

In this second newsletter of the National Hockey Museum, we can report on progress since our first edition in January and a number of interesting stories that have been uncovered. Many new archives and objects continue to arrive each week and a steady stream of visitors come to see the collections or to research specific issues. A selection of the most interesting developments are detailed below – other stories are published regularly on the News Pages of the NHM website. One big job that has been completed by the volunteers is the cataloguing of all the old hockey magazines. We now have complete collections of Hockey Field (Oct 1901 to July 1991), Hockey World (Oct 1922 to April 1950), Hockey News (Sept 1951 to 1972), Hockey Digest (Oct 1975 to Feb 1996) and Hockey Sport (Mar 1996 to Dec 2005). We are still looking to build up multiple complete sets of these and other hockey magazines where we are still missing copies (listed on the website). Judy Smith has also completed the cataloguing of all the current books in the library – we have 520 different books on hockey as well as numerous handbooks and programmes. These are also listed on the website.

Katie Dodd (Chair NHM)

**** STOP PRESS : A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES – THE NEXT NHM OPEN DAY IS THURS 3RD OCTOBER ****

ENGLAND'S OLDEST INTERNATIONAL?

The NHM recently staged a unique meeting between two former greats of the game; centurion C.E.N. (Bill) Wyatt who played for England in the 30s & 40s and John Peake, the 1948 Olympic silver medallist. They last met playing for England in 1948. This meeting came about after Bill's son-in-law, John Alexander, contacted us to say that his father-in-law was celebrating his 100th birthday and they would like to present him with some memories about his hockey past. We were able to put together a selection of photographs, match reports and articles about Bill along with a letter of congratulation from Simon Mason, the then EHB President. The family were amazed to hear Bill talking about so many of the faces in the old photos and the success of this initiative led to John arranging for Bill to come to the Museum to see other records and to meet up with John. The full story of the meeting can be found on the website.



John Peake & Mike Smith with Bill Wyatt at the Museum

A Leading British Full-Back.



C. E. N. WYATT (England's Right Back).

CEN Wyatt from Hockey
World 1935

STAMPS AT THE MUSEUM

Over 250 stamps featuring the sport of field hockey have been issued by 115 countries since the first hockey stamp was issued by Japan in 1951 on the occasion of the 6th National Athletic meeting at Hiroshima. Several of the NHM volunteers are philatelists, with their own collections of hockey stamps and associated postal items. To get a NHM stamp collection started, a selection of these stamps have been donated. David Sumpter is co-ordinating this venture and would be delighted to hear from anyone with material to add to the collection. Items could include stamps, postcards, envelopes with stamps or hockey related postmarks & slogans. Please contact David on david.sumpter@talktalk.net



HOW OLD IS YOUR CLUB?

Guildford Hockey Club were not sure. They celebrated their 50th in 1975 based on information that they started in 1925. Local club Woking then suggested that they might be older and Guildford Chairman, Chris Basey, contacted us & we had a quick look on their behalf. They were certainly around & affiliated in 1919 so that added six years! However it is a fact that most clubs that started up immediately after both World Wars were in already in existence before the war. So, Chris came along to the museum & spent a morning looking through magazines & records. There was not a great deal but he did find a definite reference in 1913 so, rather than waiting until 2025, Guildford will now be celebrating their centenary this year. Can we help your club to seek out its history?

A WEMBLEY STAR

One aspect of hockey's history, 'The Wembley Story', is being compiled by Nan Williams, nee Morgan, who played for England at Wembley a number of times. It is a fascinating story that spans 41 years & is one of very few iconic hockey events. To help Nan with her work, the Museum separates any Wembley material that comes in & forwards it to her in Taunton. A recent cache included some Wembley Programmes & other items from the same era. One was of an international match at Trent Bridge, & there in the team list was a young Nan Morgan and next to her name was her autograph. When Nan signed that programme all those years ago she never expected to see it again. What goes round comes round. Ultimately we hope to produce 'The Wembley Story' as a book & Nan is very interested to hear of any Wembley anecdotes and memories. johnnan.williams@tiscali.co.uk

WHO'S NEW AT THE MUSEUM?



Mike Barford

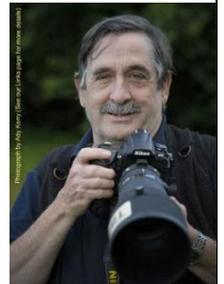
In the last few months the Museum has recruited a number of new volunteers. Three of them are profiled below; **Mike Barford**, well known to all who have been involved with the annual Oxbridge Varsity fixture and as the current President of Richmond Hockey Club. Mike brings his experience of setting up the Museum at Christ's Hospital School and an interest in 'Hockey in Art'. He will be taking on the job of developing the NHM's art collection. One example of an old print is shown below - he claims it's of a Richmond v Staines game with Mike Smith's arm holding the offending stick! Another NHM addition is **Evelyn Somerville**, who had a long playing career with Wimbledon HC, played representative hockey for the Civil Service and was a 'keen' hockey tourist. Starting life as a civil servant but after having children, she set up her own HR Consultancy and now splits her time between work and her other love, golf.



Evelyn Somerville



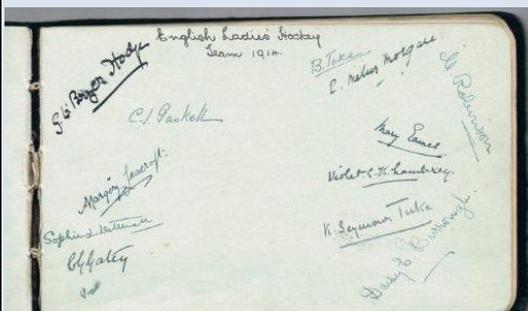
Our third recruit is **Peter Savage** – even if you don't know him, you will have seen him on many touchlines as he is one of our top hockey photographers. Peter, a former police officer, played for Broxbourne, Beckenham and Brighton & Hove and then a Level 2 umpire and an EHB technical official. His interest in photography started at university and he developed this interest to go on to photograph World Cups, European Championships and even the Olympics. As if all this wasn't enough, he set up the TalkHockeyRadio web site in 2005.



Peter Savage

AN APPEAL TO SECURE A RARE PIECE OF HISTORY

Thankfully, almost everything that we have at the NHM has been donated but occasionally we are offered items for sale. Our response usually has to be "no" as at present we do not have any funds for purchases. However, a recent offer has made us wonder whether we should publicise it and make an appeal. It is a page from an autograph book of the England Women's Team that toured Australia & New Zealand in 1914. This was the first ever Women's International Touring team, which in itself makes the team unique. We have details of the Tour in our records and we have a skirt worn by one of the players. The page of autographs has been authenticated as the book was purchased by a representative of an organisation seeking another autograph in the book, that of Sir Douglas Mawson, one of Australia's most famous Antarctic explorers. This purchaser is genuinely looking to defray his costs and is asking £100 for the hockey signatures. If you would like to help us acquire this unique item of hockey history, please contact the Curator at judy.smith61@btinternet.com



A REAL TIE UP!

Going through the Miroy Collection there were many dozens of ties. This was not really surprising considering Nevil's heavy involvement in hockey in an era when most men wore ties very regularly. Whilst going through this collection, Mike Smith recognised two ties of particular significance, both to him & to the history of our game. The photo shows two ties, both of which are from Staines HC but about 80 years apart. When researching for the Staines HC Centenary in the 1980s Mike talked with Nevil as a Staines member both before & after WW2. "Hang on old boy", Nevil said & produced the old tie. By opening up the seam they could identify the exact colours of the original club tie & enabled them to reproduce it for their centenary. The other part of the story is that, as you can see, the tail has been cut off the older tie. This was a well known tradition at Old Kingstonians HC, where hundreds of these tie tails were pinned up in their club house. Sadly, all were lost when OK's pavilion was burned down but here we have a tangible reminder of that tradition.

DO YOU HAVE ANY OLD AEWHA MEETING MINUTES?

In collaboration with the NHM, the University of Bath is preserving and archiving the All England Women's Hockey Association Collection to develop and make available a record of the beginnings and early development of organised women's hockey in the UK. Lizzie Richmond, the archivist, will accept any material from this period but the core of the collection is made up of the formal records of the AEWHA itself. The first official meeting of the Ladies' Association was on 23rd Nov 1895. The executive of the AEWHA then met regularly to discuss and formulate policy for the governance and conduct of women's hockey in England. Bath has a comprehensive set of minutes from 1895 to 1930, including the handwritten notes from the preliminary meetings but they are keen to add to this. Do you have any AEWHA meeting records after 1930 that you are willing to donate to us? We're also looking for any AEWHA AGM papers and minutes from 1976 onwards. Contact Lizzie Richmond at E.Richmond@bath.ac.uk.