played in the final) scored the first goal, with Nico Fontanarossa then scoring for La Rosada, before Mariano scored a further goal to put The Wall/Cuervos Negros into a 2-1 lead. He then scored a further 2 goals in the second chukka, with Johnny Beck-Brown scoring a fine goal for La Rosada, before Octavio Pinto added to The Wall/Cuervos Negros score which gave them a lead of 5-2 at half time.

In the third chukka La Rosada not only managed to stem the goal assault preventing any further goals from The Wall/Cuervos Negros but Nico Fontanarossa added 2 fine field goals to narrow their deficit to 1 goal. In the final chukka The Wall/Cuervos Negros came out with intent and scored a further 2 goals to run out the winners with a final score of 7-4.

The Critchley trophy was presented to the patrons of the Wall/Cuervos Negros team, Octavio Pinto and Julian Drake, by Ham's Chairman Howard Davis.





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LAUREUS CUP 2019

Sporting legends and Laureus Academy members Sean Fitzpatrick, Edwin Moses, Daley Thompson and Hugo Porta attended the Laureus Polo Cup at Ham Polo Club in June, enjoying the leading polo players in action while raising funds to support Laureus in Argentina.

Also enjoying the event and supporting the work of Laureus in Argentina were a host of sporting legends including Laureus Ambassador and football star Andriy Shevchenko and world and Olympic swimming champion Cameron van der Burgh.

Guests at the event were treated to the skill and expertise of four of Argentina's leading polo stars. Representing teams from Laureus Sport for Good and Fundación Laureus Argentina were ten-goal players Juan Martin Nero, Facundo Pieres, Pablo MacDonough and Hilario Ulloa. Honours were shared after the final chukka, with both teams scoring four goals each in an exciting encounter.

Funds were raised to support Fundación Laureus Argentina throughout the event via an exclusive auction. A host of unique experiences and items were sold, including two tickets to the 2020 Laureus World Sports Awards, an IWC Pilot's Watch Mark XVIII Edition and signed miniature Lewis Hamilton racing helmets.

Laureus Academy member Hugo Porta, Chairman of Fundación Laureus Argentina, said: "The work we are doing in Argentina, using sport to make a positive change in the lives of children and young people is truly transformational, and that means the world to me. I'd like to thank XPL for helping to bring this wonderful event to life, it is hugely appreciated by everyone at Fundación Laureus Argentina."

Fundación Laureus Argentina currently supports ten programmes who use the power of sport to improve the lives of children and young people:

Asociación Civil Mostrando Caminos; Club Deportivo Barracas (Mi Club Nuestro Lugar); Programa A Ganar; Fundacion El Desafío (Deporte Por La Vida); Proyecto Fatima (Fundación CUBA); Virreyes Hockey, Granja Andar, Fundacion Temas (Escuela de Boxeo), Club Estudiantes Ferroviario Mitre and an Innovation and Education programme working in public schools.

Overall, more than 2,500 children and young people benefit from the work of Fundación Laureus Argentina.





THE BILLY WALSH TOURNAMENT

The Billy Walsh, Ham's final tournament, which is played in memory of Billy who was instrumental in restarting Ham and polo in general following WWII, was played over a week in September. Six teams had entered and were divided into two leagues to determine the order of teams for the final, sub and tertiary.



Topping the leagues were Quatervois Polo and Belvedere Consulting. Quatervois were a new name at Ham but featured some familiar faces such as Bertie Nix and Ed Banner-Eve. All four players were strong off their handicaps and three of them had been flagged for raises in the EOS handicap changes. Belvedere also featured some exciting players, with a duo of Frenchmen in the midfield and Cowdray Park committee member Nick Clague at number four.

The final was played in conditions that were far from perfect, torrential rain almost caused the match to be cancelled but luckily a pitch inspection cleared the ground as safe for play. First to score was Ory, well into the first chukka, then it was Banner-Eve who found his stride and put the next three points up on the board for his team. An extra goal for Belvedere kept them in the game at half time with Quatervois leading 3 and a half to 2.

By the end of the third chukka Banner-Eve had put his foot down and Quatervois led 5.5 to 3. Araya fought hard for his team even scoring a crucial 60 yard penalty in the last minute of play but Quatervois held on to the lead Banner-Eve had created and eventually ran out the 2019 Billy Walsh winners.

LEAGUE A

QUATERVOIS POLO

Simon Franc	-2
Alexander Nix	0
Olympia Paus	0
Ed Banner-Eve	3
Total	1

HUGS & CO.

Bianca Stefan	-2
Aislinn Price	0
Benjie Davis	2
Hugo Davis	1
Total	1

QUADRIGA

Guru Johal	-2
Martin Hay	0
Dorian Bulteau	2
Jason Warren	2
Total	2

LEAGUE B

BELVEDERE CONSULTING

Kate Lindsay-Fynn	-2
Bruno Bensousson	0
Jean Baptiste Ory	1
Nick Clague	3
Total	2

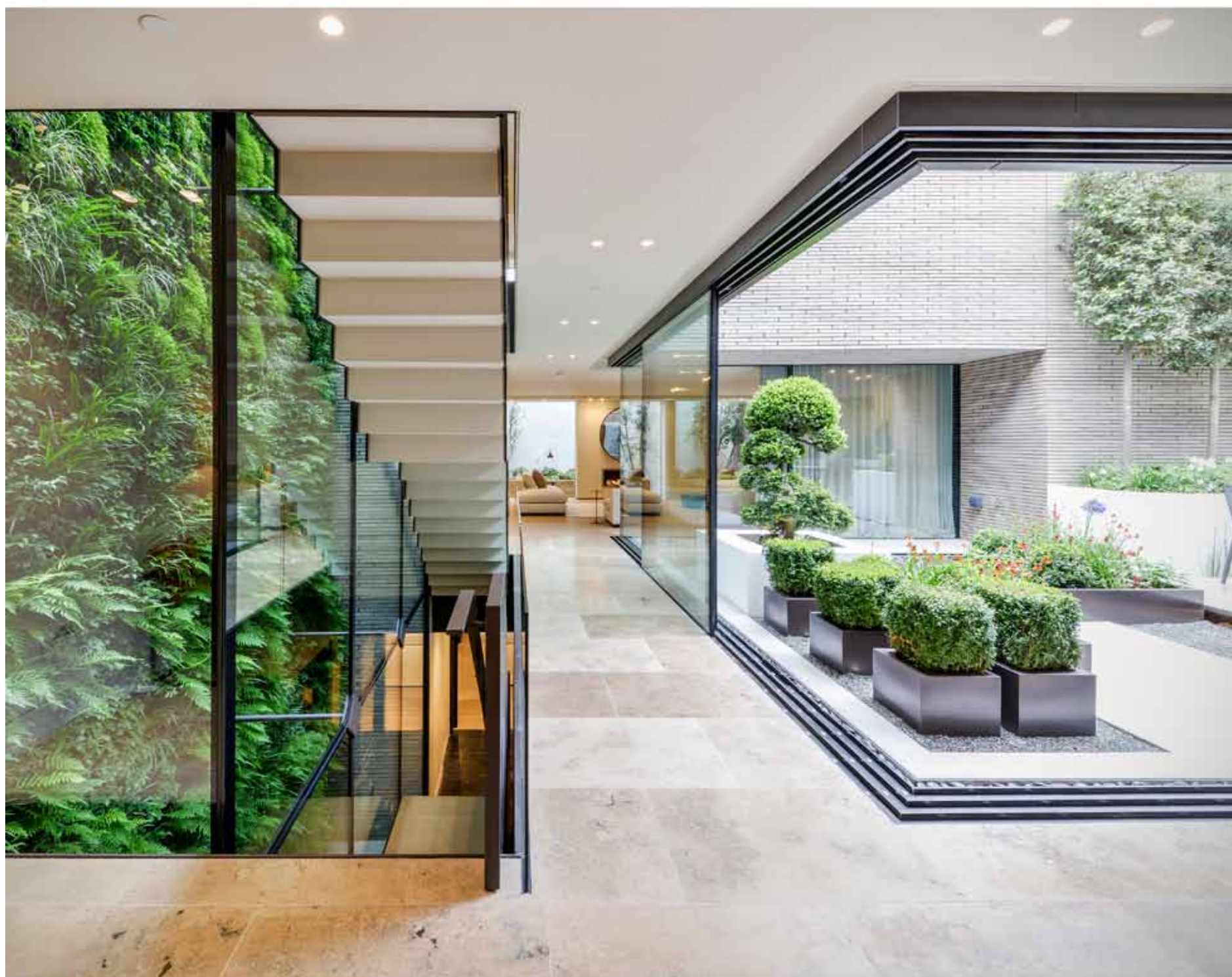
IBICUS

Mark Hallam	-2
Olivia Shea	0
Louise Brown	0
Santiago Araya	4
Total	2

THE WANDERERS

Mark Sheldon	-1
Hugo Montgomery	0
Will Newman	1
Federico Vitali	2
Total	2





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CHEVAL CUP POLO MATCH

This year on the 8 July 2019 the Ham Polo Club saw the annual Cheval Cup, sponsored by luxury London based serviced apartment specialist Cheval Collection. The day started with a welcome reception and a number of interactive activities for guests to enjoy, including trying their hand at swinging a mallet from a wooden practice horse, tours of the stables, mingling with the players and of course endless photo opportunities with an Instagram swing blooming with vibrant colours.

Guests included colleagues, clients, partners, media and industry contacts, to a relaxed and entertaining drinks reception, luncheon and an afternoon of polo. Following a morning of rain and cloud, the skies cleared and guests were treated to a blue sky day. Cheval hosted over 300 guests (more than ever before!) and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to thank everyone for their collaboration with the brand, look back on the first half of the year, mingle and soak up the atmosphere of the day. Cheval also offered guests an array of unique stir-fried ice creams (a hit with the younger guests!) and there was an ice sculpture of the iconic Cheval unicorn that took centre stage within the lunch marquee.

The Godbold Trophy began the day as guests arrived to lunch on the Roof Garden and were welcomed by Mohammed Shareef Almarzooqi, Managing Director of Cheval Group and President of Ham Polo Club, prior to the main match between their two teams; Cheval Noir and Cheval Blanc.

After lunch in the marquee the Cheval Noir and Cheval Blanc teams took to the field to play out four chukkas. The sun set the scene perfectly for an afternoon of Polo and at half time guests were invited onto the field for divot stomping. The patches of grass and dirt torn up from the Polo ponies are stomped back into place – not just for show, but an important activity to restore the ground for the players and horses.

Four chukkas, a cheering crowd and some excellent goal scoring later, the Cheval Blanc team came out as the champions – taking the trophy in a 4.5 – 3 victory.

At the end of the match, the jovial ambience continued as Cheval Blanc was awarded the Cheval Challenge trophy by George Westwell, CEO of the Cheval Group. Umpires, referees and commentators were thanked and it was smiles all around as a fantastic day out was had by all. We're already looking forward to next year!





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SPONSORSHIP, ADVERTISING & PRIZE PLACEMENT



Ham Polo Club offers fantastic opportunities for companies to introduce and enhance their profile with customers through a range of flexible and accessible options.

For 2020 the Club's confirmed tournament sponsors at time of publication are as follows and the Club would like to offer their thanks to each for their partnership.



SPONSORSHIP

The most impactful of all of the options for companies is the opportunity to sponsor tournaments at the Club which are monthly throughout the season. There are 4 levels of sponsorship offered starting from £2,000 for Sunday matches through to the top level of sponsorship in the region of £15,000. Within the sponsorship packages, companies benefit from:

- Partnership status for the annual season with the Club including website presence and newsletter coverage
- On site advertising banners for the whole season
- Quarter to full page in Club Yearbook dependent on level on sponsorship
- Naming rights to a tournament
- Tournament day – complimentary day membership, roll in the ball, branded prize presentation, commentator promotion, social media coverage, press coverage dependent upon tournament, branded polo shirts by separate arrangement

ADVERTISING

The Ham Polo Yearbook is an annual premium publication that is distributed to the Polo Club's membership, corporate guests and at private events, as well as to prestigious properties and businesses in Richmond, Kew, St Margaret's, Chiswick, Mayfair, Marylebone, Fitzrovia, Chelsea, Kensington, Parsons Green, Wimbledon Village and Fulham with a readership of 30,000.

Prices start from £495 and the magazine is published in March highlighting the events and play of the preceding season alongside the sponsors and advertisers for the coming season.

PRIZE PLACEMENT

The Club offers the opportunity to provide prizes for the players for the various matches and tournaments throughout the year offering sampling and experiential marketing for companies.



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AUGUST 4-GOAL TOURNAMENT

One of the newer tournaments at Ham the August 4-goal has always been well attended in recent seasons. This year was no different with a good turnout of Ham based players making for a close match-up. Making it into the final for the first weekend of August were Jet Set and FBV. The FBV team new on the scene for 2019 with patron Stephen Fitzpatrick playing with friend Abdulla Bouslien and professionals Ed Banner-Eve and Jason Warren. The Jet Set team on the other hand had long time member of the club Katharine Smithwick as patron with Russell Tyre and Lucy Dowie with Juan Cruz Araya as the professional. The game started with a fast paced first half with Jet Set taking the lead. JVB regrouped and in the second half came back with a strong response with Ed Banner-Eve not holding back in defence. This resulting in a tight final chukka with both teams even on the scoreboard only for JVB to sneak the winning goal with under a minute left on the clock. Congratulations go to JVB after a hard fought final.

In the semi final were Belvedere Consulting and Student Beehive after being unlucky in their Saturday group games. Another close match ensued with some great goals from Federico Vitali, undertaking his first season in the UK. Unfortunately for Student Beehive this was not enough with Santi Araya putting in some unstoppable play to give Belvedere Consulting the win.

JET SET	
<i>Katharine Smithwick</i>	-1
<i>Russell Tyre</i>	0
<i>Lucy Dowie</i>	1
<i>Juan Cruz Araya</i>	3
	3

STUDENT BEEHIVE	
<i>J. Featherstone-Witty</i>	-1
<i>Simon Chamberlain</i>	1
<i>Federico Vitali</i>	2
<i>Gus Prentice</i>	2
	4

BELVEDERE CONSULTING	
<i>Kate Lindsay-Fynn</i>	-2
<i>Hugo Davis</i>	1
<i>Martin Hay</i>	0
<i>Santi Araya</i>	4
	3

FBV	
<i>Stephen Fitzpatrick</i>	-2
<i>Abdulla Bouslien</i>	0
<i>Ed Banner-Eve</i>	3
<i>Jason Warren</i>	2
	3



MIDSUMMER 2-GOAL TOURNAMENT



Five teams entered this tournament, with all matches played between 11th-14th July. All teams were in the same league, each playing two other teams.

The first match between Quadriga and Avengers featured 2 fine field goals from Howard Davis, one at each end, with the whole team playing well...but not quite well enough to beat a strong Avengers team, with Juan Cruz Araya scoring most of the goals.

The next match was played between Quadriga and FBV. There was a particularly good display by Dorian Bulteau, and he and Jason Warren, both off 2 handicap, scored all the goals. Quadriga put in a good effort, but never managed to threaten the early lead taken by FBV, who won the match by 8 goals to 5. This was followed by Hugs & Co against Hookum, which was very close. At the end of chukka 3 the score was 3-1 in favour of Hookum, but Hugs & Co managed to pull this back to a draw, 3 goals each; notably, Hannah Firman scored 2 goals for her team.

The last two matches were played on Saturday. First up was FBV against Hookum, a game dominated by Hookum with their pros again scoring all the goals and running out winners by 6-1, Olivia O'Shea scoring her team's goal. The last league game was Avengers versus Hugs & Co. Avengers led 2-1 after the first chukka, and scored 2 goals in the second chukka, when Hugs & Co opened their account to make the score 4-1 to Avengers at half time. Avengers scored a further two goals in the third chukka, and although Hugs & Co pulled back 2 goals the score was 6-3 to Avengers. Abi Anderson (Avengers) and Hannah Firman (Hugs & Co) scoring 2 goals each.

LEAGUE A

HOOKUM

Guru Johal	-2
Olivia Shea	0
Louise Brown	0
Santiago Araya	4
	2

HUGS & CO.

Hannah Firman	-1
Hugo Davis	1
Benjie Davis	2
Russell Tyre	0
	2

AVENGERS

Katharine Smithwick	-1
Abi Anderson	-1
Will Newman	1
Juan Cruz Araya	3
	2

FBV

Stephen Fitzpatrick	-2
Abdulla Bouslien	0
Jason Warren	2
Dorian Bulteau	2
	2

QUADRIGA

Hugo Montgomery	0
Martin Hay	0
Federico Vitali	2
Howard Davis	0
	2



The final was played between FBV and Avengers. Although Avengers scored the 2 goals in the first chukka, FBV scored 2 in the second in a tight game. FBV came out and played hard to get a further 2 goals in the third chukka, with Avengers then making a fine comeback in the last chukka with Katharine Smithwick notably scoring 2 goals, and the scores were level at 5 all at the final whistle. This meant a sudden death fifth chukka was played, and the final goal went to FBV, who won by 6 goals to 5.

The sub-final was played between Hugs & Co and Hookum, who had already drawn their match in the league. It was another close match, with Hookum in the lead 3-2 at half time and increasing that lead to 4-2 in the third chukka. The fourth chukka was a true gritty fight with both teams scoring two goals, with the result a win for Hookum.

The presentation of the Edward Tauchert bowl was made to Hookum by Chris Tauchert.



THE SUMMER TOURNAMENT

Five teams entered the 4 goal Summer Tournament at Ham, with matches held during the week beginning 24th June.

The first match was between Hugs & Co and Hookum. Jason Warren scored 4 goals for Hookum in the first chukka, two of which were spectacular. In the second chukka, Hookum scored a further 4 goals, with Hugs & Co scoring 2; this come back continued in the third chukka when they scored 2 goals, but the last chukka and the overall match was won by Hookum 10-5.

The second match was a semi-final between Jet Set and Belvedere. Jet Set scored 3 goals in the first chukka, including one by Katharine Smithwick, and Belvedere one; in the second chukka Santi Araya scored two goals, Juan 1, so at half time it was a close game. However, Jet Set with 3 professionals proved too strong for Belvedere, despite a spirited effort from the whole team and more goals from Santi, and Jet Set won by 9-6.

The next match was between Hugs & Co and Quadriga, with Jimmy Wood, ably supported by Marcus Cork and his team winning by 4-3 against Hugs & Co who again put up a very good performance. The last match to decide which team would go to the final against Jet Set was between Quadriga and Hookum. This was a hard fought match with Jason Warren and Jimmy Wood scoring almost all the goals, and quite a few penalties.....the final result was 8-4 to Quadriga.

LEAGUE A

QUADRIGA	HOOKUM	HUGS & CO.
Marco Vignali -1	Guru Johal -2	Lucy Dowie 1
Martin Hay 0	Will Healy 2	Hugo Davis 1
Marcus Cork 1	Gus Prentice 2	Benjie Davis 2
Jimmy Wood 4	Jason Warren 2	Russell Tyre 0
4	4	4

GROUP 1

JET SET	BELVEDERE
Katharine Smithwick -1	Kate Lindsay-Fynn -2
Segundo Darritchon 2	Ed Courage 1
Juan Cruz Araya 3	Will Newman 1
Octavio Olmedo 0	Santiago Araya 4
4	4



The final was played by Jet Set against Quadriga. A fine run and goal by Martin Hay and one by Jimmy gave Quadriga a 2 goal lead, but the second chukka was dominated by Jet Set, whose change in tactics resulted in 3 goals and the lead – which Jet Set maintained for the rest of the match. The commentary by Benjie Davis was great as usual – favourite remark was advising one of the pros who had missed a few balls to consider getting a longer stick! Segundo Darritchon put in a fine performance in support of Juan Araya, and ably supported by the rest of the team, resulting in victory by 5-4. Katherine's Jet Set team continue to be the team to beat in Ham's tournaments.

The Rose Adams bowl was presented to Katherine Smithwick by Annie Colquhoun-Denvers.

The sub-final started with Belvedere scoring a goal in the first chukka, and Hookum responding with 3 goals to Hookum's one in the third- this was a hard fought match with tight marking. Belvedere dominated the third chukka with an open goal from Ed Courage and a penalty from Santi Araya (who scored 4 penalties out of Belvedere's 5 goals!), and Hookum coming back in the last chukka with 2 goals so the match ended in a draw, honours even.





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The Club offers: turn out, all weather exercise track, access to a sand arena, schooling rings, CCTV, 24 hour security, secure tackroom, on site instructors and advisors. The livery stables are next door to the professional Ham Polo Club team comprising of finance, operations and management.

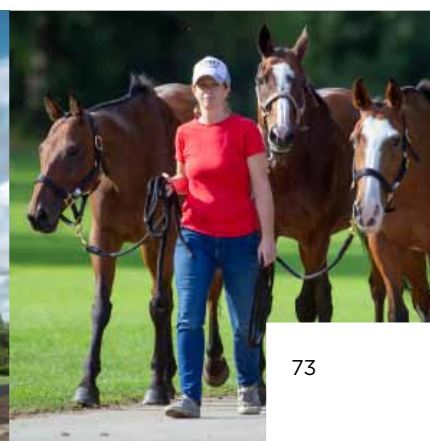


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Our full livery service begins at the end of March and runs until the end of September.

Your livery service includes:

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- Polo Manager responsible for organising chukkas & matches, horse welfare and liaison with HPC
- Livery Managers responsible for the stables, health & safety, individual horse management, feeding, exercising and veterinary support
- Residential full time employed grooms
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HAM LADIES TOURNAMENT

Ham Polo Club is proud to have always supported female polo players and currently boasts one of the highest proportions of female playing members in the UK. In 2017 the Ham Ladies tournament was formed and has been an exciting fixture ever since. Each team is allowed one of the club professionals (even if they're not a female player) to captain the side however the pro is not permitted to score any goals. This added rule makes for some exciting polo as more passes occur as the teams look to move the ball up to their forwards and the goal line.

A cracking roster of four teams were entered and even included Antonia Fichtner who flew in from Germany specially for the tournament. It's worth noting that the professional players were asked to play in some unusual flowing wigs and in some cases a 'tutu' was even considered acceptable attire for competition.

Saturday's semi finals produced wins for Where There's a Will... and the Tola Tigers who went through to the final and The Mane Attraction and Colindo QTs went on to Sunday's subsidiary.

Where There's a Will... were fielding the same team as 2018 apart from a change with Emily Scrase coming in at number 1. The continuity certainly proved useful as they raced to a victory in the first match of Sunday play and claimed the silver polo hat trophy.

In the subsidiary final it was a win for Colindo QTs over The Mane Attraction though it has to be said that Juan Cruz Araya's swagger and hair flick at the presentation deserved a trophy of its own.

The BPP award was given to Vasco Huérfano owned and played by Aislinn Price and MVP was given to Louise Brown.



THE MANE ATTRACTION

Tory Lodder

Jinni Featherstone-Witty

Aislinn Price

Juan Cruz Araya

TOLA TIGERS

Alicia Ceccini

Abi Anderson

Louise Brown

Jason Warren

WHERE THERE'S A WILL...

Emilie Scrase

Hannah Firman

Lucy Dowie

Will Healy

COLINDO QTS

Bianca Stefan

Olivia Shea

Antonia Fichtner

Santi Araya





NEWPORT INTERNATIONAL RHODE ISLAND

The annual pilgrimage by a Ham team to America's glamorous east coast yacht haven Newport (haunt of New York's Summer glitterati) continued in 2019 with a return of 'Garrie's gang' with Garrie Renucci leading the charge at No. 1 supported by Stephen o' Kane & Russell Tyre at 2 & 3 and that genial genius of the stick Jimmy Wood bringing up the rear. Not only are the days long basking in the Rhode Island sunshine but the locals are just as warm & welcoming as they flock to see the series of unique & enthralling 'international' polo matches built up by Dan & Agnes Keating lovingly over decades. Ham's part in this polo extravaganza has been to play the role of the visiting 'England' team and more than once as the across the pond 'panto pushover'! But this year no matter that Garrie is Scottish, Stephen of Irish extraction, Russell a Hong Kong expat and Jimmy from New Zealand this team embodied everything "England expects" from the accompanying Ham Chairman - forced to play the 'there but spare' role due to injury - and our American cousins love about that plucky English stirred not shaken stiff upper lip!

Accordingly this exciting match didn't let the 'first reserve' and crowd down and with Ham England starting at the gallop the visitors were very soon 0-1 up. By the third - of six - chukkas the special relationship was looking in increasing danger and the old Chairman wondered whether we'd get replaced by the French again as England piled on the misery to soar into a forbidding 1-5 lead. But just when one imagines that the Yanks are down and out the 'US Cavalry' suddenly appears over the horizon! Seized with passion and riding like a possessed demon - driven on by the roar of the champagne fuelled crowd - Dan Keating led his team in a classic cut & thrust fight-back bearing down on England and incredibly bringing the score to 4-5 by the end of the 5th chukka. The USA was now playing at full throttle whilst Garrie & said gang looked more and more like the after party pink lobsters! America made short work of seemingly bedraggling England hopes and with derring-do soon took the lead with two quick fire goals to - seemingly impossibly - make it 6-5. And that ladies and gentleman could have been that, another agonising loss looming to add to the previous year's slink-back to London, but just as the giant scoreboard showed beaming local picnickers raising their Veuve Cliquots in clinking cheer to toast team USA and with only 5 1/2 minutes to go in the final chukka up popped that, well almost, bowler hatted City gent Jimmy Wood to bring the England lion roaring right back into contention with a truly individual end to end golden goal. 6-6 'screamed' the hurricane proofed scoreboard as it rattled and reeled from the effects of Jimmy's whirlwind!

What happened next can only be described as pure Pinewood - or is it Hollywood - as time ran out & the umpires pointed ominously to the penalty shoot-out spot the crowd instinctively put down their flutes & stood up on hushed tenterhooks to watch as a touch of pure American razzmatazz was played out.

The two backs had been invited to a polo duel and there could be only one winner!

Dead heat after two 60 yarders but gentleman Jimmy had the 90 yard edge & the restoration of pride in English - and Scottish, Irish, Hong Kong & New Zealand - hearts was complete!



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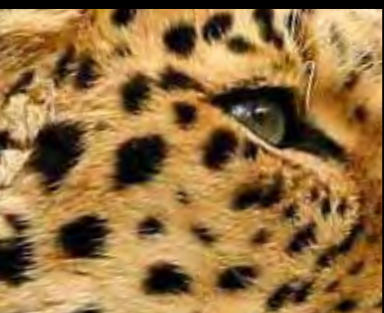
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FOXTROT COLINDO	
Bianca Stefan	-2
J. Featherstone-Witty	-1
Ed Courage	1
Jason Warren	2
	0

MAVERICKS	
Guru Johal	-2
Hannah Firman	-1
Lucy Dowie	1
Will Healy	2
	0

VENDETTA	
Marco Vignali	-1
Ruby Hickmet	-2
Natascha Hedegaard	-1
Jimmy Wood	4
	0

BELVEDERE	
Kate Lindsay-Fynn	-2
Katharine Smithwick	-1
Juan Cruz Araya	3
Russel Tyre	0
	0

QUADRIGA	
Olivia Shea	0
Louise Brown	0
Martin Hay	0
Stephen O'Kane	0
	0



THE MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

Five teams entered the tournament which was held over the four days of the May Bank Holiday. The first match was played on Friday evening as part of the Summer Friday Night Polo Parties series held over the summer; a fun social event with a polo match and DJ and bar until late into the evening. The match was played between Quadriga, a team of four 0 goal players, and Foxtrot Calindo, captained by Jason Warren, a 2 goal professional. It was a fun game played in good spirit by the teams, and was won by Foxtrot Calindo.

On Saturday, Quadriga played against Vendetta. Jimmy Wood, Vendetta's 4 goal professional, was able to use his considerable skills to guide his team to victory, despite a spirited defence by Quadriga, with Louse Brown in particular playing really well.

The two semi finals were played on Sunday. The first match was between Foxtrot Calindo and Vendetta. Once again Jimmy Wood and his team, especially Ruby Hickmet who was outstanding for a -2, were able to overcome Foxtrot Whisky despite a very fine performance by Jason Warren backed up by Ed Courage. The second match was the first game for the other league and also semi final between Belvedere and The Mavericks. It was a competitive and fast game which was won by Belvedere, with a good team performance.

Monday was an open day, offering everyone a chance to watch polo with complimentary entry to the club. The final of the Mixed Doubles was played between Vendetta and Belvedere. For the first half the teams were evenly matched and the score was 1-1 all at half time. The epic battle that had developed between Jimmy Wood and Juan Cruz Araya continued into the third chukka, with Jimmy scoring one goal early and Juan Cruz and Russell Tyre (a particularly fine goal) scoring to give Belvedere the lead 3-2 going into the final chukka. The tense and exciting game was well captured by our lead commentator, Benjie Davis.

In the final chukka, Vendetta scored an early goal to level the scores before Belvedere hit top gear with 2 goals from Juan Cruz and a goal from Katharine Smithwick giving Belvedere a notable victory 6-3.

The subsidiary final was played between The Mavericks and Foxtrot Calindo, and was won by Foxtrot Calindo. It was a hard fought game and played at a fast pace. The Jaegre Le Coutre cup was presented to the joint patrons of the team, Jinni Featherstone-Witty and Bianca Stefan.





QUADRIGA/BELVEDERE

<i>Kate Lindsay- Fynn</i>	-2
<i>Martin Hay</i>	0
<i>Will Healy</i>	2
<i>Jason Warren</i>	2
	2

HUGS & CO

<i>Guru Johal</i>	-2
<i>Louise Brown</i>	0
<i>Lucy Dowie</i>	1
<i>Benjie Davis</i>	2
	1

LA BERTA

<i>Andrew Harrison</i>	-2
<i>Olivia Shea</i>	0
<i>Santiago Araya</i>	4
<i>Bruno Bensousson</i>	0
	1

MAVERICKS

<i>Katharine Smithwick</i>	-1
<i>Hannah Firmann</i>	-1
<i>Juan Cruz Araya-Martelli</i>	3
<i>Hugo Davis</i>	1
	2



THE HAM HOUSE TOURNAMENT

The Ham House Trophy signals the start of competitive polo at Ham after the long winter. As a 2 goal tournament popular with home teams it is played over a weekend in mid May. With the horses now fit and the ground in fine condition exciting play is always expected.

The opening games on the Saturday concluded with wins for Belvedere and Mavericks. Both teams featured home professionals; Belvedere with an interesting combination of Healy and Warren and Mavericks being captained by Juan Cruz Araya Martelli.

The final proved to be exciting and a well managed and balanced performance by the Mavericks earned them the win. Hannah Firman was presented with the trophy by Chairman Howard Davis.

The subsidiary final between Hugs & Co. and La Berta followed and a dazzling performance from Santi Araya ensued. Though the scores were not far apart in the end the result went in favour of Bruno Bensousson's La Berta team and he was able to lift the trophy following the game.

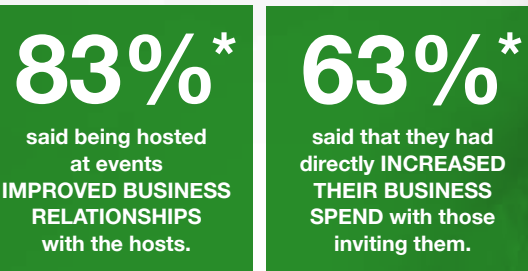




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POLO BCS JAPAN DAY



Ham members possibly do not know that the name BCS, of Anglo-Japanese Friendship Polo Trophy sponsorship fame, actually stands for British Country Spirit.



So how apt that our connection with the charming Haruhiko Takai San's Tokyo based clothing company embodies the very best of both countries' sporting spirits. Polo is not, yet, big in Japan but BCS plays a leading role in promoting the quintessentially British polo lifestyle to its millions of customers & is driving Far Eastern recognition of the King of Sports. That promotional effort includes the co-organisation in continuing partnership, nay friendship, with HPC of the annual match between a BCS Japan team & an HPC England team.

In 2018 the match for the newly presented and beautiful Anglo-Japanese Friendship Trophy was played with Japan's Ambassador to the UK, his Excellency Taishi (大使) Tsuruoka, looking on.

That year's event also witnessed a special Kiba Dakyu ancient oriental polo style display at the club. The whole spectacle was choreographed beautifully in front of a highly enthusiastic crowd supplemented by many members of London's Japanese Chamber of Industry & Commerce and it was the very first time that Kiba Dakyu's ancient & honourable sport of Emperors had ever been seen outside of the 'land of the rising sun'.

Fast forwarding to 2019 and Ham's members were honoured once again by the presence of 大使 Tsuruoka who, having fallen under polo's scintillating spell, returned to witness a formidable Japanese team assembled with a view to defending the trophy after their 2018 win. This Japanese 'all star' team would pit its wits against a well-disciplined Ham England team of 'old reliables' itching to claim that magnificent new trophy for the club.

The result was a swashbuckling 'samurai' style sequel to the previous year's culture fest which did not disappoint the Taishi (大使) or the crowded clubhouse.

The Japanese team was captained, as in 2018, by Ham trained Yuichiro Yoshimori (0) at number 2 and also comprised powerful 2 goaler Hiro Suzuki (2) at Back, Singapore based Taro Otsuka at number 1 and an interesting late team addition - rumoured to have been granted honorary, but only very temporary, Japanese status by Ambassador Tsuruoka for the day - HPC's very own comfy Chair Howard Davis playing at number 3. Notwithstanding the inclusion of a day member this may well have been the first time that three Japanese players have played together anywhere in the world.

'Ham England' in the guise of captain Ba Pataudi's "Tigerstream" team – himself playing off 0 goals – additionally comprised the intrepid Hugo Montgomery (0 goals) at Number 1 Chris (the Hammer) Porter (0 goals) at Number 2 and the awesome Ed Courage the 1 goal 'scourge' of many a visiting team's dashed hopes!

In essence it was a game of two polo cultures and eventually a game of two halves. The British contingent were happy to absorb the rapier like attacks initiated by Hiro Suzuki with his powerhouse shot at the ready during chukkas 1 & 2 striking back with Ba feeding Ed, Chris and Hugo's incessant 'raiding party' counter attack forays into the BCS Polo goal-mouth.

Sadly for the BCS Polo team and despite a huge effort to keep the trophy for another year the match ended up with a second half narrow win for Tigerstream. As 大使 Tsuruoka put it, so diplomatically, a stronger Japanese team would return again next year bent on furthering the friendly relations between both countries, and their common love of polo, under the appropriate banner of British Country Spirit.



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THE HURLINGHAM PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

In 1908, the Olympic Games were held at the White City, London. The British Olympic Association invited Hurlingham to organise a dinner for the foreign competitors but, understandably perhaps, the Committee preferred to present a 'handsome Challenge Cup' to the winning team in the polo event. This magnificent Trophy, designed by the Goldsmiths Company, was duly competed for by three teams – Hurlingham, Roehampton and 'a Spanish team' and won by Roehampton. Under the terms of the Deed of Gift it was returned to Hurlingham in 1912 and has ever since remained in the Club. A gold Commemorative medal was presented in 1909 by the British Olympic Association as 'a slight token of gratitude for the Cup'.

As if the trophy needed more to attract discussion it also contains the ashes of Teddy Miles who died in 2007 and requested on his death bed that he be put in the cup for safekeeping.



HAM POLO CLUB	
<i>Jinni Featherstone-Witty</i>	-1
<i>Hugo Davis</i>	1
<i>Benjie Davis</i>	2
<i>Will Healy</i>	2
	4
HURLINGHAM	
<i>Lindsay Smallbone</i>	0
<i>Simon Chamberlain</i>	1
<i>Ed Courage</i>	1
<i>Gus Prentice</i>	2
	4



As part of the Hurlingham Club's 150th anniversary celebrations a polo match was organised between Hurlingham and Ham Polo Club. It's not clear when the two clubs last played but it is assumed that the last meeting would have been pre WWII. As the Hurlingham's closest polo playing neighbour Ham was delighted to host the event and the large number of visiting guests.

Another particular significance of the game was the trophy, the Hurlingham Perpetual Challenge Cup. The trophy has resided in the polo bar at Hurlingham and hasn't left the club for 107 years. Such is its value it arrived at Ham with its own security team and an air of excitement surrounding it.



A TALE FROM THE 1980s



THE 80s AT HAM POLO CLUB WERE HALCYON DAYS



True, the Club only had one ground at Ham House but Billy and Peggy kept most of the ponies at the Ham Gate stables so taking them to play practice chukkas on the ground at Roehampton Gate was much easier. Nobody worked as long hours as they do now, so on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, chukkas started at 4.00 and attracted a good crowd of players, many of whom would head to the Victoria in Sheen to discuss play, tactics, teamwork and everything else when it was still fresh in the mind. Hopefully we will get back to doing the same at the Club soon. As we were advised by the legendary Digby Willouby, polo player and Secretary of the Cresta Run in St Moritz 'Polo and riding the Cresta share something in common, that is that the best way to improve is to watch and talk to those who do it better and learn from them!'

The Club had new members joining all the time and, although, as they have always done, many moved on to higher levels, they were frequently willing to pop over on a Sunday to improve the

level of matches. So we saw the likes of the Lucas family, Martin Brown, Oliver Ellis and the always competitive Horswell brothers! There is not enough room to tell the tales associated with them but the key aspect of them all was that they made the players play as a team with their contribution making them do so, not hogging the ball to show how brilliant they were! (That excludes Ed Horswell's 'walk through' which was a total education!!). Gradually the number of players increased from the single figures of the mid 70s to around 45 players in the mid 80s. Along with a healthy number of non-playing members who either picnicked or enjoyed the rather improved quality of food provided by Camilla and her brother, Andrew.

The other major event at the Club in the 80s was the launch of the first commercially sponsored team in polo. There had certainly been teams who had received some haphazard funding but, even at the top level, teams played for a private patron and wore just his colours and a number. There were no logos,

synchronised colours, matching livery etc. In fact commentators virtually insisted that each member of the team wore a different coloured helmet so that they could tell one from another!

This totally changed with the introduction of the Kouros teams in 1984.

First, the name. The French have always been rather more liberal about sex than the British; they openly had strip clubs, transvestite clubs and being gay was nothing like as taboo as it was in the UK. So in the early 80s, the three major perfume houses in France (the world?) launched male fragrances specifically aimed at the gay market.

Chanel produced Antaeus, a mighty giant eventually defeated by Hercules; Christian Dior gave us Jules, which was the French way of a man referring to his male boyfriend; and Yves Saint Laurent had Kouros, which were the statues of the young athletes who trained in the Olympic camps.

This created a challenge as the UK were not ready for such liberalism! So it was decided to associate the

brand with macho male activities. First on the scene was their hot air balloon, a sport which although it had been around for centuries, was now taking on a new modern daredevil upmarket image. Then the company decided to fund a polo team with the prime intention of it visiting other clubs and so marketing the brand. The low goal team was based at Ham and initially caused quite a furor! Other players wrongly assumed that the players were being paid, horses were being funded etc etc. In fact the funding was quite modest, and the players were all amateurs and used their own ponies. The funds went on liveried kit, travel, accommodation when away for players and grooms (and horses!!) and incidental expenses.

The original low goal team was made up of Geoffrey Godbold, Nicholas Colquhoun-Denvers, Sam Houston, and Chris Tauchert with the occasional passing player coming in if one of them was unavailable. Wives, partners, and grooms were all involved (and suitably kitted out) and the ponies had liveried saddle cloths and bandages. The players' shirts were dark blue with a Greek key design to match the product packaging and an alternate in cream and grey to follow the bottle design.

A new idea was to strap white insulating tape round the dark blue ponies' bandages. Initially not at all popular with polo managers as grooms tended to leave the tape in the pony lines after the game. Serious instruction to take it with them or not be invited back!!

In those Days, sponsorship was scarce and most based on what the Chairman or CEO liked to be involved in. The Kouros team were extremely lucky that the CEO of YSL(UK) was the brilliant Kenneth

Green who, with his lovely wife, Susie, was an avid enthusiast for polo. As a result not only was the team sponsored for three years but he also felt it right that the Club should benefit for hosting the team so made a donation of £16000 to the Club (which paid for the foundations of the clubhouse to be completely replaced. And provided sponsored umbrellas, prizes and merchandise.

They also sponsored a high-goal team based around Ollie Ellis at Cowdray. This consisted of Martin Brown, Ollie Ellis, Sandy Harper and the Chilean player, Max Pena. They competed in all the high goal tournaments again as an amateur team with Bunnie Ellis making sure that they were properly turned out! They brought about another change in polo: it became embarrassing that the sponsor and guests would arrange to attend in numbers to watch the team. Regrettably in those days all tournaments were played on a knockout basis which meant that, on more than one occasion, sponsor and guests turned up on the appointed day to find the team had been beaten two days before and were not playing! Serious discussions took place with the HPA and, mainly thanks to the support of Ronald Ferguson, these tournaments were changed to league format so that sponsors could be guaranteed to know to arrange to be present.

The Club also benefited from the YSL charity programme and hosted a very successful – and hot!! – day for Save the Children which their royal patron, HRH Princess Anne, attended. Her encyclopedic knowledge of all things equestrian had everyone on their toes!

The story of the Kouros sponsorship ended almost as bizarrely as it had begun. The team was invited to fly over to Paris to feature in the launch of a new range of Kouros sports products. They would play at the beautiful Polo de Paris in the Bois de Boulogne against a French team from the Club. The irony that here was an English team representing a french product playing a French team was much appreciated and, although assurances were given, it was clear from the outset that the French intended to win. The Kouros team consisted of Nicholas Colquhoun-Denvers, Geoffrey Godbold, Sandy Harper, and Sam Houston; they – plus partners and the YSL(UK) staff fan club were flown over before lunch, fed an enormous and very alcoholic lunch; so long in fact that every time they asked about going to see the ponies which they were going to play, they were refused and eventually had to battle back through Parisian traffic to check into their hotel and

then get back out to the Club not only in rush hour but also during a visit by the Emperor of Japan.

When they arrived frazzled at the Club, it all became clear; the selection of ponies were appalling and the opposing team all under-handicapped and well-mounted!! The French were looking for their revenge for Waterloo and obviously cared little that the defeat of their famous couture house on the polo ground was the means!!

However, the English were made of sterner stuff! In spite of Geoffrey pulling a riding muscle in the second chukka, the defence held through excellent play by Sandy and Sam so that the French only led by 4 – 3 1/2 in the final chukka. A brilliant pass by Sandy to Nick who unerringly played a superb shot through the goal saw the final score 4 – 4 1/2 to the Kouros team No matter that the team hosting the event and representing a French company had won, the French spectators fell into a state of gloom. To such an extent that not long after the prize giving, Kenneth Green called the team together and took them all off the Regine's to celebrate!!

The story had its repercussions. The Americans who owned the YSL brand derided the French for losing and the fact that it was the UK company that was showing the way in sponsorship, and that they should come up with something equivalent. So the French decided to sponsor two cars to race at Le Mans. They were the Sauber Mercedes World Sports cars and were driven by Henri Pescarolo who was a well past sell-by date but the only French driver around!! Unfortunately in his glory days the cars only did a maximum speed of about 140mph, whereas now they were topping 200mph which, at night, he could not handle. So the cars went out for about four hours at the beginning of the 24 hour race and then mysteriously stopped! And not surprisingly, if Henri's did, so the other had to!! So each year, for a potential 48 hours on the track by the two cars, the sponsor got 8!!

The sponsorship was £1.5million per year so all other sponsorship was stopped to contribute to it. So the end of the Kouros polo teams.

But they had brought a new dimension to Ham and the polo world, through various adventures too long to recount had kept the Club's name alive and well, changed a few very out of date concepts and started a trend which changed the face of polo. For better or worse? Others will need to decide!!

PS. The same Mercedes cars were then sponsored by AEG and won Le Mans the next year. Well done, les Francais!!

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OBITUARIES

ROBERT GRAHAM



Robert very sadly passed away unexpectedly on 7th August 2019 aged 67, much loved husband of 45 years to Betsy and adored father of Vanessa. He was the HPA Chief Umpire and member of the HPA Handicap Committee. Playing at Cowdray from the early 70s he reached 6 goals, playing the high goal with Greenhill Farm and often on the England Team.

Many players from Ham have been privileged to spend time during the winter at his Estancia Primavera in Argentina where he had a very successful polo pony breeding programme he developed along with Will Healy. Robert would give young aspiring players the opportunity to spend time working with his horses and his encouragement has helped to begin the careers of many English professionals. The horses he bred often reached the very top level of high goal and plenty of the bloodline can be seen on the field at Ham.

Robert was an inspiration, a perfect gentleman both on and off the field, highly respected in England and Argentina and his contribution to polo was enormous.



HENRY STEVENS

Henry Charles Auverny Stevens. 15th November 2019. Henry Stevens was born in Salisbury, Rhodesia on December 1st 1939 and was sent to Beaumont School in England where he developed his passion for sports including rugby. On leaving he played for Guildford and Godalming clubs and for London Irish until well into middle age.

He also was extremely keen on horses and was led by them into polo. He played at Ham in the 80s, and then Cowdray as well as Florida and California. At Ham, his very quick thinking and action probably saved Christopher Tauchert's life when he had a horrendous fall.

Henry achieved a 3 goal handicap but was also an excellent trainer of polo ponies and umpire and could be found at many clubs' grounds in the striped shirt. He was also delighted that his son Julian took up the sport so well.

Henry owned the Good Knight (certainly not a phrase in either sense to be found in his vocabulary!) Club in Haslemere and will be remembered for his love of life, his humour and infectious laugh, and his incredible energy.



GINGER BAKER

Ginger Baker passed away on 6th October 2019. Peter Edward 'Ginger' Baker was born in Lewisham, South London on 19th August 1939. He was famous as the drummer for the rock band, Cream, and for his well-known drug addiction. He played polo at Ham in the 70s having started in Nigeria on a drying-out spell and was a talented if slightly wild player.

His life has been written about and made into a documentary so trying to cover it would be pointless. Our memories of him at Ham involve his unassuming style, his absolute love of his ponies and his rather wild post game spontaneous parties in the stables with the grooms! Luckily he kept his horses at the Club stables rather than at Billy's by Ham Gate so these said parties were the subject of rumour rather than fact!

Happy memories of probably the first rock star polo player!



NETTE GODBOLD



Annette Godbold (nee Jorgensen) died on 19th October 2019. Nette, as she was known to everyone at the Club was born to Derragh and Finn Jorgensen at Castle Mungret, Co. Limerick in Southern Ireland on 15th April 1944. Her father worked for a Danish civil engineering firm, F L Smith, who specialised in building and managing cement factories and he had been sent to manage their one in Limerick in the 1930s. The factory features near the end of the book, Angela's Ashes, and is still very much there today. Nette and her younger sister, Christine (Kim), lived in a large mansion and she regularly rode out in the beautiful local countryside.

In her mid teens her father was transferred by the company to their factory in Thurrock, Essex and they had to leave behind their blissful lifestyle. She went to convent school and then her father retired and she left school for the London scene. With a combination of stunning Scandinavian looks and wicked Irish humour, she was extremely popular and had no trouble in finding employment with retailers like Fortnum and Mason, Georg Jensen and as a DJ at Annabels and Angeliques. In her early 20s, she got her dream job as a guide on the London Stock Exchange. Very different from now with gentlemen brokers, a vast open floor, overlooked by a large gallery where visitors could watch the proceedings which were explained to them by a team of five stunning young ladies! Their uniforms were designed by top London designers and office hours were 10.00 to 3.00 and therefore perfect for someone out late on the London scene!

One evening in the spring of 1970, she went to a drinks party at the house of a stockbroker called Michael Stewart who introduced her to one of his oldest friends, Geoffrey Godbold. They were married a year later and their wedding was reported in William Hickey's column. Geoffrey's father died a year later and he inherited the family advertising agency.

In 1974, their daughter, Alannah, was born and then, in 1979, Nette had twin boys, Jocelyn and Jolyon. They moved to a beautiful house in East Molesey where Nette brought up the children and was the perfect hostess for the frequent dinner and cocktail parties which they gave - always involving lots of laughter.

Geoffrey had taken up polo in 1972 and Nette used to take his horses out on exercise. As most of them were big to carry Geoffrey's weight and all of slightly quirky character, it was ideal that she was able to find her riding skills again quickly and could ride any of them. Her favourite was a beautiful, but large, black mare called Nutria, which Geoffrey had bought from Billy Walsh and given to her; but tragically she died of grass sickness just three years later. Nette's affection then went to Zapallo - or Basher as he was known in the stables! - who by contrast was a very grey gelding! But they adored each other and she was with him at his end some twenty years later.

Regrettably one day she toppled backwards while mounting in the yard and was severely concussed which put her off riding.

As well as bringing up her children beautifully and putting up with Geoffrey's absence on work, the Reserve Army or Ham Polo Club, Nette started what was to be a long voluntary career in charity work, going into the Princess Alice Hospice in Esher to run their reception.

The family had a major upheaval in the early 1990s and moved to Somerset. Again she set up a lovely, characterful home and ran the house and the boys, who were day boys at Millfield, through the week. She decided she should start riding again but, when she mounted, she had not realised that the horse had a cold back and it buckled underneath her, very badly crushing her leg. She announced that she felt this was a sign that her riding days were over!! Geoffrey stayed in London to work and came home at weekends but, after six years, it was obviously not working and they divorced. Fortunately they stayed good friends and in touch.

Nette moved to Bath. She had also carried on her guiding work and she took this up again as well as her charitable work, particularly for the Dorothy House Hospice. She had a series of illnesses in 2015 but seemed to have recovered and was in very good spirits. And then in the autumn of 2018, she went to the doctor with persistent bronchial problems to be told that she had terminal cancer. She courageously went through a year of treatment, never losing her sense of humour but she could not travel to Australia for Jocelyn's wedding which upset her greatly. Knowing that she would not live much longer, Jolyon came to Bath and got married in the spring of 2019. Nette was on wonderful form that day and just as we would all like to remember her.

Alannah was with her and looked after her wonderfully literally to the end and was amazing in juggling her care and her job and particularly in keeping Nette positive. At her funeral, so many friends came who hadn't seen her for years, remembering the happy times we all had together. She would have loved to have heard the tales and the laughter. Maybe she did!

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*See the article inside on page 41 - 'The science of silence'

