

Out & about

Ivan the Terrible Polo Challenge Guards Polo Club, 31 May Rushin' to victory – Mos'gow

The fourth annual Ivan the Terrible Polo Challenge, played on Smith's Lawn on the last Saturday in May, saw Moscow Polo Club's first victory in the fixture as they beat a highly-rated English side representing Guards Polo Club, 8-4.

The challenge was established at Guards Polo Club in Windsor Great Park by the New Muscovy Company in 2005 to commemorate 450 years of British-Russian trade and is named after Tsar Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible) who was instrumental in establishing strong links between the two countries.

The hardworking visitors, captained in the first half by Alexei Rodzianko (before he was substituted for the final two chukkas), took the spoils with a convincing display over Guards, captained by England's Henry Brett. Moscow ran out to victory by a four-goal margin and received their winners' trophy – as well as a bottle of Ivan the Terrible vodka each and the awards for most valuable player and best playing pony – from HRH Princess Olga of Russia and Russian Ambassador, Yuri Fedotov.

An asado followed as the beautiful early summer sunshine continued to bathe the spectators late into the afternoon. Hollywood and West End actor Kevin Spacey was amongst them, as Ivan the Terrible cocktails were served up to players and VIPs, served by Mosimanns. All proceeds were donated to the Foundation for Disabled Russian Orphans, Diema's Dream.

Moscow Polo Club (10): Alexei Rodzianko/David Geovanis 0; Michael Rodzianko 1; Hernan Traverso Laclau 4; Alejandro Traverso Laclau 5
Guards Polo Club (11): Jakob Lindquist 1; Roddy Matthews 4; Henry Brett 6; Andrew Stimpson 0



Above: Jakob Lindquist



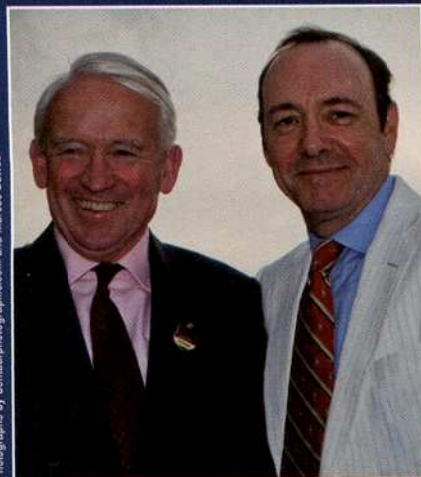
Above left: Lauren Rega and Max Davies-Gilbert
Above: Henry Brett
Left: Hernan Traverso



Dimitri and Natasha Chebotarev



Mr and Mrs Kennedy-Hewitt



Paul Belcher and Kevin Spacey



HRH Princess Olga with the victorious Moscow Polo Club side