

Welcome

This is a brief supplement to the eighteenth Newsletter issued recently. It has been requested largely to give notice of an event that it is hoped will be of interest to the usual readers and to allow them to make diary entries and re-organise schedules (if not already too late for that). There is also an opportunity to bring some further hockey news, if not only to illustrate how quickly things move on.

Vice Presidents, Past Players and Friends' Dinner

The Club is holding its annual Vice Presidents, Past Players and Friends Dinner on Friday 31 March 2017 at a venue to be confirmed. You are requested, please, to make a note in your diaries – in whatever form they may take these days.

The hope is to encourage a greater participation than last year. Whilst the date may be close the Club's Annual Dinner at Lord's, this is predominantly aimed at a different audience (that is, you!) About 35 attended last year and were offered a report on the Club's position in all aspects, from Richard Smith (Director of Hockey) Oz Rankin (former Club Chairman and current Fund Raising supremo) and from the current President, Richard Sykes. This year's event is likely to be in the same format and will give an opportunity to pursue any enquiries or exchange any thoughts you may have.

Awards

Olympic gold medalist Maddie Hinch and two-time Olympian and former H&W 1st XI captain Dan Fox have won the prestigious the **Hockey Writers' Club UK Player of the Year** awards for 2016.



The awards were made at the Club's annual awards presentation lunch on 25th January 2017 at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge.

Defensive skills caught the voters' attention for the Men's award, with Dan winning it for the first time in what was his final international season. The vote was reported to have been close, with Dan pipping Barry Middleton into second place and goalkeeper George Pinner in third.

As recorded recently, Dan announced his international retirement late in a year that included his second Olympic Games. In Rio, he had reinforced his reputation as a fearless penalty corner runner and a strong defender. On his retirement Dan had represented England 101 times and won 63 caps for Great Britain, scoring twice.

Dan said: "I am very flattered to win. It is a great honour and something I didn't really expect. Having retired from international hockey a few months ago, I had put that behind me. I am really delighted".



“For me, leading the Great Britain side – in Barry Middleton’s absence – at the World League Finals in Raipur (in late 2015) was a hugely proud moment. I played well there, but as part of a team that did well.

What was best about that tournament was we took quite a young squad, but we competed. We beat Australia 5-2 which was the biggest win we’ve had against them in a number of years. Alongside all those other blokes who were playing well it was a great opportunity to prove myself and take a leading role in the side.

The club hockey I’ve played at Holcombe, and Hampstead & Westminster before that, has been a big part of my success. I feel lucky to have been part of the Great Britain programme for so long and to have gone to two Olympic Games.”

Appointment

With apologies, we need belatedly to record and congratulate Thea Hitchcock, the Manager for many seasons of the Men’s 1st XI, on her appointment as Wales Senior Men’s new Programme Manager.



Thea has over ten years of hockey management experience under her belt, and this will enable her to keep an even close watch on Wales Senior Internationals Steve Kelly, David Kettle and Rupert Shipperley. each current members of the H&W 1st XI squad.

Head of Performance for **Hockey Wales**, Dan Clements said, "It is fantastic to have Thea on board. Her passion for hockey paired with her impressive managerial experience set her apart, and we are delighted to have her as part of the team as we head into a busy and crucial period for our Senior Men."

In addition to her seven years at H&W, Thea was also previously assistant England Hockey National Age Group Manager, Northwood JRPC Manager, and worked with teams competing at the Futures Cup, as well as Old Loughtonians. In her limited spare time, she is a domestic Match Official and member of the EHF Outdoor and Indoor panel.

2017 is set to be a big year for the Wales Senior Men, with their first ever appearance in Round 2 of World League, followed in the summer by the EuroHockey Championships Division II after gaining promotion from Division III in 2015. Thea's task this weekend is to marshal the Welsh squad in Barcelona where Wales are to play three matches against the United States, ranked five places above them in the world rankings, as preparation for the World League Round 2 that is to be held between 11th and 19th March 2017, in Belfast.

Centenary Club

Carrying on with matters from **Cymru**, former H&W players Peter Swainson and Andy Cornick (second and third from the right, below) were inducted into this special club on having won their 100 caps for Wales and we congratulate them too.



In 2013, Andy Cornick finished as the fourth most capped player of all time for Wales with a total of 122 caps and the ninth player to earn 100 caps, in a 5-2 win against Austria in 2013. Andy was also involved with the Great Britain hockey programme for a two-year period from 2005. On his retirement from international hockey, the Welsh Head Coach Zak Jones commented "As one of Wales's most gifted and talented forwards, 'Sparrow' has always been a threat to all opposition".

Andy joined Oxted from H&W (and features in Oxted colours, below, in a game against Holcombe) when his teaching requirements demanded it. He has continued to play for them in the East Conference of the National League. He remains H&W's second leading goalscorer in the National League.

Andy scored two hat tricks for H&W, in 2006 in a 4-4 draw with Surbiton and in 2008 in a 5-3 win against Canterbury. His first goal (for Hampstead) was in 2003 against Old Loughts and his last in H&W colours in the 5-4 defeat of Cannock in 2010.



Peter joined H&W from Reading and played under the coaching of Todd Williams, including the first EHA Cup Final (for H&W, that is) at Beeston. With Andy he was involved in the Great Britain hockey programme (in what were the GB Super Leagues) when both were selected for the Celtic Panthers. He was known as a steadfast defender and distributor from the back, shown in action, below, at PRG.



Mixed Hockey 2017



The Mixed Team started the England Hockey Mixed Trophy run this year with a resounding 6-0 win at PRG against Tunbridge Wells and now meet Marden Russets (of Kent) in the second round on 19 February 2017.

Indoor Hockey 2017

The National Indoor League Division Two matches (part of the **Super 6's**) took place at the University of the West of England in Filton, Bristol, on 21st and 22nd January 2017. H&W went into the competition unbeaten and faced Ipswich and Fareham from the South [Qualifying] League and Bournville, Olton and West Warwick and Doncaster from the North League.

Results

Hampstead 9 Olton and West Warwick 5
Fareham 3 Hampstead 8
Hampstead 6 Bournville 3
Doncaster 2 Hampstead 8
Hampstead 5 Ipswich 6

Matches

Hampstead started by conceding four goals in 10 minutes to Olton & WW but had drawn level within the next ten, such that it was 4-4 at half time. Mikey Watt then scored three goals in as many minutes and the game ended 9-5, with Olton having scored in the 36th minute, only for Sam French of Hampstead to score again two minutes later.

The Hampstead goals were scored by Nick Giles, Chris Cargo, Geoff McCabe Wil Calnan, three from Mikey Watt, Matt Guise-Brown and Sam French.

In the second match, Hampstead went 2-0 up in the first five minutes. Fareham, coached by former GB player Ben Barnes (and previously a coach of Reading) pulled one back. Hampstead then accelerated away, with goals from McCabe, a corner conversion from Richard Smith, from Chris Cargo and Stuart Loughrey, to make it 6-1 at half time. In the second half, Hampstead added two more in the 22nd and 38th minutes (another corner conversion) and Fareham scored two goals in reply.

On Sunday, it was an early start for Hampstead in what was felt would be a tough game against Bournville that started at 9.00am. Hampstead went into an early lead with goals from Chris Cargo and a corner put away by Sam French. Bournville then pulled two back and it remained 2-2 at the half. Richard Smith converted another corner in the 23rd minute and French scored his second in the 26th minute. But Bournville pulled one back to make the score 4-3 in the 28th minute. Things remained tense into the last four minutes, when Hampstead scored two, one from Toby Roche and another from Mikey Watt in the last minute, when he was then shown a yellow card! Toby Roche later described the game as "gritty".

The fourth match was against Doncaster. This was again expected to be hard fought. The focus remained on a win to ensure promotion, with the top two teams going up to Division 1. Hampstead were 2-0 up in seven minutes after a penalty corner put in by Richard Smith in the second minute, which was followed by a goal from coach Kwan Browne who then scored in the last minute of the half, to maintain Hampstead's two goal cushion. In the second half Toby Roche scored a hat trick, with two in the 23rd minute. Will Calnan scored the sixth in the 29th minute. In the last five minutes, Matt Guise-Brown scored from a corner, followed by Toby's third in the final minute. The final score being 8-2, guaranteed promotion.

The final game of the weekend for Hampstead featured the only other undefeated team, Ipswich. This was a clear-cut example of a game of two halves. Coach Kwan Browne sat the game out. Hampstead pulled away to a convincing 5-1 lead by half time. There were two goals for Mikey Watt and one each from Sam French, Stu Loughrey and Toby Roche (in the final minute of the half). Ipswich plugged away and their Tom French scored four unanswered goals to level the scores in the 36th minute (and become the tournament's top scorer).

Hampstead missed a few scoring opportunities and then with 36 seconds left on the clock, Ipswich scored a sixth from a corner. Hampstead ran it back and just as the buzzer sounded for the end of the game they won a short corner. The corner was upheld (admittedly in some confusion) but it was not well received by Ipswich and what might politely be called a debate was had with the umpire. However, after calm had been restored, the corner sadly went astray and that was it, 6-5 to Ipswich.

From Hampstead's perspective, whilst it was disappointing to be placed second in the League, the main objectives of the weekend had been achieved. Promotion had been secured, the squad had enjoyed an intense series of games against committed opposition, some players had their first taste of indoor hockey and there remained room for improvement in anticipation of the re-opening of the outdoor League at Loughborough on 5th February.

Table

Ipswich	5	4	1	0	16	13pts
Hampstead	5	4	0	1	17	12
Doncaster	5	3	0	2	-3	9
Olton & W Warwick	5	2	0	3	-4	6
Bournville	5	1	0	4	-9	3
Fareham	5	0	1	4	-17	1

Next Season?

Division 1 will comprise Beeston, West Herts, Southgate Harleston, St Albans, Canterbury Bowdon Ipswich and Hampstead and is likely to be held the University of Nottingham.

Outdoor Hockey 2017

Leagues other than the National have continued after the New Year and are in full swing, although frozen pitches have led to a few postponements.

Men

In the London League Premier Division, the 2nd XI have drawn twice but retain top spot (with a game in hand) but on goal difference, after a 3-3 scoreline against Southgate (goals from Will Naylor, Neil Hamilton and Andrew Murie) and a 2-2 result at Teddington (Neil Hamilton and Will Devitt scoring).

There is a big gap in goal difference between the top two in the League and the rest that will intensify the competition for first place in the League.

Hampstead	14	10	3	1	45	33
Canterbury	15	10	3	2	41	33
Southgate	15	8	2	5	7	25
Surbiton	14	7	2	5	6	23

In the London League Division One, the 3rd XI also remains in top place, despite a loss to Southgate and a win against H&W's Zak Hond (6-2). The Zaks are in ninth place in the League.

Hampstead	14	9	3	2	27	30
Southgate	14	8	5	1	26	29
Reading 2A	13	8	1	4	20	25
Tulse Hill & Dulwich	14	7	3	4	15	24

Three consecutive wins by the 5th XI sees them still in top spot of London League Division 3 (6-3 v Southgate, 5-0 v Old Loughtonians Foresters and 3-2 v Richmond Lions. There are large positive goal differences in this League as well. The top four teams have positive differences of 27, 32, 38 and 24. One factor is Tulse Hill and Dulwich in last place, who sadly have conceded 104 goals after 14 games!

Hampstead 5	13	10	0	3	27	30
Reading Refills	13	9	2	2	32	29

The Hammers XI is fifth in London League Division 5 and in Division 6 the Spaniards have moved up to 3rd with three consecutive wins in 2017, 5-0, 4-1 (against H&W's Thirsts XI) and 4-3) Regrettably the Thirsts XI has dropped to seventh after three consecutive losses.

The Veterans XI keeps hold of top place in the Veterans League 1, now by a two-point margin over East Grinstead in second. This follows resounding wins against Maidenhead (5-0) Teddington (7-0) and Richmond (9-2). Their goal difference is 38 and the next best is 25.

Conversely, the Superverts are finding it hard going. After a 4-1 win at Chelmsford reported earlier, they lost 7-3 to Spencer, to drop to the foot of the League table.

Women

The 2nd XI remains in second place in South Division 3, behind PHC Chiswick 1st XI after a 3-2 win against Henley: one game had to be postponed. In the Middlesex Premier Division, the Women's 3rd XI is still in top place by seven points, with a game in hand, now with 11 wins and the single loss. There have been two postponements. In the same League, the 4th XI has dropped to ninth, following a defeat by the H&W 3rd XI (1-3) and a narrow loss to Staines 2nd XI (0-1).

In Middlesex League Division 1, the 5th XI is in fifth and the 6th XI in seventh positions, respectively. The 6th XI beat PHC Chiswick 10-2 on 7 January but then suffered two defeats: one to Eastcote 1-2 and then 1-6 to OMT Duchesses (having beaten them 5-0 in the earlier fixture in the season in October). There have been two victories for the 5th XI, 3-2 against PHC Chiswick 3rd XI and 2-1 against Staines 2nd XI.

The 7th XI is placed sixth in Middlesex League Division 3 after a 5-0 win against OMT Baronesses (no less) and 3-1 against PHC Chiswick 4th XI but followed by a 1-7 loss to Harrow 2nd XI.

Cup News

Men

The last Newsletter omitted news of the EHA Cup. The Men's 1st XI successfully negotiated the first round of participation by means of a bye and then, by the mysteries of the "draw" at Bisham Abbey, found themselves paired in the second round with Holcombe, the current leaders of the Premier Division. It seems all rather familiar to generate an elimination of an upper tier team at this stage and this befell H&W again this year. In a hard-fought game in Chatham, on 30 October 2016, with a few of the 2nd XI given an opportunity, H&W lost by a single goal and so ended a Cup Run. Round 3 was played on 13 November 2016 and the quarter finals are due to take place on 5th February 2017.

Draw

Beeston v Reading
Bromley & Beckenham v Havant
Canterbury v Bowdon
Oxford Hawks v Brooklands MU

In the 2nd XI Cup, our first-round opponents, Newbury and Thatcham 2's offered a bye and on 30 October 2016 the 2's defeated Burnt Ash 3-2, to progress to the quarter finals on 12 February 2017

Draw

Hampstead v Southgate
Beeston v Brooklands MU
Surbiton v Loughborough Univ
Lindum¹ v University of Nottingham

Women

The 1st XI defeated Chelmsford 3-1 at Chelmer Park, with goals from Katherine Baker, Katherine Langridge and Kate Mccaw. They went on to face Sevenoaks, the Conference leaders (presumably no intended similarity to the Men's experience in that?) in the next round, played on 6 November 2016, in which they lost 0-1.

The quarter finals are to be played on 12 February 2017.

Draw

Barnes v Bowdon Hightown
Beeston v Sevenoaks
Ben Rhydding v Clifton Robinsons
Slough v Surbiton

¹ of Lincoln

Several Years Ago...

110 years ago

At the Committee Meeting held at the Constitution Club, Hampstead on 13 February 1907 "a letter was read from Richmond HC saying that they had made arrangements for a notice board to be displayed at Waterloo Station on Saturdays giving notice of any match being "scratched" and save a fruitless journey to members. The RHC offered us the courtesy of using that board for our matches² which was accepted with sincere thanks".

90 years ago

At the Committee Meeting held at 10 Serjeants Inn, Fleet Street at 5.30pm on 6 January 1927, the Hon Sec said that he had heard from Mr E A C Thomson that there was a possibility of obtaining a ground near Isleworth Station which would be let to a cricket club and that club, under the terms of their lease, could sub-let it during winter months to a hockey club. He was instructed to write to a Mr P J Rossland 91 Rectory Lane Tooting SW17 on the matter.

A letter was read from a Mr J C Hoojkaas asking if he could join the Club. The Hon Sec was asked to write and say that we would give him a trial game as soon as possible.

80 years ago

At the Committee Meeting held at Simpson's on 4 February 1937, the Committee discussed the form the presentation to be made by Mr Barnard should take. A proposal put forward by Mr I M Milsted (on behalf of Mr R L Milsted) and seconded by Mr Sankey was adopted unanimously and the Hon Secretary was instructed to write to Mr Barnard putting before him the proposition for his approval "that the Cup which Mr Barnard had so kindly offered to present to the club in memory of his wife should take the form of a Loving Cup with suitable wording inscribed (such wording to be left entirely to Mr Barnard). This Cup to be kept in the Club House during the season and to be used at the Club Dinner, the Club Dance and, at the Captain's discretion, after any notable victory. The Cup in summer to be held by the captain of the side with the best paying record for the previous season." This proposal to be submitted to Mr Barnard for his approval.

60 years ago

At the Committee Meeting held on 25 February 1957, it was agreed to operate the Ladies Corner Rule on 2 March and to defer the question of the *hit out* rule for a vote to be taken by the 1st XI. Varying viewpoints were exposed (*sic*) but it was the general opinion that the club was in favour of a county championship.

55 years ago

At the Committee Meeting held at the Crown House, Aldwych WC2 on 8 January 1962, Mr Avey reported, in answer to a question, that a small drain had been installed at Hornsey, immediately beneath the cricket table. This had not been fully effective in keeping the top side of the first pitch drier. Mr Avey was asked to investigate with the Hornsey Club what else might be done.

In AOB, a suggestion that in common with the majority of other clubs, we might drop shandies after games was rejected.

40 years ago

1st XI, under the captaincy of Norman Borrett, beat Surbiton 1-0 at Sugden Lane on 29 January 1977, a feat and score matched by the Vets' XI, with Club Captain, Stan Elgar in goal, against Surbiton 5, played at Creighton North School.

Next edition

As mentioned in the last full Newsletter, this will cover the end of the season, doubtless in briefer form compared with the past. We hope to cover, amongst other things, our recent discovery of Hampstead Hockey Club's former 1st XI forward John Chaumeton's *History of Highgate Golf Club 1904-2004*.

If you have any news or comment, please direct it to mail@velwell.eclipse.co.uk.

² On account of Hampstead's home matches being played at Richmond, which allegedly temporary arrangement continued for over 44 years