

WBHC Ladies Match Reports 2008/09 Season

Wootton Bassett 2 - 6 England Ladies Masters (11 April 2009)

On Saturday 11 April the England Ladies Masters hockey team played Wootton Bassett Ladies at Lime Kiln as part of the club's 50th anniversary celebrations.

A crowd of several hundred spectators and club members (past and present) basked in the April sunshine to watch the game. Founder member Ann Webb pushed the ball back to start the game, dressed in her original club kit and using a stick from 50 years ago (see photo). Wootton Bassett were not overawed by the occasion and the superior pace of their younger players up front created numerous scoring chances, two of which were stylishly converted by Emma Collison and Suzanne Montgomery. The home side's defence held firm for the first 15 minutes but, despite a spectacular clearance off the goal line from Tracy Fieldsend, the visitors' slicker finishing in front of goal finally told and England ran out 6-2 winners.

After the game the England team joined club members for tea in the school restaurant and heard club chairman Pete Sammon thank all those that had made the day such a success. England coach Deb Wilkes told the audience they were pleased to participate in Wootton Bassett's celebrations and all the team appreciated the spirit in which the game was played. She congratulated Wootton Bassett on its first 50 years! England Hockey representative Jan Baker then presented Ann Webb and Mary Harrison, two of the club's founder members, with England Ladies Masters honorary membership in recognition of their contribution to hockey over the last 50 years.

England: Jan Baker (EH Rep), Deb Wilkes (coach). **Team:** June Blythe, Kim Spencer-Pell, Pam DeAbreu, Sally Privett, Sarah Butcher, Carol Tucker, Sue Morgan, Barbara Oliver, Nicola Horsfall, Karen Rhodes, Karen Keating, Steph Liveley, Miranda MacTaggart (captain), Fiona Jarman, Dianne Levitt, Sue Myers, Linda Fieldhouse.

Wootton Bassett: Ann Webb (President and founder member), Mary Harrison (President and founder member), Pete Sammon (coach). **Team:** Debbie Collison, Viv Hayward, Lesley Wickens, Lisa Turner, Emma Langdon, Bronnie Duff, Sue Davies, Vicci Green, Abi Iles, Judith Brown, Steph Wheeler, Becky Johnson, Emma Collison, Debbie Trowbridge, Emma Hayden, Sue Lee, Suzanne Montgomery, Rachel Fairbanks, Sammy Jennings, Jenny Jones, Katy Burnside (captain), Nattie Moore, Vicky Sammon.

Bourton Vale 2nds 0 - 2 Wootton Bassett 3rds (18 April 2009)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rd XI travelled to Bourton Vale for their last league game of the season in a re-arranged game due to the bad weather in January.

Bassett started well and were rewarded, after many attacks on the Bourton goal, with a fine strike from Judith Brown. However, the home side put up spirited resistance and Bassett needed all their concentration to foil several breakaway attacks.

The visitors were slow to get back into their stride after the break but eventually Annabel Springthorpe scored. They now pressed forward with increasing confidence but Bourton blocked their goal and successfully kept the scoreline at 2-0. Bassett were happy with the team performance and a strong finish to the season secures them third place in Severn Division 3. Player of the match was Cat Roberts.

Ladies clean sweep (4 April 2009)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1sts 3 – 2 Tavistock

The 1st XI played their final Premier 2 game of the season at home on Saturday against Tavistock.

Bassett started strongly, combining well, despite a changed team. The visitors resisted the early pressure until the 30th minute when Lisa Turner opened the scoring.

After half time the home side slotted in two more goals from Suzanne Montgomery to take a 3-0 lead. However Tavistock came back in the final 20 minutes, pushing Bassett to the limit and scoring two quick goals. The home side looked like conceding further goals but for the courage and brilliance of their goalkeeper Gemma Vinton, who kept Tavistock at bay to secure the 3 points for Wootton Bassett.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds 5 – 1 Bourton Vale

The 3rd XI played Bourton Vale in Severn 3 at Lime Kiln on Saturday.

By half time they were two goals up through Jenny Jones and Sophie Legg and with ten minutes to go they had scored three more from Susie Bailey, Judith Brown and Annabel Springthorpe. The visitors then scored a consolation goal to make the score 5-1 at the final whistle. Cat Roberts was voted player of the match.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds 3 – 1 Badgers

Following several postponed games earlier this year, the 3rd XI played their second league game of the weekend at home on Sunday.

They scored a satisfying 3 -1 over second-placed Badgers, with two goals from Annabel Springthorpe and one from Viv Hayward, to lift them into third place in Severn Division 3. Their final game of the season is on 18 April..

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds 0 – 2 Cirencester (28 March 2009)

Bassett 2nds played Cirencester in a re-arranged league game at Lime Kiln.

Both sides had equal amounts of play in the first half and found it difficult to break through their opponents' defences. The game was end to end but remained goalless at half time.

After the break, Cirencester took control, scoring their first goal. Although the home side fought back, they were unable to penetrate and towards the end of the game the visitors scored a second goal to make sure of the win.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds 4 - 8 Leominster (21 March 2009)

Bassett 2nds played Leominster in Severn Division 1 at Lime Kiln on Saturday.

Leominster started strongly and by half time were four goals up, after some accurate passing and fast play, giving the home side's defence no chance.

But after half time Bassett came back into the game and, by pushing up scored four goals to draw level through Vivienne Hayward (2), Nicky Gibbs and captain Sue Davies. However the visitors were quick to reply scoring four more goals before the close to give them a decisive win.

East Glos Ladies 2nds 1 - 1 Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds (14 March 2009)

Bassett 3rds visited East Glos in Severn Division 3 on Saturday. Both sides had chances to score early on, but it was Bassett who took advantage after 15 minutes with a goal from Judith Brown. From then on, the visitors were on top, playing well as a team and creating numerous chances, only to be thwarted by an in-form Glos keeper.

After half time the home side changed their formation and Bassett were unable to find the pattern of their first half performance. Glos now pressurised the Bassett defence and were rewarded with an equaliser after 20 minutes. Both sides then tried to find the winning goal that could decide the game, but at the whistle it remained all square. - A result that fairly reflected the balance of the game. Polly Long was Bassett's player of the match.

JJ nets a hat-trick as Bassett Ladies' 3rd XI storm to victory (7 March 2009)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rd XI 7 – 2 Stroud 2nd XI

The Ladies 3rd team returned to winning ways in a stylish display against Stroud at home on Saturday. Right from the start Bassett displayed their attacking credentials, racing to a 5 – 1 half time lead. Sophie Legg and Jennie Jones led the way with wave after wave of attacking hockey, scoring two and three goals respectively.

The final score was increased to 7 – 2 with further goals from captain Lesley Wickens and Judith Brown. The win leaves Bassett just three points behind second placed Badgers in the West Women's Severn 3 Division. Next week Bassett face a tough away trip to East Gloucestershire Ladies.

Scorers: J.Jones (3), S.Legg (2), L.Wickens, J.Brown **Player of Match:** S.Legg

Team: B.Duff, J.Brown, L.Wickens (c), C.Lamb, D.Collison, V.Hayward, J.Jones, A.Springthorpe, S.Legg, D.James, S.Bailey, P.Long

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nd XI 1 – 8 Hereford Ladies 1st XI

As the only team to have beaten Hereford this season Bassett were hopeful of a good result on Saturday. However, the away team showed why they are sitting 13 points clear at the top of the Severn 1 Division with some skilful play on display from the start. Despite the skill of the visitors Bassett started well, creating a number of early chances. Hereford eventually took the lead through a well taken solo effort. Minutes later Bassett looked like making a game of it when Suzanne Montgomery forced in the equaliser. The league leaders then upped their game, adding another two goals before the break.

The away team then went on the offensive in the second half. Some great defensive displays kept them at bay for long periods, but they eventually ran out 8 – 1 winners.

Scorer: S.Montgomery **Player of Match:** N.Gibbs
Team: L.Brown, S.Davies (c), S.Lee, N.Gibbs, V.Green, A.Iles, S.Wheeler, H.Box, S.Montgomery, E.Hayden, S.P???, B.Johnson

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1st XI 1 – 6 Plymouth Marjon 1st XI

Despite the score line there was very little to choose between bottom of the league Bassett and Premier 2 league leaders Plymouth on Saturday. Plymouth's composure in front of goal and ability to take their chances proved the deciding factor.

The opening 10 minutes were end to end with both teams creating chances. The running of Emma Collison and Lisa Turner up front forced the Plymouth defence into a number of mistakes leading to chances flying agonisingly wide. Plymouth then broke out of defence and scored from a 50 yard solo run from their midfield playmaker. Five minutes later they were at it again, and by half time Bassett were scratching their heads as they found themselves 3 – 0 down in what had been a fairly even first half.

Bassett raised their game in the second half and dominated the opening encounters, their pressure finally paying off when joint player the match Becky Thomas drove the ball home. At the back Vicky Sammon led the way, clearing the lines on numerous occasions and sharing the player of the match award with Thomas. Eventually the away team's skill shone through as they added another three goals to leave the final score at a flattering 6 – 1 to the away side.

Scorer: B.Thomas **Player of Match:** V.Sammon, B.Thomas
Team: G.Vinton, V.Sammon, T.Fieldsand, K.Cox (c), B.Thomas, M.Vincent, T.Buchanan, N.Moore, L.Turner, E.Collison, E.Langdon, D.Trowbridge

Bretforton 2nds 2 - 0 Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds (21 Feb 2009)

Bassett 2nds visit to Bretforton in Severn Division 1 was a close fought affair. Player of the match, Laura Brown, pulled off some fines saves in goal as neither side were able to make the break-through before half time.

Soon after the resumption, the home side scored a breakaway goal to take the lead. Bassett responded but were thwarted time and again by the Bretforton keeper. The visitors continued to press but, in their efforts to equalise, were caught upfield and conceded a second goal on the breakaway just before the final whistle.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds 6 - 0 Colwall

Bassett 3rds fielded a strong team for this Severn Division 3 encounter at Lime Kiln. They outplayed Colwall from the start and their first goal came in the sixth minute through a pass from Annabel Springthorpe which was slotted home by Sophie Legg.

Bassett continued to attack with some good hockey, finding their players with ease. By half time Jenny Jones has scored two more goals, one struck shot from the edge of the D and the other from a pass from Springthorpe.

After the break, Bassett continued to dominate the game, with a goal from Judith Brown and another brilliantly struck shot from Jones to clinch her hat-trick. Viv Hayward rounded off a superb team performance with a goal 15 minutes from time to make it 6-0 at the final whistle.

Scorers: Jenny Jones (3), Sophie Legg, Judith Brown, Viv Hayward

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1st XI 2 - 3 Bretforton (31 Jan 2009)

Bassett entertained Bretforton in Premier Division 2 at Lime Kiln on Saturday. They started well and within ten minutes were a goal up when Debbie Trowbridge slotted home from a pass from Becky Thomas. The visitors responded with an equaliser a few minutes later, but just before half time following some good team play, Trowbridge scored again from a Lisa Turner cross to make it 2-1 at the interval.

After the break both teams had chances to score but Bretforton took control and only some good saves from goalkeeper Bronnie Duff kept Bassett in with a chance to win their first league game of the season. However, the visitors put paid to this when, after a period of continuous pressure they were rewarded with two penalty strokes, both well struck, to draw level and then to take the lead for the first time in the game.

Bassett fought back valiantly in an effort to grab an equaliser, but at the final whistle it was 3-2 to the visitors.

Scorer: Debbie Trowbridge (2)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1st XI 0 - 4 Bude (24 Jan 2009)

Bassett went into Saturday's game well aware that it was likely to be a tough encounter against a Bude side currently lying second in Premier Division 2.

The visitors attacked from the start and were a goal up after three minutes, followed a few minutes later by a second. A third goal came only minutes later from a well-struck shot high into the right side of the net and within fifteen minutes the home side found themselves 4 - 0 down. For the remainder of the half Bassett raised their game, competing well for every ball.

Bassett took advantage of the interval to re-organise and the second half was a very different affair. Bassett's defence held firm and their forwards forced several good saves from the Bude keeper. This pressure finally paid off with the award of a penalty stroke, but Bassett were unable to convert and the score remained at 4 - 0 to the visitors. Bassett now played with more purpose and, although both sides had further chances to score, Bronnie Duff in goal along with Tracy Fieldsend, Vicky Sammon and Judith Brown in defence ensured that high flying Bude didn't add to their goal tally in the second half. At the end of the match Bassett were left happy with a good performance, but ruing the mistakes of the first fifteen minutes.

Next week the 1st XI will be looking to build on the second half performance and pick up some much needed points when they host Bretforton.

Player of the Match: J.Brown

Team: B.Duff, V.Sammon, T.Fieldsend, K.Cox (c), N.Moore, M.Vincent, T.Buchanan, E.Collison, D.Trowbridge, B.Thomas, J.Brown

Lydney 5 – 1 Wootton Bassett Ladies 1sts (17 Jan 2009)

The 1st XI travelled to Lydney, hoping to get a result after their draw with Lydney at the start of the season. However, due to lack of match practice from a month of cancelled fixtures it wasn't to be with Bassett going down 5 – 1.

Scorer: E.Collison. **Player of the match:** V.Sammon

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds 0 – 7 Gloucester 2nd XI

This was the first game for many weeks due to the bad weather, but Wootton Bassett started well by attacking the Gloucester goal and, until the 22nd minute, when Gloucester scored, it could have gone either way. But Gloucester then put on the pressure with accurate passing, long balls to their fast forwards and by half time Gloucester had scored their second goal.

After half time, Gloucester took control of the game, splitting Bassett's defence, and gained further goals from set pieces. This resulted in Gloucester scoring five more goals by the end of the game.

Players of the match: S.Davies, E.Hayden

Devizes 3rds 1 – 3 Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds

In preparation for the resumption of their league fixtures next weekend the ladies 3rd XI managed to blow off the Christmas cob-webs and come back from Devizes with a deserved win.

Scorers: A.Springthorpe, L.Thom, L.Wickens. **Player of the match:** S.Legg

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1sts 1 – 2 Falmouth (6 Dec 2008)

With a much changed team Bassett did well to hold Falmouth, lying second in Premier 2, to a nil-nil at half time. Both sides had chances to open the scoring, moving the ball well from end to end.

Bassett's defence held firm until 15 minutes into the second half when Falmouth scored. Then on 30 minutes Falmouth scored their second goal with a ball from the back line struck nicely into goal. Bassett then played their best hockey, with some close passing which paid off when Vicky Salmon pulled a goal back for 2-1. Bassett worked hard in the last few minutes, but despite a fine team performance, ran out of time to get the equaliser.

Scorer: Vicky Salmon

Leominster 3 – 0 Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds

Bassett 2nds travelled all the way to Leominster in a clash near the bottom of the league. This was a must win game for Bassett in order to continue their winning streak.

Both teams started confidently with pressure at both ends and both unlucky to score. Bassett did extremely well to hold off the pressure from Leominster with good saves from the goal keeper and solid defence to go into half time 0-0.

After the break the home side came out even more determined and were able to convert two goals from the numerous

short corners awarded during the second half. A final goal from open play allowed Leominster to beat Bassett 3-0. A disappointing Bassett side went home empty handed.

Players of the match: Laura Brown & Sue Lee

Team: L.Brown, S.Lee, V.Green, S.Wheeler, E.Hayden, S.Davies (c), V.Hayward, N.Gibbs, A.Isles, D.Trowbridge, C.Roberts.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds 3 – 1 Cheltenham CS

Bassett started strongly, with Suzanne Montgomery scoring from a short corner and Sophie Legg cracking the ball in from the left post, all within the first ten minutes. Cheltenham regained their composure and, after a period of possession, scored from top D to nut-meg the Liz Archer in goal.

With a quicker paced second half, Bassett were able to ease ahead with a third goal, again from Sophie Legg.

Scorers: Suzanne Montgomery, Sophie Legg (2) **Player of the match:** Sophie Legg.

Team: L.Archer, L.Wickens, J.Brown, D.Collison, S.Bailey, S.Legg, S.Montgomery, R.Fairbanks, D.James, J.Jones, P.Long, E.Harris.

Mixed fortunes for Bassett

(29 Nov 2008)

Bath Buccaneers 5 – 1 Wootton Bassett Ladies 1sts

This Premier Division 2 game started in thick fog, with neither goalkeeper being able to see the opposing goal area! The first half was evenly fought, with Bassett showing excellent team play and composure. Helen Wright facilitated the fluid movement of the ball across the pitch, creating some strong attacking moments. Cath Smith's presence in goal was valued for her solid saves and clearances and the visitors' defence showed grit and determination by successfully protecting the goal line from a flurry of short corners to keep the scoreline 0-0 going into half-time.

Bassett came out for the second half with a will to build on the positive play from the first half, and the end-to-end battle continued. However, the umpire then intervened, issuing a yellow card for a minor offence. Bassett found it difficult to re-group while down to ten players and conceded three quick goals against the run of play. Lisa Turner lifted spirits with a sneaky goal two minutes from the end of play, but the game was already lost and Bath eventually ran out 5-1 winners.

Scorer: Lisa Turner. **Player of the Match:** Tegan Buchanan

Team: C.Smith, K.Cox (c), E.Langdon, V.Sammom, M.Vincent, B.Thomas, T.Buchanan, L.Turner, D.Trowbridge, N.Strickland, T.Fieldsend, E.Collison, H.Wright.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds 1 – 0 Cheltenham CS

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nd XI picked up three valuable points against Cheltenham in a tight game in Severn Division 1.

Battling against the icy winds, Bassett took the lead in the first half with a goal from Nicky Gibbs from some strong play from midfield. They had numerous chances to extend their lead, with near misses from Abi Iles, Vivienne Hayward and Suzanne Montgomery.

The second half saw Bassett fail to convert several short corners and towards the end of the game they began to tire, allowing Cheltenham back into the game. But the Bassett defence held firm with determined performances from Vicci Green, Steph Wheeler and Viv Hayward. However, in the last minute the visitors were awarded a short corner, but Laura Brown in goal encouraged one final effort to resist this threat and secure the win for Bassett. A well deserved win and a rare clean sheet for the team.

Scorer: Nicky Gibbs. **Player of the match:** Vicci Green.

Team: L.Brown, S.Lee, V.Green, S.Wheeler, H.Box, N.Gibbs, B.Johnson, S.Davies (c), V.Hayward, S.Montgomery, N.Moore, A.Iles

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds 3 - 5 Blockley

(15 Nov 2008)

Bassett 2nds played Blockley, one place below them in Severn Division 1, on Saturday.

Bassett started strongly, scoring in the first five minutes from Heather Box, but the visitors retaliated within minutes to equalise. Both sides had numerous chances during the rest of the half and Sue Davies converted for Bassett, but Blockley went in 3-2 up at the break.

With play swinging from end to end in the second half, Blockley took advantage scoring two more goals before Bassett came back into the game near the end with a third goal from Nicky Gibbs. A fast and exciting game, but unfortunately the home side were unable to come away with the points.

Scorers: Heather Box, Sue Davies, Nicky Gibbs

Team: G.Vinton, R.Fairbanks, S.Lee, D.Trowbridge, S.Wheeler, S.Davies (c), N.Gibbs, V.Hayward, S.Bailey, N.Moore,

H.Box, V.Green, T.Buchanon.

A point for Pudsey (8 Nov 2008)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds 1 – 1 Gloucester 4ths

Bassett ladies decided to support Children in Need last weekend with all teams taking to the field sporting Pudsey bandanas. The first game of the day featured the 3rd XI against Gloucester 4ths in Severn Division 3.

Bassett started strongly and had much of the play. An unfortunate injury to Carol Lamb meant the squad was reduced to eleven players early on. Whilst they came to terms with the resulting reorganisation in their lineup, the home side was forced to soak up some strong attacks by Glos. Both sides had opportunities to score but it remained goalless at half time.

From the restart Bassett came under pressure from the visitors and conceded a well-taken goal. Play remained even, with Cath Smith making some good saves in goal. Then, with just a few minutes left on the clock, Bassett were awarded a penalty corner which was converted by Jude Brown, much to the dismay of the visitors for 1-1 at the final whistle. A hard earned point for Bassett and a good result to put an end to top of the league Glos' winning run.

Scorer: Judith Brown

Team: C.Smith, C.Lamb, L.Wickens (c), D.Collison, J.Brown, A.Springthorpe, S.Legg, C.Roberts,, J.Roberts, A.Iles, J.Jones, B.Johnson.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1sts 2 – 3 Yate & South Gloucester

Bassett ladies 1st team entertained the team three places above them in Premier Division 2. The game started at a fast pace with both sides testing the goalkeepers early on. Yate scored first after ten minutes, but Bassett pressed hard for an equaliser and were unlucky to go into half time 1-0 down.

In the second half the visitors applied more pressure and scored two quick goals. This spurred a Bassett fightback and goals from Lisa Turner and Becky Thomas followed. They continued to work for the crucial third goal to level the scores but time ran out. A narrow defeat, but their best team performance so far this season gives encouragement that they can get back to winning ways.

Scorers: Lisa Turner, Becky Thomas. **Player of the Match:** Becky Thomas

Team: Laura Brown, Tracy Fieldsend, Emma Langdon, Nancy Strickland, Sue Lee, Emma Collison, Becky Thomas, Marie Vincent, Katy Cox (c), Lisa Turner, Suzanne Montgomery, Debbie Trowbridge.

1st's lose out in a 12 goal thriller (1 Nov 2008)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1st XI 4 – 8 Bristol University (Reporter: Emma Langdon)

Bassett ladies were involved in a goal fest phenomenon on Saturday at home to Bristol University. Lisa Turner was unlucky not to open the scoring early on in the game. The University side were the first to score, however, Turner levelled the scores soon after. Unfortunately Bristol Uni responded straight from the push back, and soon stretched their lead to 3-1. The opposition scored again from a short corner, but Bassett stayed in touch with a goal from Marie Vincent. Bristol Uni went into half time with a 5-2 lead.

Bassett upped their tempo in the second half, putting their opponents under sustained pressure. Lisa Turner got her second and Becky Thomas linked well with Nancy Strickland from a free hit outside the D to score Bassett's fourth. Bristol Uni then went on to score three more goals in the second half, leaving Bassett 8-4 down by the final whistle. Player of the match, Lisa Turner said 'it was a good team game.'

Scorers: Lisa Turner (2), Marie Vincent, Becky Thomas. **Player of the Match:** Lisa Turner

Team: Laura Brown, Tracy Fieldsend, Emma Langdon, Nancy Strickland, Sue Lee, Emma Collison, Becky Thomas, Marie Vincent, Katy Cox (c), Lisa Turner, Suzanne Montgomery, Debbie Trowbridge.

Cirencester 3 – 1 Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nd XI (Reporter: Vivienne Hayward)

Bassett started slowly with Bronnie Duff in goal making a couple of good saves early on in the game. However, Cirencester were able to take the lead from a short corner. Bassett immediately came to life and hit back when, in a goal mouth scramble, Sue Davis equalised to make the score 1-1 at half time.

Cirencester retook the lead early in the second half with another goal from a short corner. Bassett were unable to capitalise on their many chances in front of goal and conceded a late third.

Scorers: Sue Davies. **Players of the Match:** Steph Wheeler, Deb James, Natty Moore

Team: B.Duff, S.Wheeler, R.Fairbanks, E.Hayden, S.Davies (c), D.James, V.Hayward, H.Box, N.Moore, A.Iles, T.Buchanan, N.Gibbs

Brown secures win for the 3rd's (25 Oct 2008)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1st XI 2 – 4 Chippenham

Bassett started well, putting the visitors under pressure in the first ten minutes, but were unable to score. Chippenham fought back and opened the scoring. They gradually took control, putting the home side on the defensive and converted another strike to take a two goal lead into half time.

Bassett came back fighting in the second half and, although Chippenham scored another goal to make it 3-0, this was against the run of play. The home side came back quickly with some good team work. Eventually the ball was worked through to Marie Vincent to score Bassett's first goal. From this point on, Bassett looked the stronger side and quickly followed up the first goal with another from Vincent to close the gap to 2-3. They continued to put the visitors under pressure but were unable to convert any of their chances. Then, in the final minutes as Bassett continued to press for the equaliser, Chippenham closed out the game with a late goal to make the final score 2-4.

Scorers: Marie Vincent (2). **Player of the Match:** Marie Vincent

Team: L.Brown, K.Cox (c), E.Langdon, E.Collison, V.Blundell, S.Lee, T.Fieldsend, Z.Salisbury, M.Vincent, D.Trowbridge, B.Thomas, H.Wright.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rd XI 4 – 3 East Gloucester

Very competitive from the start, with fast, slick passing from both sides, the result remained in doubt until the final minutes of the game. Surprisingly, the scoreline at half time was goalless.

Soon after the break Bassett opened the scoring with a goal from Judith Brown, but the visitors replied swiftly to equalise. The home side went ahead again within minutes through a shot from Becky Johnson into the top left hand corner of the net, but again East Glos levelled two minutes later.

Bassett pressed forward and re-established their lead with a goal from Abi Iles but again the visitors came back to level the scores. The result was still too close to call, with both teams having chances right up until the closing minutes when, finally, a well-taken short corner was converted by player of the match Brown to ensure that Bassett came away with all three points.

Scorers: Judith Brown (2), Abi Iles, Becky Johnson. **Player of the Match:** Judith Brown

Team: B.Duff, L.Wickens (c), E.Clifton, P.Long, D.Collison, J.Brown, J.Jones, S.Legg, A.Iles, C.Roberts, J.Roberts, B.Johnson.

Bassett 2nds go top (11 Oct 2008)

Bretforton 6 – 3 Wootton Bassett Ladies 1st XI (Reporter: Vicky Blundell)

Bassett travelled to Bretforton on Saturday for their third league game of the season.

They began strongly with several attacks and good interplay between Emma Collison, Marie Vincent and Lisa Turner, but Bretforton opened the scoring against the run of play. Bassett equalised soon after through a reverse stick shot from Marie Vincent at a tight angle however, Bretforton drilled one more goal in before half time from a penalty corner.

After the break, the visitors looked the stronger team but, despite some fine defending from player of the match Tracy Fieldsend, Bretforton again penetrated the defence with some slick skills and added another goal. Bassett continued to fight hard and pulled another goal back through a well worked goal from Lisa Turner who neatly slotted it past the keeper on the post.

But Bassett were unable to maintain the momentum and Bretforton made it 4-2 from another penalty corner. Then, with ten minutes to go, Katy Cox attacked down the right wing and crossed into the D for Suzanne Montgomery to sweep home for Bassett's third, but the visitors' final push failed to secure an equaliser and Bretforton sealed the game with two further goals in the final five minutes.

Scorers: Marie Vincent, Lisa Turner, Suzanne Montgomery. **Player of the Match:** Tracy Fieldsend

Team: G.Vinton, Z.Salisbury, T.Fieldsend, H.Box, H.Wright, E.Collison, V.Blundell, M.Vincent, K.Cox (c), L.Turner, S.Montgomery, B.Thomas.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nd XI 1 – 0 Hereford 2nds (Reporter: Mary Harrison)

Bassett 2nds hosted Hereford in an end to end game at Lime Kiln. Bassett pressed hard from the start but the visitors were determined to get themselves back into the game and both sides had opportunities to score chances to score in the first half.

With no score at half time, the home side gradually increased the pressure in the second half and, with 15 minutes to go

Bassett were camped in the Hereford half, forcing a succession of short corners. However, they were unable to capitalise as the visitors' goalie pulled off a number of crucial saves.

Eventually, just when it looked like the game might be heading for a draw, Natasha Moore forced the ball into the back of the net to secure the three points. A deserved win, from a good all-round team performance, that consolidates Bassett's position at the top of Severn Division 1.

Scorer: Natasha Moore. **Players of the Match:** Steph Wheeler, Debbie Trowbridge
Team: B.Duff, R.Fairbanks, D.James, E.Hayden, V.Hayward, S.Davies (c), S.Wheeler, B.Johnson, N.Gibbs, T.Buchanan, N.Moore, D.Trowbridge.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rd XI 7 – 0 Painswick (Reporter: Mary Harrison)

Bassett were three goals up by half time and well in control of this rather one-sided contest.

The second half followed the same pattern. With good passing and support play throughout the team, they were rarely out of the Painswick goal area and scored four more goals to make it 7-0 by the close.

Scorers: Jenny Jones (2), Jo Roberts (2), Suzie Bailey (2), Annabel Springthorpe. **Player of the Match:** Suzie Bailey
Team: L.Archer, L.Wickens (c), A.Springthorpe, D.Collison, C.Lamb, J.Brown, J.Jones, S.Legg, S.Bailey, C.Roberts, J.Roberts, E.Harris.

Bude 5 – 2 Wootton Bassett Ladies 1st XI (4 Oct 2008. Reporter: Suzanne Montgomery)

Bassett ladies had a long but fruitless journey to Bude.

Both sides started strongly. The home side opened the scoring but Bassett equalised through Lisa Turner in a goal mouth scramble. Bude then scored two breakaway goals to make it 3-1 at half-time.

Bassett fought back and Emma Collison scored soon after the restart but, despite Bassett's strong efforts, Bude replied with two quick goals to come away 5-2 winners.

Scorers: Lisa Turner, Emma Collison. **Player of the Match:** Vicky Blundell
Team: L.Brown, S.Lee, T.Fieldsand, L.Turner, K.Cox (c), Z.Salisbury, N.Strickland, H.Wright, E.Collison, V.Blundell, B.Thomas, S.Montgomery.

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1sts 3 - 3 Lydney (27 Sept 2008)

Bassett Ladies played Lydney at Lime Kiln on Saturday in their first league game of the season.

They were taken aback by the pace of the visitors, who scored within four minutes. But they fought back with a move started by captain Katy Cox to Emma Collison and on to Lisa Turner, who found Suzanne Montgomery to strike for Bassett's first goal. However just before half time after a period of Bassett pressure, Lydney again took the lead for 2-1.

The visitors pressured Bassett from the restart and broke through to extend their lead to 3-1, but the home side never gave up and their determination produced a second goal for Montgomery. This lifted the team and they gradually found their form, but despite a string of short corners were frustrated by the Lydney defence. Eventually their pressure paid off and Montgomery swept the ball home at the far post for her hat-trick to level the scores.

Despite a frantic last ten minutes, with both sides having chances to clinch the winning goal, the scores remained level at the final whistle.

Scorers: Suzanne Montgomery (3) **Player of the match:** B.Thomas
Team: L.Brown, S.Lee, T.Fieldsand, Z.Salisbury, H.Wright, E.Langdon, M.Vincent, K.Cox (c), L.Turner, E.Collison, S.Montgomery, B.Thomas, V.Blundell.

Swindon 3 – 3 Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds

The Ladies 2nd team got off to a slow start in the first half with Swindon scoring their first goal early on. Bassett regained their composure and had a long spell of attacking play, but were unable to put the ball past the Swindon goal keeper. The home side picked up the pace again, pressurising the Bassett defence and some slick passing produced their second goal.

Following captain Sue Davies' team talk at half time, Bassett came out with a renewed confidence. They pushed the Swindon defence back and were rewarded by the first goal of the second half, scored by Tegan Buchanan.

Swindon were quick to respond and scored their third goal of the game. This only served to spur Bassett on. They held their positions and had good possession for the remainder of the half. Their continued pressure paid off with another goal scored from open play by Sue Davies from a quick cross from Natasha Moore. Bassett's defence held strong with the commanding role of goal keeper Gemma Vinton ensuring all Swindon players were marked.

A quick pass from player of the match Steph Wheeler to Nicky Gibbs was played through to the forwards for Natasha

Moore to score Bassett's third and pull the scoreline back to 3-3 at the close.

Scorers: Tegan Buchanon, Sue Davies, Natasha Moore. **Player of the match:** Steph Wheeler

Team: B.Duff, V.Green, D.James, E.Hayden, V.Hayward, S.Davies (c), H.Box, S.Wheeler, N.Gibbs, T.Buchanan, N.Moore

Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds 4 – 0 Devizes 3rds

Bassett 3rds playing at home started well, with Jenny Jones scoring early on. Bassett continued to dominate, with Devizes rarely venturing into their opponents' D, but despite this pressure the home side had to wait until early in the second half to extend their lead with a further goal from Jones.

This was followed quickly by a well-worked move that started in defence and involved most members of the team, for Judith Brown to finish off for Bassett's third goal. The home side continued to press and, towards the end of the game, Annabel Springthorpe made it 4-0 to Bassett at the close.

Scorers: Jenny Jones (2), Judith Brown, Annabel Springthorpe.

Team: B.Duff, P.Long, L.Wickens (c), D.Collison, B.Johnson, E.Harris, S.Legg, J. Brown, J.Jones, C.Lamb, A.Springthorpe.

Bassett prepare for league start (20 Sept 2008)

Wootton Bassett Ladies 1sts 4 - 1 Lansdown 2nds

Despite early pressure from Bassett, it was the visitors who opened the scoring with a breakaway goal out of defence. The home side regrouped and responded when a slick passing move between Helen Wright and Marie Vincent concluded with a pass to Suzanne Montgomery on the back post to slot the ball home past the keeper.

Continued pressure from Bassett led to a series of short corners and Lisa Turner slipped the ball past the keeper to make the score 2-1 at half time.

Bassett took control again in the second half. Katy Cox produced a fine run down the wing and delivered an accurate cross to Lisa Turner to flick it over the keeper for her second of the game. This was followed by a goal from Marie Vincent who slipped the ball past the keeper to round off a confident 4-1 win for Bassett.

Scorers: Suzanne Montgomery, Lisa Turner (2), Marie Vincent. **Player of the match:** Lisa Turner.

Team: L.Brown, S.Lee, T.Fieldsend, Z.Salisbury, H.Wright, E.Langdon, M.Vincent, K.Cox (c), L.Turner, E.Collison, S.Montgomery, B.Thomas, V.Blundell.

Chippenham 2nds 0 - 2 Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nds

Chippenham scored both goals in the first half.: the first from a penalty stroke and the second from open play.

Bassett had a more settled second half keeping the Chippenham attack at bay, with Bronnie Duff pulling off a string of excellent saves to keep the visitors in the game. But they were unable to penetrate the Chippenham defence and lost 2-0.

Players of the match: Vicci Green and Rachael Fairbanks .

Chippenham 3rds 2 – 2 Wootton Bassett Ladies 3rds

Bassett 3rd XI drew with Chippenham in their last pre-season game before the league restart next weekend.

Within the first five minutes Annabel Springthorpe opened the scoring with a well hit shot from the edge of the D, tucked neatly inside the right post past the Chiippenham goalkeeper. The home side then equalised just before half time when they were first to the rebound off a save from Bassett goalie Laura Brown.

In the second half Bassett regained the lead with Jenny Jones scoring a well-worked goal from open play, but the home side again levelled the scores with just five minutes to go. Honours even at the final whistle.

Scorers: Annabel Springthorpe, Jenny Jones. **Players of the match:** Laura Brown, Emily Harris, Lesley Wickens.

Team: L.Brown, P.Long, L.Wickens (c), D.Collison, B.Johnson, E.Harris, S.Legg, J.Jones, J. Brown, A.Springthorpe, E.Clifton, D.Trowbridge, J.Roberts.

Bassett Ladies Shine - new season, new kit and its sunny...at last! (13 Sept 2008)

Newbury & Thatcham 0 - 2 Wootton Bassett 1sts

Bassett Ladies 1st XI got their season off to a cracking start with a 2-0 win against Newbury & Thatcham on Saturday. In their first game in the club's new kit, and boosted by the fabulous weather (at last!), they took the lead within 3 minutes, when great passing work took the ball the length of the pitch, for Lisa Turner to drive into the D and slip the ball past the

keeper to Emma Collison at the back post, who slotted it home.

A second goal for Collison followed before half-time, when she picked the ball up on the half-way line and was allowed to dribble unchallenged all the way into the D. She finished with a convincing strike past the keeper.

Bassett were the fitter and stronger side and maintained consistent pressure throughout the second half. They were slightly disappointed not to add to the score from their many chances, but finished the game happy with both the result and the performance, in a game which was played predominantly in the opposition's half.

Scorer: Emma Collison (2). **Player of the match:** Tracy Fieldsend.

Team: L.Brown, S.Lee, T.Fieldsend, Z.Salisbury, H.Wright, N.Strickland, E.Langdon, M.Vincent, K.Cox, L.Turner, E.Collison, S.Montgomery, B.Thomas

Wootton Bassett 2nds 3 - 2 Sonning 3rds

With a spring in their step as summer finally arrived, Wootton Bassett Ladies 2nd XI also got off to a strong start at Lime Kiln. Natasha Moore opened the scoring after only 5 minutes, with a cracking shot from the top of the D.

Bassett then had to defend a number of Sonning attacks, as the visitors came back strongly, and were rewarded with two more goals both scored by player of the match Heather Box to go in three up at half time.

Sonning replied confidently after the break, scoring two quick goals. They could have had more but for Bassett keeper Bronnie Duff, before Bassett raised their game again, to mount repeated attacks on the visitors' goal. However, they were unable to convert and it remained 3-2 at the final whistle. A pleasing start to the season for Bassett.

Scorers: Natasha Moore, Heather Box (2) **Player of the match:** Heather Box

Team: B.Duff, V.Green, D.James, E.Hayden, V.Hayward, S.Davies (c), V.Blundel, H.Box, S.Wheeler, N.Gibbs, T.Buchanan, N.Moore

Sonning 4ths 0 – 10 Wootton Bassett 3rds

A storming team performance by Bassett Ladies 3rd XI produced a 10-nil victory and their maiden win over Sonning, on Saturday.

Bassett started well with several attacks on goal. Their opening goal came with a straight strike from a short corner by captain Lesley Wickens and was soon followed by a well-worked goal from Jude Brown. Then, in the dying minutes of the half, Jenny Jones raced into the D to score to make it 3-0.

The visitors maintained control of the game after the break, peppering the Sonning goal. Their continued pressure on the home side proved irresistible and saw player of the match Jones take her goal tally to five, Becky Johnson score two and Brown add a second, as Bassett ran out 10-0 winners in a one-sided second half.

Scorers: Jenny Jones (5), Becky Johnson (2), Judith Brown (2), Lesley Wickens. **Player of the match:** Jenny Jones.

Team: L.Archer, P.Long, L.Wickens (c), C.Lamb, D.Collison, B.Johnson, E.Harris, C.Morgan, S.Legg, J.Jones, J. Brown, A.Springthorpe.
