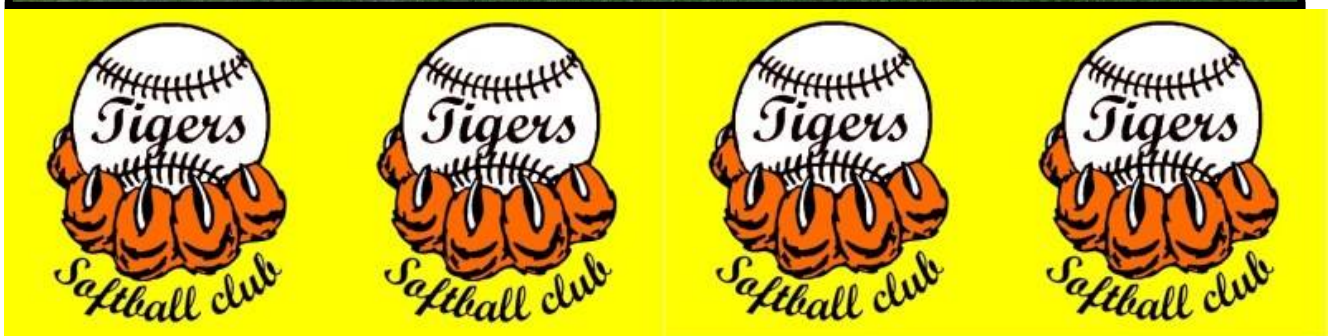




Tigers Softball Club Yearbook, 2011



Review of the year

2011 was the Tigers first season, and it was a successful one, especially in tournament play, and gave us a solid base to build on in 2012. Our first competitive outing was the Firstball tournament, a baptism of fire from which we emerged with 2 wins, a trophy, and a lot of credit, though our first league game on the following Tuesday established a pattern of underperforming after tournaments that carried on all year (perhaps there really is something in that fitness lark after all).

We played well in the first half of the league season before fading a bit in the second half as the standard of opposition got better and we suffered a couple of injuries to important players, but we played well again in the last couple of weeks and the experience we gained will stand us in good stead in 2012.

We reserved our best performances for tournaments. After our initial success at Firstball we also won the 2 one day Red Rose Tournaments, contested mainly by 3rd division teams, and produced some really strong performances at the Leeds and Manchester tournaments, turning over some higher division teams and giving some others a fright along the way.

All in all we had a very successful and enjoyable time, made all the more enjoyable by several sophisticated evenings of witty conversation and gentle repartee (usually hosted by the ever generous Ellie and Adam - rumours that they hosted these events purely so they didn't have to worry about getting home afterwards should be treated with the contempt they deserve !) and can look forward to more of the same in 2012.

Memorable Moment: Winning Red Rose 1 in extra innings

There were 2 particular moments in that game that gave us the win and in the end the Judges couldn't separate the two of them so the prize is shared ! The first was the double play instigated by James in the bottom of the 7th that took us into an 8th innings when it looked like we were going to lose in the 7th. The second was Martyn's bases clearing homer in the top of the 8th that set up the win.

End of Season awards



Sam

Batting Champion

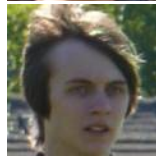
Kate



Adam

Players' player

Kate



Alex

Captain's player

Sharon



Richard

Home Run Champion

Sian



Tigers



Adam Fleming

Tigers



Aimee Timmins

Tigers



Alex Timmins

Tigers



Dace Wareham

Tigers



Ed Coington

Tigers



Ellie Beard

Tigers



Emma Barer

Tigers



James McCenille

Tigers



Karen Davies

Tigers



Karen Gilmore

Tigers



Kate Wade

Tigers



Martyn Hulley

Tigers



Michelle Fagan

Tigers



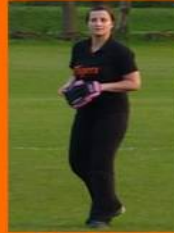
Richard Soreer

Tigers



Sam Taylor

Tigers



Sara Ashworth

Tigers



Sarah Williams

Tigers



Sharon Webster

Tigers



Sian Payne

Tigers



Steeve Casey

League match reports



19/04/11: Camels II: L 10-19

No fairy tale start to the league campaign, but a decent performance against a heavy hitting Camels team. Defensive highlight of the game was the successful run down play between Sian and Richard getting the out between first and second. Martyn also pitched a good game looking every inch the equal of his Division 1 counterpart.

There are lots of good things happening with the bats that aren't yet fully reflected on the score sheet but the quality of hitting is improving with each outing and the runs will come in time. All in all a respectable showing and a friendly game played in a sporting spirit.



Tigers	3	2	0	1	0	0	4	10
Camels II	7	1	0	3	5	3	X	19

MVPs were Martyn and Sian



26/04/11: Mayhem: W 18-6

A good solid team performance with both bats and gloves that got us a first league win. Batting hero was Richard, going 4 for 4 with 2 Home Runs. Steve was also perfect at the plate and Karen G would have been but for a stunning catch that robbed her of her fourth hit.

Sam pitched an excellent game, changing speed, height and location in a way that baffled the Mayhem batters. Sian put in another excellent performance at short stop and Sharon surprised herself, but no one, else by producing an accomplished display at first. Martyn and Richard also shone in the field. Everyone else also contributed, and perhaps the biggest thing was that we didn't get rattled on those occasions when the opposition did get runners on base, we continued to work together as a team, doing the basics well and getting the outs.



Richard Sian

Mayhem	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	06
Tigers	2	0	7	5	0	4	X	18

MVPs were Richard and Sian

03/05/11: Space Cadets: W 22-7

Another good team performance. We shot out into a strong early lead that we never looked like losing and rolled on to a comfortable win. Batting stand outs were Alex with his first home run on his return from injury and Martyn who topped that with two. Sian went 5 for 5 at the plate and Sam, Richard and Karen G. were close behind going 4 for 5.

We were defensively sound throughout the game, Martyn pitched well again, and the whole infield looked impressive.



Martyn Sian

Tigers	7	5	0	2	4	0	4	22
Space Cadets	0	1	4	0	0	0	2	07

MVPs were Martyn and Sian

10/05/11: Drizzle: W 10-6

A bit of a different feel to tonight's game with defences well on top for the most part. We scored 8 runs in the first two innings and that gave us the cushion we needed as tight defence took us through the rest of the game. We shut Drizzle out for 4 of the 7 innings, including wriggling free unscathed when they had the bases loaded with one out. No home runs this week but best at the plate were Sian (4 for 4) Karen G. and Dave (both 3 for 3). A special word for Michelle and Ed who made their league debuts. Sam pitched a fine game, Sharon was good again on first and Richard took some good catches in left, we also got a couple of nice tag plays on balls returned from the outfield.



Sam Sian

Drizzle	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	06
Tigers	5	3	0	0	1	1	X	10

MVPs were Sam and Sian



24/05/11: Dragons: L 9-20

Back to earth with a bump this week against a strong Dragons team whose performance suggested that they were perhaps a bit unlucky to get relegated last season. Injuries didn't help, Ed had to come out after the 4th with a bad leg injury and Richard suffered a broken finger that confined him to DH duties for the 2nd half of the game but the injuries were not the reason for our defeat.

We were flat from the get go, never really looked like winning and our rookie status was plain to see at times with some naive defensive play that gift the Dragons bases and runs. A spirited rally in the 5th showed that we could still bat and there was no lack of effort at any time during the game, but we were always second best.

Sam, Sian and Karen G. were the best at the plate, all going 3 for 4 and Steve took an excellent catch in the outfield whilst going 2 for 3 with the bat. Last but not least Kate made a belated but welcome league debut, hitting the ball hard and backing up well in the outfield.



Tigers	0	1	0	1	5	0	1	09
Dragons	4	4	0	8	0	0	2	19

MVPs were Steve and Sian

31/05/11: Meerkats: W 10-9

Another flat start, but this week we paced it just right scoring 4 in the 6th and 3 in the 7th to peg back a 6 run Meerkats lead and sneak the win. The wind and the sun combined to make it a low scoring game and that helped us to stay in touch.

Sam was the main architect of victory with a virtuoso pitching performance that kept us in touch all the way through the game. He also went 4 for 4 at the plate and drove in the winning runs in the bottom of the 7th.

We looked shaky in the field but Michelle played well on 1st and Sian got some good outs at 2nd Sian went 3 for 3 at the plate as did Richard, including his vital 3 run homer in the 6th that put us back in the game.



Meerkats	1	4	0	0	2	2	0	09
Tigers	1	0	1	1	0	4	3	10

MVPs were Sam and Sian

07/06/11: Enforcers: W 15-3

Another slow burner, and tight in the first half with us only 4-3 in the lead after 4 innings, but we did eventually start batting and pulled away to what was in the end a comfortable win.

Batting heroes were Sian, who hit her first home run as well as going 4 for 4, and Richard who hit two home runs and a triple.

We looked good in the field from start to finish, a couple of mis-plays along the way, but we more than made up for them with some nifty glove work all round the diamond. A special mention for James who made a series of fine grabs in the outfield.



Tigers	3	0	0	1	3	2	6	15
Enforcers	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	03

MVPs were Richard and Sian

14/06/11: Blue Sox: L 7-11

Another anaemic batting performance allied to some fielding blunders on our part gave the Blue Sox a well-deserved win. In the top of the 1st we gifted them 4 runs, but in the bottom of the innings we scored 5 to claim a one run lead. Unfortunately our bats went quiet after that, we didn't score again until the 6th by which time the game was gone. We did stay ahead until the 4th, but then some good hitting on their part, helped by a couple of fielding errors, gave them a lead they never looked like losing.

There were some bright spots amidst the gloom, Kate hit the ball hard, Sharon and Michelle recorded some pressure outs at 1st and 2nd respectively, Karen took a good catch in the outfield, Martyn snared a line drive over his head and Alex made an excellent take moving across behind 3rd. Emma won the purple heart for rising from her sick bed and playing when she perhaps shouldn't have.

Ironically it was a good evening in other ways, the other results mean that we'll definitely be in the top half of the table when the division splits in a couple of weeks.



Martyn Sharon

Blue Sox	4	0	0	4	1	1	1	11
Tigers	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	07

MVPs were Martyn and Sharon

21/06/11: Hurricanes W.11-9 (8)

Plenty of defensive gems this week, plus some excellent pitching from Sam, which together proved just enough to get us the win. Ellie came up with a fine debut performance on 2nd, Sian showed good style at short and Martyn at 3rd got some fine outs, especially in the second half of the game attacking the ball and slinging it across the diamond in fine style. After starting well with the bats they went to sleep in the 2nd half of the game, but there were signs of improvement to come even when we weren't putting runs on the board. We hit the ball hard with little luck, Sharon and Kate in particular could feel a little miffed that their best blows went for nothing and there were other signs of improvement up and down the line up.

For all our good defensive play it's hard to win when scoring only 7 runs and a couple of bad bounces combined with a big hit or two contributed to a 4 run bottom of the 7th for the Hurricane which put us into extra innings. Fortunately the bats came alive just in time and we regained a 4 run lead which this time was enough to get us the win despite a 2 run homer from the Hurricanes linked GB player (Zak).



Sam Ellie

Tigers	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	4	11
Hurricanes	0	2	0	0	1	0	4	2	09

MVPs were Sam and Ellie

28/06/11: Armadillos

The Armadillos gave us some lessons in aggressive base running in this game, and we struggled to cope at times, but fortunately we scored much more freely than we have done over the last few weeks with contributions up and down the order.

In the field it was a largely forgettable performance, though Martyn pitched well again whilst Dave caught lots of balls he couldn't actually see at first and also claimed a couple of important tags including the last out of the game.

It was a different tales with the bats, Sam and Martyn both went 4 for 4, with Steve, Sian, Kate, Michelle and Adam all 3 for 4, contributing to an 18 run total that was our highest for 7 games. A special mention for Sara who took a nasty blow to the head at catcher when a foul tip span back and hit her, get well soon !



Adam Sian

Armadillos	1	0	0	3	7	1	4	16
Tigers	5	0	1	7	0	5	X	18

MVPs were Adam and Sian

05/07/11: Camels II

We started well this week with a 4 run 1st innings and a 6 - 1 lead after 4 innings but we couldn't build on the lead, and then when the Camels put their big guns into the game in the 5th we couldn't hold it either. The Camels hit the ball well but it was our fielding blunders that gave them the base runners for their big hitters to drive in.

On the plus side Sam pitched a good game, and he and Dave both went 3 for 3 at the plate. Kate hit the ball hard and Karen G. did the same but with less luck. Richard hit an enormous home run to left field.

Camels II	1	0	0	0	5	4	3	13
Tigers	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	06

MVPs were Sam and Michelle



12/07/11: Drizzle

One bad innings proved the difference in this game. We played well defensively for six innings out of seven but didn't score enough runs to survive the bad innings. Sam made an impressive debut at short stop whilst also going 3 for 3 at bat. Alex went 2 for 3 with a home run. Kate took a cracking catch in the outfield to take away a likely homer from Griff.

Our run of bad luck with injuries continued with Ed having to pay a visit to A&E. Many thanks to Michelle for taking him both there and then to home.

Tigers	3	0	1	2	1	0	0	07
Drizzle	0	0	9	0	1	2	X	12

MVPs were Sam and Kate



19/07/11: Hurricanes

An efficient team performance that gave us a well-deserved win. Martyn pitched a good game and hit a home run. Michelle was excellent at first. Sharon went 5 for 5, Alex 4 for 4 with 1 homer and Sam even better, 5 for 5 with 2 homers. Karen D went 3 for 4 and hit the ball hard, James also hit hard but with no luck.

Hurricanes	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	06
Tigers	2	3	2	2	3	6	X	18

MVPs were Sam and Michelle



26/07/11: Meerkats

For the first 3 innings we looked second best but we kept it fairly tight, then the roof fell in. The Meerkats played really well, we just couldn't get anybody out and a few heads dropped. On the hitting side things weren't too bad, James and Martyn went 3 for 3, Sam went 3 for 4, Michelle 2 for 3 and Richard hit a home run. Defensive highlights were Michelle's performance on 1 and a gutsy display by Ellie on 2.

Tigers	2	1	1	2	1	07
Meerkats	3	3	3	14	X	23

MVPs were Martyn and Michelle



02/08/11: Dragons

For the first 2nd week on the trot we were outclassed, this time by an impressive Dragons side who judged purely by their league performances against us should be in Division 1.

In the field Sam took a couple of excellent catches in the outfield before moving in to shore things up in the infield and Martyn despite the score line pitched a fine game.

On the hitting side Michelle was the hero going 3 for 3, whilst Richard went 3 for 4 with a triple.



Dragons	1	2	3	4	9	4	23
Tigers	0	2	0	2	1	0	05

MVPs were Sam and Ellie

09/08/11: Enforcers

We started brightly this week but it didn't take long for fatigue to kick in following on our impressive exploits at the Manchester tournament last weekend. As soon as the Enforcers put pressure on us we fell away badly and they won at a canter.

Sam showed his experience and class by both pitching and hitting well. Martyn hit a home run and tried hard all the way through the game. Ellie showed a lot of guts by staying on the field after taking a ball to the face, took a good catch and hit the ball hard without any success. Ed also hit the ball hard and Sharon played well on first.



Enforcers	0	0	1	8	1	5	0	15
Tigers	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	05

MVPs were Sam and Ellie

16/08/11: Mayhem

We were down to the bare bones this week but played with a lot more energy than we had the week before and made a real fight of it before going down to a solid Mayhem side. Michelle and Alex led the way, each going 4 for 5 with Karen D and James close behind as each went 3 for 4.

Defensively we looked frail and that cost us in the end as we were unable to hold on to big lead we had half way through the 3rd, but Sharon deserves a mention for some solid work at first that didn't

always get the reward it deserved.



Tigers	5	0	7	1	0	0	0	13
Mayhem	2	2	7	1	2	1	X	15

MVPs were Alex and Michelle

23/08/11: Hurricanes

The last game of the league season brought us a well-deserved win. We were defensively solid all the way through but half way through the 3rd we were 4-0 down as we weren't hitting at all.

Fortunately that didn't last, 6 runs in the 3rd and 7 in the 4th gave us a commanding lead that never really came under threat. In the field James made some nice plays at 3rd, Michelle was solid at first, Martyn fielded his position well and Sarah looked promising at 2nd.

With the bat Ed hit his first league home run and went 4 for 5, James went 4 for 4, Alex 4 for 5 and Martyn and Aimee went 3 for 4. Alex and James also found the time to do a bit of dancing as both

tried to catch the same pop up with Alex winning out in the end.



Hurricanes	0	1	3	0	0	0	2	06
Tigers	0	0	6	7	0	4	X	15

MVPs were James and Michelle



League Results

Type	Date	Opponent	H/A	Score
D3	19/04	Camels II	A	L. 10-19 (6½)
D3	26/04	Mayhem	H	W. 18-6 (6½)
D3	03/05	Space Cadets	A	W. 22-7
D3	10/05	Drizzle	H	W. 10-6 (6½)
D3	17/05	Rest		
D3	24/05	Dragons	A	L. 9-20 (6½)
D3	31/05	Meerkats	H	W. 10-9
D3	07/06	Enforcers	A	W. 15-3
D3	14/06	Bluesox	H	L. 7-11
D3	21/06	Hurricanes	A	W. 11-9(8)
D3	28/06	Armadillos	H	W. 18-16(6½)
D3U	05/07	Camels II	H	L. 6-13
D3U	12/07	Drizzle	A	L. 7-12 (6½)
D3U	19/07	Hurricanes	H	W. 18-6 (6½)
D3U	26/07	Meerkats	A	L. 7-23 (4½)
D3U	02/08	Dragons	H	L 5-23
D3M	09/08	Enforcers	H	L 5-15
D3M	16/08	Mayhem	A	L. 13-15 (6½)
D3M	23/08	Hurricanes	H	W. 17-6 (6½)

Division 3 after 1st rotation (split)

	G	W	T	L	RS	RC
Camels I	10	8	0	2	162	126
Drizzle	10	7	1	2	173	92
Tigers	10	7	0	3	130	106
Dragons	10	6	1	3	151	105
Meerkats	10	6	0	4	163	121
Hurricanes	10	5	0	5	128	157
SpCadets	10	4	0	6	148	198
Enforcers	10	3	0	7	132	137
Mayhem	10	3	0	7	106	123
Bluesox	10	3	0	7	121	171
Armadillos	10	2	0	8	97	175

Division 3 (upper) after 2nd rotation (split)

	G	W	T	L	RS	RC	
Drizzle	15	11	1	3	252	125	
Dragons	15	10	1	4	230	152	
Camels II	15	10	0	5	214	184	
Meerkats	15	9	0	6	231	179	
Tigers	15	8	0	7	173	183	R
Hurricanes	15	6	0	9	159	236	R

Final Division 3 (middle) table

	G	W	T	L	RS	RC	G
Tigers	13	8	0	5	0	165	142
Enforcers	13	6	0	7	0	177	153
Mayhem	13	5	0	8	0	149	148
Hurricanes	13	5	0	8	0	140	215

Includes results from the 1st rotation but not from the 2nd.

League batting stats

	Games	PA	OBP	HR
Sharon	18	58	328	
Karen G.	14	54	500	
Karen D.	13	42	429	
Ellie	12	37	270	
Michelle	11	40	500	
Sian	10	40	775	1
Sarah	9	31	226	
Kate	8	25	560	
Sara	6	18	222	
Aimee	2	8	375	
Emma	2	6	000	
Sam	17	68	735	2
Martyn	17	64	578	4
Alex	15	53	528	2
Richard	14	48	708	8
James	13	41	415	
Dave	11	32	719	
Adam	9	31	516	
Steve	5	16	688	
Ed	5	14	500	1



Tigers Tournament Reports 2011

MSL Firstball



We made our competitive debut at the MSL First Ball tournament, and we had a very successful time. We played ten games over the weekend and looked a completely different side by the end of the weekend to the one that started out on Saturday morning.

In the initial round robin we didn't win any games but we ran the Sheriffs close and learned a heck of a lot which we then used in winning two games out of four in the plate. We won games against Dynamite and the Clanger Camels and only lost by 1 run against the Meerkats . Only the Raiders, run away winners of the plate, were too good for us.

There were lots of fine individual performances. Sam and Martyn both pitched well, Kate looked good on first on Saturday, Sian was excellent on Sunday, Richard gave us some valuable power at the plate. James, Karen G and Sharon took memorable catches in the out field and Alex did a fine job at short stop. Everyone else played well and we looked more and more like a team with each successive game.



Tournament MVPs were Alex and Sian





Red Rose Cup



We won the Red Rose Cup only after going into extra innings in a dramatic final against Thunder that swung one way and then the other before a six run burst in the top of the eighth gave us the cushion needed to get the win. It had all been a lot more straight forward earlier in the day with impressive round robin wins against the Enforcers (12-7), Thunder (17-2) and Armadillos (15-8) in blustery and sometimes wet conditions.

The Tigers leapt out into a lead in the final, 7-2 ahead after 2 innings, but couldn't hold on to the lead. A strong blustery wind caused some problems for the Tigers pitcher, there were a couple of fumbles in the field and Thunder took advantage to come back strongly. Some impressive batting was capped by Griff hitting a Home Run over the show pitch fence, and Thunder were 13-11 ahead after 4. It was nip and tuck from there on in, the Tigers had clawed their way back into the lead going into the 7th, but Thunder rallied again and only some good defensive work from the big cats, with the highlight a catch em out throw em out double play by James, took the game into extra innings.

Despite starting the 8th with a runner on 2nd the Tigers went 2 down without scoring a run, or even advancing the lead runner, and things were looking good for Thunder, but a base hit from Sian then kick started a 6 run rally that decided a thrilling game that could have gone either way.

Batting average leaders for the day were Sam .800 and James .727 followed by a group of 3, Richard, Sian and Alex on .714. Home Run Heroes were Alex (3), Martyn (2) and Karen and Richard with one each. Sarah also impressed at the plate, going 8 for 12 (.667). Sam and Martyn both pitched well, Martyn had problems with a really high wind in the final but rallied well in the later stages of the game and his hitting in the final went a long way to winning the game for us.

Tournament MVPs were Martyn and Sian.



Red Rose 2



We won another tense Red Rose final, 14-12 against a Dragons team who had beaten us 18-2 in group play earlier in the day. Richard was king of the batting averages, batting 1000 for the day, but Sian was the Home Run queen, her 2, one in the semi and one in the final, did a great deal towards winning the trophy. The other members of the top 5 in average were Sam, Dave, Sian (of course), and last but not least Sharon.

We had started the day slowly with the Dragons giving us lessons in both hitting and fielding as they strolled to an easy win. We showed signs of life in the second game, an 8-2 win against the Enforcers with some impressive fielding the highlight. That fielding didn't carry through into the third game where a series of errors gifted the new boy Pirates an early lead. It was nip and tuck for the rest of the game, we pulled level but then the Pirates seized a one run lead in the top of the final innings. In the bottom of the innings however Sian and Dave lead off with pinch hit singles, and then Sam won the game with a bases clearing triple (10-9).

We then had a semi-final against Mayhem which we won as at a canter. Four of the top five (Sam, Sian, Martyn and Richard) went 4 for 4 with Sian hitting a home run, and there was plenty of hitting lower down the order as well as we won 21-6.

The final was a tight, well-played game with the lead changing hands several times in the first few innings. The Dragons were 2 runs up after 4, but the Tigers then scored 3 runs in each of the 5th and 6th innings whilst shutting the Dragons out. We scored another 2 runs in the top of the 7th and it was just as well as the Dragons woke up again in the bottom of the innings scoring 4 before a long, long foul out ended the game.

Tournament MVPs were Richard and Sian



Richard Sian

Leeds



Despite a slight miscalculation that left us in the cup rather than the plate we performed well at Leeds with some impressive performances against teams that normally play at a higher level than ourselves. We won 2 of 3 games in our initial group, a heartbreaking 5 - 4 loss to Souls was followed by comfortable wins against Thunder and Dynamite. The day finished with a loss against a very strong Outlaws team, the first of 3 cup round robin games, but all in all we could be very satisfied with our first day.

Car trouble meant that we had to beg and borrow to complete a team for the first Sunday game, but we put in an excellent performance before going down 8-9 to the Castaways. We performed creditably again in our final group game against Terriers, which was nip and tuck until they ran away with it in the last 10 minutes. Our last game was a placing game against the Bullfrogs where we again performed creditably in defeat.

There were a few negatives, the weather was horrible all weekend, the balls were cheap and nasty, and the pitch we played our last 4 games on was a joke, with nettles encroaching into the catchers box and regular trips over a barbed wire fence needed to rescue lost balls.

Also, being a Tigers team, we ended Saturday with three players limping along and Steve wasn't able to play on Sunday.

There were lots of fine performances over the weekend. In particular Sharon hit like a dream and fielded excellently, Michelle was courageous as well as effective on both second and first, and Richard and Sam were impressive all weekend.

Thanks to all the guests, Many, Benkei, Sonia and Nichola, not forgetting cameo appearances from Ian, Mark and Ross.

Tournament MVPs were Sam and Michelle





Manchester



We had a very enjoyable time at the Manchester tournament, despite some slightly dodgy weather (albeit not as bad as at Leeds). We won 4 of 9 group games before losing a light hearted placing game that meant we finished 12th out of 20 teams. The teams we turned over were the Dragons, Clangers, Outlaws 2 and Highland Chargers, we also played perhaps our best game against eventual finalists the Demons, going down 7-14 in a well-played game.

King of the batters was Sam who had an OBP of over 900 for the weekend, and the Queen was Aimee who topped the female chart in her first weekend of Softball. Our Home Run Hero was Sam again who hit 3 over the weekend and was followed by Ed and Richard with one each. Ed also deserves special mention for some really strong performances over the whole weekend which underlined how much we have missed him in the league as a result of his various injuries this season. Other strong performances came from Ellie, who batted well and did some sterling work at second, and Karen G who did some good work in right field.

Special thanks to former Ringway Runner Janet Cragg who played for us on the Sunday and very much looked the part despite a 2 year gap since her last Softball game.

Tournament MVPs were Sam and Aimee.







www.tigerssoftball.co.uk