

The new Sports Centre: Fulfilment or Fantasy?



The New Sports Centre - artist's impression

There must be many issues that surround our great University that touch its alumni deeply; but there can be few that evoke for Hawks such conflicting feelings of hope and despair as that of the University Sports Centre. Indeed, for all sports men and women in the University, the long running saga of "will it or won't it happen" has seemed to be dragging on forever. Now perhaps there is an opportunity to bring the issue to a glorious conclusion; but as this leader seeks to show, it may be down to us Hawks to take the lead and make it happen.

Where are we now?

- We have a fully costed design and specification, from which the above picture is taken and details of which are given **overleaf**.
- We have an agreed site part of the Cambridge West development.
- We have full planning permission.
- We have the agreement of the University that this should be part of the 800th anniversary appeal.
- We have a budget for the running costs that shows that the Centre can be self-funding.

So what's the problem?

The cost - reckoned to be £50 million. If the project were to be phased, the first part, excluding the

swimming pool, would cost £20 million. There are, of course, elements of the University fearful that raising these sums would be at the expense of equivalent funds forthcoming for academic use.

Given that sentiment, it is perhaps unsurprising that potential donors are wary of making funds available that may subsequently not be used for the purpose for which they were intended.

What can Hawks do about it?

With The Hawks' Charitable Trust we have a vehicle through which funds for this development can be routed, which can not be subsumed for any other purpose. So we are starting...

An Appeal: to all Hawks to help make this project a reality. You can make either pledges or donations to the The Hawks' Charitable Trust, nominated specifically for this project. You may specify that, if the project were not to happen, then you should have your money back.

Forms and instructions for making donations can be found on the Hawks' web site, or you can request a set from the Clubhouse (see contact details on the reverse). If you would like a confidential discussion of the issue please contact Chris Pratt, Bursar of Fitzwilliam College, on +44 (0)1223 332060.

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The new Sports Centre - what's on offer?

(continued from front page)



Plan view of the Sports Centre

The proposed site for the Sports Centre is at the southern end of the Cambridge West development, adjacent to the Coton footpath.

With reference to the numbers on the above plan, the facilities within the complex will include:

- A 50-metre swimming pool, with fixed seating for approximately 500 spectators. The width and depth will be suitable for Water Polo, and a movable boom will provide for both 25m and 50m competition. This part of the building would include a café overlooking the lake. The café will be able to serve the rest of the Cambridge West site as well as the Sports Centre.
- This section will house the main sports hall, able to accommodate 2 basketball courts, 8 badminton courts, 2 netball courts or 2 volleyball courts (current rules allow for up to 6 different court marking colours). Bleacher seating for up to 1000 spectators will be available. Adjacent to the hall will be 6 Squash Courts, 3

Eton Fives Courts, and 3 Rugby Fives courts. Also in this section space for Aerobics and fitness classes, 2 Fencing pistes, and a Gymnasium with the full range of exercise machines and free weights.

3. 4 indoor tennis courts.

The whole will include appropriate changing facilities, service areas, and considerable storage for the range

of sporting equipment envisaged. There will even be space for the storage of tables and chairs should any of the space be required for examinations, seminars, etc.

Clearly this development will be of immense benefit to the whole University. Lord Butterfield was fond of saying, "Mens sana in corpore sano", by which he meant not just the literal translation of that phrase, but also the implication that every member of the University should have access to, and should make regular use of, decent sporting facilities

Tony Lemons, University Director of Physical Education, whose project this is, echoes his sentiment thus:

"At a time when the 2012 Olympics are focusing the political agenda on sport and the consequences of our increasingly sedentary lifestyle are becoming a significant national health risk, the facilities within the West Cambridge Sports Centre have never been more needed. The benefits to the whole University population, to the high performance sportspeople and to the local community are immeasurable and place this project at the core of University life. It is essential that the funding targets are achieved in order to provide world class facilities for our world class University"

Let us Hawks now help to make this vision a reality!

The Web site

The web site at <u>www.hawksclub.co.uk</u> is all new and live!



The site contains separate sections for The Club, Residents, the Dining Rights Club, the London Dinner, and the Hawks Trust. Each section can contain as many subsections as desired, so every aspect of the Club's activities can be covered.

Separate listing sections are provided for:

- current Notices
- a Calendar
- a Results list

The home page shows current selections from each list.

There is a photograph gallery to which contributions can be made by any member. The home page shows 2 thumbnails drawn at random from the gallery, and rotated every 5 seconds.

The Hawks Only section is accessible only by members, using a password which is emailed to the individual on request. This section enables members to update their own record, set personal preferences (including changing their password), search the database for other Hawks and upload photographs - lots of sporting action shots wanted, please.

Other contributions to the site are welcomed and can be sent to:

webmaster@hawksclub.co.uk (currently Tim Ellis), or

secretary@hawksclub.co.uk, or steward@hawksclub.co.uk.

This has been a joint effort by many parts of the Club organisation - the London Dinner committee, the Hawks in residence (especially Tom Edwards, last year's President) and the Cambridge management committee. Particular thanks are due to Peter Howland of Bestinvest, whose sponsorship made the exercise possible. Our thanks also are due to Lotte Pitcher of P.A.M Internet, and sister of a Hawk. She undertook the whole of the development at substantially below market rates.

... and just one reason why the Sports Centre is so important

Rodney Knight, President CU Eton Fives Club



At a Champage Reception and Dinner at the Hawks' in May a good victory for Mike Birkett and James O'Callaghan to win the Eton Fives trophy in the Universities Tournament and victory for the 4th successive time (3-0) in the Pol Roger Varsity Match for Mike Birkett's 2008 team were appropriately celebrated.. But how do they do that when there are no university facilities for this sport in Cambridge? The answer is a lot of fixtures and tournaments played away and very intensive use of the only remaining court in Cambridge at Magdalene College, for which hearty thanks are due from the Club to the Master and Fellows.. Each generation of players over the past 13 years has incredulously asked when the Portugal Place courts will be replaced and every year the answer is the same; no-one knows ! Is it really good enough for one of the world's great universities to have no facilities for court games; the Club does not think so. *Rodney Knight is also Chairman of the CU Eton Fives Charitable Trust*

OBITUARIES

Robin Waddell (1931-2007)

Son of a Scottish Rugby international, and one of 3 brothers, all of whom were Hawks (and one of them President into the bargain) "Round Robin" as he was affectionately known in his family, clearly had sport in his blood.

At school he played hockey and excelled at basketball. He also played rugby in various positions, ending up in the scrum for Glasgow Accies. When he retired as a player he took up refereeing, reaching the

level of South Africa versus Western Counties at Bristol, then the dog ate his rugby boots and he retired.

Up at Cambridge he played golf, achieving his personal piece of "Varsity magic" playing the best golf of his career to defeat his Oxford opponent in a match that Cambridge had regarded as a lost cause. He later served at the R&A and at Prestwick.

In professional life he was a stock broker, and became Chairman of the Scottish unit of the Stock Exchange in 1977, the youngest ever to do so. His attitude to investing was intuitive, and his written communications tended to the opaque - verbs were virtually unknown. His brother recalls:

"One day when he was out of the office I took a call on his behalf. The client had received a letter and told me to go ahead. I got out the copy letter and could make no sense of it. I phoned the client and explained my embarrassment. He said that's it! We have never understood. That is why we tell him to go ahead. We keep the first letter - receive the second with the contract notes, Wait till drinks time. We try to find clues in letter 1 that led to the contracts in letter 2. It is more fun than scrabble and the shares seem to go up!".

Family was central to his life. He had a long and happy marriage which produced 4 daughters, and 11 grandchildren, in all of which he took great delight.

Determined and competitive, cheerful and humorous, and with total integrity - this was a true Hawk.

From material submitted by his wife, Eileen and his brother, Alan (Hawks, Rugby)

Derek Curling 1923- 2008

Born in India, he was sent to board in England at a very young age. From prep school he won an exhibition to Aldenham where he excelled academically and won the Junior Victor Ludorum for Athletics. From there he won a scholarship to Trinity Hall to read Modern Languages where he represented the University at Cricket, Lawn Tennis and Rugby Fives, gaining his Blue in the latter.

Like many of his era his University career was interrupted by the war, and in 1943 he was called up. When a fellow soldier stepped on a mine, Derek, without thought of his personal safety, sped to his aid only to be blown up himself and lose a leg.

After the war he joined the Rootes Group, later Chrysler, rising to Export Director - a post he held for 20 years. This led him to travel the world, in particular the Middle East and Japan, a role which he enjoyed immensely.

He married Carol in 1962 and they celebrated 45 years together. They had 3 children, and latterly 4 grand children, all of whom he adored.

His friends describe him as modest and self-effacing, yet endearing, welcoming and out-going. He was modest about his sporting achievements, but immensely proud of his Hawks' Club membership. He was also stoic and good humoured in the face of adversity - few knew that he had an artificial leg, or later, that he had numerous eye operations and was blind for the last few years of his life. He accepted his final illness with equanimity, courage and dignity, and died with his family around him.

From material submitted by his wife, Carol, and his friend, John Batt.

Inside View - Football

Football Varsity match 2007 by Eddie Burrows

Torrential rain and bitingly cold wind greeted 2,000 fans at Fulham's Craven Cottage when the long-anticipated 124^{th} Varsity Football Match kicked off on the afternoon of the 29^{th} of March.

The opening exchanges, hindered by the weather, were scrappy to say the least and it was 4 goal hero Matt Stock who found himself in the right place at the right time to turn home a cross scrambled across the box by captain Anthony Murphy, and give Cambridge the early advantage a quarter of an hour in. But, as would eventually transpire to be the frustrating pattern of the game, Oxford pegged back. A hopeful forward punt found the pacey Sullivan who lashed a powerful drive past James Dean's despairing dive.

Inspired by Oxford's long and optimistic agricultural style, Stock, like Sullivan latched onto a ball pounded up from the defence and lobbed the goalkeeper with a degree of finesse so rarely seen at Craven Cottage this season. The goal was enough to send the Cambridge fans to their half-time pies happy. But as they filtered back after the break they probably choked on them in disbelief. It took less than a minute for the Oxford right-sided midfielder to cut

the ball inside the box for the much hyped Alex Toogood to slice his shot straight into the path of the sliding James Kelly who turned it home at the back post.

Less than 5 minutes later and Oxford manager Martin Keown was visibly fuming. Centre back Ali Hakimi played it forward to Stock and the Oxford defence trembled. Beating two men he turned inside and dropped the right shoulder to leave the right-back in his



Matt Stock slides in his third

wake, consummately sliding the ball under the goalkeeper Robinson for a formidable Varsity hat-rick.

The onus was on Oxford and Keown and he made a double substitution on the hour mark in the hope of containing the potency of the Cambridge front line and at the same trying to prise open the light blue rearguard a third time. 10 minutes later they came tantalisingly close, only to be thwarted by a scintillating save from the increasingly assured Dean.

Sadly, we didn't heed the warning signs and a combination of sloppy marking, indecisiveness and fortunate deflections allowed Toogood to chip Dean for the equaliser with 17 minutes remaining. At 3-3 it really could have gone either way. Homerton man Pendlebury and substitute Lalande both went close for Cambridge but were foiled by theatrical goalkeeping.

And then Dean played his part again. With just two minutes on the clock he clambered across his goal line to claw away an Oxford strike which seemed destined to win it. If Oxford were frustrated then, they were infuriated immediately afterwards. Matt Stock again picked up a short back pass and again rounded the keeper to slot it into an empty net to send the Cambridge crowd into raptures.

As the fourth official's board went up next to Martin Keown's disgusted expression, Stock turned provider. Getting to the by-line he played a ball weighted to perfection and Amos powered home the header to seal a famous win for Cambridge.



The victorious team



Results

Please don't cane the editor if your sport is not listed - he, and other volunteers at the Club, spend many hours collating results from Varsity, from the sports' web sites, and even from word of mouth. If we haven't found it, it hasn't been published!

Varsity Result
Oxford 7-2
Cambridge 5-3
Cambridge 1-1 (4-2 penalties)
Oxford 116-96
Oxford 107-92
Cambridge 104-97
Cambridge 11-3
Oxford 11-3
Oxford 73-61
Oxford 6 lengths
Oxford (Isis)
Oxford ½ length
Oxford (Osiris)
Cambridge
Cambridge
Oxford 108-103
Oxford 123-105
Oxford 8-7
Cambridge
Cambridge 4-2
Oxford 8-2
Cambridge
Oxford 4.5-3.5
Oxford 3-2
Cambridge
Cambridge 10-9
Cambridge 8-4
Oxford 21/2 lengths
Cambridge 1∕₃ length
Oxford 30-25
Oxford
Cambridge 5-1
Cambridge 6-0
Cambridge 22-16
Oxford Greyhounds 34-7
Oxford 13-3
Cambridge 13-12
Oxford
Cambridge
Cambridge 5-0
Oxford
Cambridge 8-2
Cambridge 8-2
Cambridge 431-381.1
Cambridge 12-7
Cambridge 13-3

Dates 2007-08

Date	Event
22/06/2008-23/06/2008	CU Real Tennis Club Varsity
06/06/2008	CU Cricket Club 20-20 v Oxford at The Parks.
17/06/2008	CU Cricket Club 1 day match v Oxford at Lords
01/07/2008-04/07/2008	CU Cricket Club 4-day match v Oxford at The Parks
01/07/2008-02/07/2008	CU Lawn Tennis Club Varsity Match at the National Tennis Centre, Roehampton, London.

Congratulations

Brian Rees (Rugby) who has been appointed 2008-09 High Sheriff of South Glamorgan.

Dr Dewi Roberts (Athletics and Rugby) who was appointed 2007-08 High Sheriff of Gwynedd.

News from the Trust

2008 Awards go far.

On 15th February the Awards Committee met, and distributed just under $\pounds 21,000$ between 80 applicants. Foir a full list of awards see the website

http://www.hawksclub.co.uk/public/trust/.

Owing to the generosity of Sir Arthur Marshall's estate, there is now a fourth named award. The four top awards of £750 each therefore were:

Sir Adrian Cadbury Award to Rebecca Dowbiggin - cox to the Cambridge Blue Boat 2007 and 2008.

Bob Barber Award to Samantha Cutts - Equestrianism David Jennens Award to Natalie McGoldrick - Equestrianism Sir Arthur Marshall Award to Jamie Douglas - Real Tennis

Natalie McGoldrick, who has appeared in this column before, used her award to help pay for some advanced training which has resulted in recent wins at National Medium Dressage, up a level from last year. She has also been shortlisted for the British team for the World University Equestrian Championships.

Donations to the Trust

In addition to the request for funds in aid of the new Sports Centre, there is always a need for more funding in the Trust itself. Forms to help you with making a donation can now be found on the website, or can be obtained by contacting Sarah at the Clubhouse (see contact details below).

In addition to making explicit donations you can create a small but steady stream of income to the Trust completely painlessly by using **Easysearch** when you do a search on the web, and by using **Easyfundraising** when you shop online. See the details on the website.

CAM Magazine

For those of you who may not have noticed, the Sport section of the Lent edition of CAM Magazine was all about sources of funding for sport in the University. The Hawks' Charitable Trust was given an excellent exposure in an article which highlighted the difficulties which top flight sportsmen and women have with meeting their expenses.

London Dinner advanced notice: this will be on 10th December - please make sure it is in your diary.



CONTACT YOUR CLUB: Administrator: Sarah Malcolm 18 Portugal Place Cambridge CB5 8AF Tel: 01223 314666

Fax: 01223 314714 Email: steward@hawksclub.co.uk Website: www.hawksclub.co.uk