



Promising Athletes Programme

Gill Robins

Gill began playing hockey in school and has enjoyed the sport for over 60 years, excelling in it throughout. Her success led her to attend regional trials for the West, which resulted in a recommendation for England trials. She was selected and is now in her third year of playing for England.

Her achievements in the sport include a Silver in the World Cup, a Gold in the Tilburg festival, and a Gold in the Europeans.

When considering role models, Gill found it difficult to choose just one due to the abundance of inspiring athletes. Early in her career, in her 20s, she looked up to Val Robinson, who played for England. More recently, she has been inspired by Kate Richardson-Walsh for being strong-willed, skillful, and incredibly inspiring, particularly for continuing to play after breaking her jaw.



Gill Robins

Gill is an active member of her community and a dedicated athlete. Beyond playing for the England Masters, she serves as Vice Captain for the North Devon Hockey Club Ladies 2s team, plays Netball in the North Devon League, and is part of the Devon Search and Rescue team. In her spare time, she enjoys dancing, music, and is currently learning the piano, having previously played the violin in a band.

She also volunteers her time by collecting food from local supermarkets for the Freedom Centre, which supports individuals facing homelessness, addiction, and social isolation through supported housing, treatment, recovery, and day centre services.

Gill is extremely grateful for the support from the Lex Leisure and Tarka Centre and the opportunity to use their facilities for effective training. She utilizes the pool to enhance her cardiovascular fitness and has received an induction and program in the gym to build strength, power, and endurance. Gill finds the instruction and support, particularly in the gym, invaluable and is excited by the range of facilities and resources Tarka provides.

