

On the 28th of September Rebecca Boyd, Hannah Mason, Amy Martin, Holly Black, Katie Read, Olivia McLeod, my sister and I all got to meet some of the Black Sticks. This is because Hawke's Bay is sponsoring both Black Sticks teams to London next year. We had a "team talk" in the dugout where 4 speeches were made: one by Bruce Mactaggart, another from Hillary Poole CEO of Hockey NZ; Lawrence Yule, Mayor of Hastings and finally Shea McAleese. After having our photo taken we were asked to do a few drills, try to tackle the ball and then have a shot at goal. I am proud to say I only let in two of the black sticks goals. After the drills we went over to Hockey NZ to eat some lunch and get to know the players a bit more. Later on Rhiannon showed us her unbelievably cool nails and when we had asked all our questions we had to leave. We said our goodbyes and left beaming from ear to ear. And after all the rugby on TV3News there was a short clip of us.

Samantha Mactaggart



From Left-Right, Top: Rhiannon Dennison, Emily Naylor, Kayla Sharland, Andy Hayward, Richard Petheric, Shea McAleese
Middle: Sam Mactaggart, Olivia McLeod, Katie Read, Holly Black, Rebecca Boyd, Hannah Mason
Front: Jamie Mactaggart, Amy Martin