



# The Tackle

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June 2004

## The Invincibles (almost)!

### Cup final hat trick for [REDACTED]



Having already clinched the league in some style, with 100 goals in 20 games, KPR went on to win the Under 9 Invitation Cup 5-0, against local rivals Barnes Eagles at a rain soaked Fetcham Sports Ground.

A crowd of around 100 was treated to a feast of footballing skill as the KPR boys held their collective nerve to overcome a dogged and determined Eagles side and [REDACTED] took his season's goal haul to 67! With only 14 goals against them all season, [REDACTED] in goal and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at the back, proved yet again why they are the meanest defence in the league.

A tense opening saw both sides have attempts on goal but it was [REDACTED] who broke the deadlock midway through the first half. A series of 4 corners leading to a strike by [REDACTED] from the edge of the box, made it 2-0 at the break. Barnes came back strongly at the beginning of the second half, but goals from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] following great work in the middle by [REDACTED] and on the right by [REDACTED], all but secured the cup for KPR. [REDACTED] completed his hat trick with a penalty after a fierce shot by [REDACTED] was handled in the area.

Celebrations followed on Kew Green and the supporters dispersed later that night with 'no hint of trouble' according to a relieved Kew Constabulary.

Team: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### Player Profile – [REDACTED]

Age: 9

Position: Striker

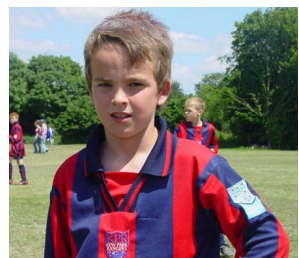
Best KPR moment:

Scoring my 100<sup>th</sup> goal for the Club

Supports: Arsenal

Favourite player:

Thierry Henry



## Europe in Style

### U11s head for Holland

A Friday morning in May, half past six, the under 11 team assembled for KPR's first foray into Europe.

Decked out in special tour tracksuits and accompanied by their own Barmy Army of supporters, the team set out on a three-day tour to Holland. (Cont page 2)



## Euro 2004 (cont)

Based in the picturesque town of Valkenburg, and not so picturesque Hotel Schaepekens, the boys played two tournaments over the bank holiday weekend.

Saturday was a true European event with 64 teams from Holland and Germany. Playing against teams at least one year older (and several inches taller) than themselves, the team acquitted themselves well and only failed to qualify for the Quarter Final stages when a grudge match between German and Dutch teams failed to go our way.

Sunday was a smaller league format event, again against older teams. Following a shaky first two matches, the team clicked into gear and won their next four matches and the support and admiration of the locals. Finishing third overall, the boys were rewarded with a trophy ball, a 20 euro prize and an invitation to come back next year.

----- was voted player of the tour, narrowly pipping his mum Sally who showed much skill in the celebratory Boys versus Parents match.

A source close to the club has hinted at Italy as a possible destination for next year's tour. "Now you're talking!" commented one KPR mum.

### Tim van de Wright

#### Player Profile

Age: 10

Position: Right Back and Left Midfield

Best KPR moment:

Scoring header on tour in Holland

Supports: Fulham

Favourite player: Malbranque



## The Magnificent U7s

A first season in the U7s Mini Soccer competition has shown what depth of talent we are developing at KPR.

Although the games played this year have been on a friendly basis the U7 squad have shown a lot of character and determination and skill, the record reads Played 21 Won 11 Drew 3 Lost 7. An excellent first season. The boys are already looking forward to real league and cup competition next season.

A further important development from playing some additional friendlies is that we have found the squad is growing rapidly and are now looking to run two teams in the league next year. We desperately need someone to help administer this second team as it would be a shame if we lost out on this opportunity for want of volunteers. Anyone interested please contact -----

## Record Registration for U6s

**This year's intake at U6 has been fantastic with nearly 40 players registered.**

So well have the boys been working that we recently arranged a match against Sheen Lions U6s to try out the potential of a team for next season. We were delighted with the enthusiasm of the boys and standard of play resulting in a very well earned 1-1 draw.

The difficulty in choosing a team for this game has meant that we are now looking at running two teams in the U7 Friendly League next season.

Although some of the boys didn't make it into that team, we are aware that players develop at different rates that we continually monitor. It is important that we don't put a child into a match situation in which he may feel intimidated and perhaps put off the game. Hopefully with two squads next year we will be able to include all of the players at some stage.

### 2003/04 Roll of Honour

#### Under 8 Boys

Division 1, 4th  
Winners U8 Sportsmanship Award

#### Under 8 Colts

Division 2, 6th

#### Under 9 Boys

Winners Division 2  
Invitation Cup Winners

#### Under 10 Boys

Division 1, 2nd

#### Under 10 Girls

Premier Division, 6th

#### Under 11 Boys

Division 1, 3rd  
Invitation Cup Semi-finalists  
Runners-up Chesham 6-a-side Tournament

#### Under 11 Colts

Runners Up U11 Sportsmanship Award  
Division 2, 8th

#### Under 12 Boys

Division 1, 7th

#### Under 12 Girls

Division 1, 5<sup>th</sup>



## Girl Power

In the first four minutes of the season, the U10 Girls learned to choose ends when the wind and rain are blowing strongly - 4 goals down, was not a good start.

However we quickly started to chase and tackle and run with the ball, and won 1-0 thrillers against Farncombe and Croydon, and lost 3-2 to the eventual league winners Frimley, our captain scoring a hat-trick (think about it).

We come to the last match of the season needing to beat Haslemere to secure 6th place. A change of tactics - our best defender set to girl-mark their most dangerous player - goalmouth action at both ends - clearances off the line, plastic-work rattled, finger-tip saves. Last minute of the season: we have a corner. The ball comes across and one of their defenders whips it into her own net from six yards. Glory! Our fourth clean sheet, 10 points, and one of the only pieces of outrageous fortune to come our way all season.

Richly deserved for such effort and enthusiasm, slowly growing into some very respectable skill. And such excitement on the touchline...well done to the whole squad of 19, all of whom played at least once.

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**Player Profile –** -----

**Age:** 10

**Position:** Defender

**Best KPR moment:**  
Clearing a goal off the line

**Supports:** Liverpool

**Favourite player:**  
Thierry Henry “even though he doesn’t play for Liverpool!”



## Breaking News

Following on from the dedicated and enthusiastic management of the under 10s girls team by Mike and -----, the mantle has now been handed over to ----- and ----- and ----- to take the team forward. Aiming to build on the skills the girls have developed the team is looking forward to an exciting season and of course lots of support from parents! Anyone interested in helping out, please contact -----

## Old Boys Match (literally)


**Player Profile –** -----

**Age:** No Comment

**Position:**  
Preferably horizontal

**Best KPR moment:**  
Being subbed at half time

**Supports:** Knee, ankle and back



**Kew Park Rangers largest crowd of the season witnessed a thrilling display of soccer skills from the 'Coaches' team (*that's not quite how I remember it – Ed.*) in an end of season match played against a determined 'Dads' team.**

From the kick off the Coaches stamped their authority on the game with 'Heskie' ----- intercepting a pass and thundering his shot from the half way line against the woodwork leaving -----, the hapless 'Dads' goalie, wishing he'd stayed in the Coach and Horses.

As the game wore on more and more gaps started to appear in the 'Dads' defence with ----- displaying great wizardry on the left enabling the chaps up front to start to help themselves.

At the other end of the pitch goalie Weeks, who was surprisingly injured whilst watching the pre match warm up, was untroubled. His defence was rock hard with ----- and ----- forming an uncompromising partnership and thwarting all the 'Dads' could muster. Half time came and went and only with the introduction of Denington into the Coaches team did things start to level up. The Dads ably led by ----- seized their opportunity and were unlucky not to score on a number of occasions.

High drama came in the closing seconds of the match and with ----- up-ended in the box after another desperate defensive lunge, Denington had the opportunity to put the match beyond doubt...however his fearsome penalty shot lobbed gently into the grateful Perry's arms...and as they say the rest is history.

After a few après match beers in the Coach there was bold talk of a rematch and a date has been provisionally set for October. Anyone wishing to play for the Dads team please contact ----- who has kindly agreed to organise the team.

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## KPR Comes of Age

**Six years on from the launch of the club and KPR is thriving both on and off the pitch. This season saw the number of registered players rise from 235 to 290, 60 of which were girls (up 50%).**

Ten teams competed within the very strong and competitive West Surrey Youth/Surrey County Girls League structure and competed well.

The Under 9 boys achieved a league and cup double, earning promotion to Division 1 whilst their Under 10 counterparts finished the season as runners up in their Division 1.

The Under 11 boys strived hard to achieve the same outcome but ended third in Division 1 and losing cup semi finalists.

Both Under 8 boys teams topped their leagues in the Playfair Awards with one of these going on to take the overall age group award whilst the Under 7s showed immense promise for the future with a very strong first season.

And all the other team managers talked about their squads growing in stature during the season.

Both girls teams grew in confidence during the season and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to compete, the overall view being summed up by one players comment that 'it's fun and it keeps us fit'.

The Under 12 boys showed a remarkable turnaround during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season after a slow start with only two defeats coming after Xmas alongside draws against the top two teams. Similarly, the other Under 11 boys team recovered well in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season to come back with two wins and two draws.

There have also been some strong personal achievements, with another player achieving the accolade of scoring 100 goals for the club and a number of players being asked to trial and subsequently play for professional teams.

There were also more opportunities for adult player (parents, coaches, etc) involvement and this is scheduled to increase next year

Off the field, the Club continues to build ties with the community – schools, sponsors, the Council, Fulham Football Club (FFC) and the local community policing unit.

Similarly, the club continues to increase the presence of FFC coaches within the structure and we hope to couple this with more offers next season from the

club of match tickets, half time penalty shoot outs and memorabilia.

The club was also pleased to announce the development of formal links with Kew Cricket Club that has itself considerably strengthened the stature of its youth based training this year.

We are also getting ever closer to the development of a clubhouse at North Road Rec with the potential for Football Foundation financial assistance being increasingly supported by Richmond Council.

Next year, our 16 (!) teams will be able to be spotted playing on 'home' pitches not only within North Road Rec but also at Christ's School and Old Deer Park.



We are lucky to have an incredible level of support from parents and other supporters from the community. So many people give up a lot of their time to seek sponsors, coach players, arrange matches, set up training schemes, liaise with schools, council officers, FFC and the police, set the pitches up on matchdays, pick up litter and dog foulings, organise kit and other equipment, ref, phone in the match scores, look after child protection or first aid issues, administer the money.....oh, and coordinate The Tackle (under new and professional management) and our website (scheduled for its launch at the outset of next season).

But guess what, we need more helpers for the club to continue to grow, so please don't hold back from getting involved. You don't have to be a football pro to help out. We have a full training programme in place.

And lastly, this is your club so please do not hesitate to come forward if you have any ideas as to how we can better serve the players who elect to join the ranks of Kew Park Rangers. If you would like to talk to us please do so by contacting Rob Sheldon (07770 755538, [rob.sheldon@accent-mr.com](mailto:rob.sheldon@accent-mr.com)), JF Burford (0771 2579380 [jfsburford@hotmail.com](mailto:jfsburford@hotmail.com)), Sally Woodward Gentle (0208 940 6648 – evenings only) or Toby Seth (0208 876 3375 – evenings only).

### Editors Note

*The Tackle is the official newsletter of KPR. Comments and articles are welcomed from players, supporters and coaches to [deryn.wright@bopenworld.com](mailto:deryn.wright@bopenworld.com). Enjoy the summer, stay fit and we look forward to next season's kick off on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September, details to follow.*