



Over the last few months the Museum has continued to develop at a pace. Almost two years since we first set up shop, we have now received over 180 different hockey collections (from one or two items to the very large), and have over 1200 books in the Library with 680 different titles. We have complete sets of magazines such as Hockey Field, Hockey World, Hockey Digest but we are still looking for the odd missing editions to make up extra sets (see website for missing copies). These publications are proving to be a mine of information when we are answering the increasing number of enquiries we're receiving such as; "Have you got a photo of my uncle who played for England?". We've staged two major displays in the last six months; one at the Investec Cup in June and our second Open Day at the Museum in October. The display at the Chiswick event was very well received and we had visits from many of the participating teams, the FIH and the Sports Minister (see various reports on the website <http://www.hockeymuseum.org/Default.aspx?id=575249>) as well as many, many spectators from around the world. At the Open Day we featured some fascinating new displays. The origins of the County Championship made a great story (see item below) and we continued our 'Hockey Greats' series, this time featuring Maggie Souyave. Maggie played her first international match in 1974 and went on to represent England & GB 120 times winning a gold medal in the World Cup as a player, then a gold in the European indoor as coach. Maggie still works for England as a performance analyst – a fantastic 40 year career at club, county, territorial and national levels. You can find full details on the NHM website. Thank you to all who have supported us so generously & we look forward to welcoming you at the Museum in 2014. Merry Christmas from all at the Museum.

**Katie Dodd Chair of NHM Trustees**

### ACCREDITATION

We have started along the path to full Museum Accreditation and as part of this approach, we are professionalising the acquisition and cataloguing processes, investing in IT and Museum software (Modes) to support the recording processes, looking to digitise all our photographic images and old cine-film and cleaning and storing all the different kit and clothing we have been given. This is no quick job but it is absolutely necessary for us to properly record, store and display all the fascinating objects we have in our keeping. If you would like to get involved in this, or any other aspect of the Museum's work, please get in touch.



**MIKE SMITH & NAN WILLIAMS ON THE STAND AT CHISWICK.**



**GENNA CHRISTMAS CARD**

### A HOCKEY PAINTING FROM ETHIOPIA :

Art is an important part of any museum's collection and the NHM is no exception. We already have about two hundred pieces of art in various forms but completely new items are quite rare. Imagine our surprise when Judy Smith received her annual Christmas card from the little boy in Ethiopia whom she has sponsored for several years. The card had a painting of children playing a form of hockey, explained as their game GENNA. The card also contained a photo of children playing GENNA clearly relating it to the sport we know. We are trying to obtain the original painting and more information about the game of GENNA. Whilst a fascinating discovery, it is not altogether surprising because primitive stick and ball games are known from all five continents and many of them go back into antiquity.

### THE FIRST HA COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

When the Museum received two archives containing material from North Lincolnshire, Rowena Shepherd and David Sumpter were delighted as both were born and bred in the area. One archive had been built up by Phil Appleyard (former HA President & 1986 World Cup organiser) who hailed from Grimsby & Cleethorpes H.C and the other was concerned with both Club & County Hockey in the 1950 to 60's period - especially the success of Lincolnshire County. A selection of items from the two collections were exhibited at the October Open Day where the display told the story of the first National County Championships in the 1957/58 season.

Lincolnshire was not even certain to head the Eastern counties section and when they did, they became rank outsiders for the final knock out stages. But, with a hard running, hard tackling, direct style of play, they defeated the fancied, star studded Surrey team in the semi-final, held at Dulwich, and then more easily prevailed in the final, against Warwickshire in Birmingham. The display created a lot of interest and used photos, programmes and a wider selection of press cuttings and was topped by the HA County Championship Flag (see photo). Hockey was reported widely in the 50s and most of the 'serious papers' had their own hockey correspondents.





**NADEAN WITHERS**

**WHO'S NEW AT THE MUSEUM?** **Nadean** started her hockey career as a school girl shivering in Yorkshire. Coming down to the 'warmer' South to teach, she joined Wimbledon Ladies and enjoyed many happy days playing indoors and outdoors and Surrey 2nds. After changing careers to IT Training and Project Management in the mid eighties, she was lured away from hockey to the squash courts (rather warmer and dryer) and then as with most hockey players, made her way to the golf course. Now living in the Woking area, she recently joined the museum team and is lending her considerable professional expertise to the development and training of 'Modes' cataloguing software. **Shane Smith** is one of our newest, and certainly youngest, volunteers. He's new to hockey, having only taken up the sport three years ago when he left university. He holds a BA in Art History and an MA in Art Gallery and Museum Studies but is currently employed as the Club Steward of Ashford HC (Midxx). When he is not broadening his knowledge



**FREDDIE MARTIN WITH MAGGIE SOUYAVE**

of real ale, Shane puts on his 'museology hat' to help Mike Barford catalogue, research and contextualise the fine art and poster collections at the Museum." With the energy of Mike and Shane there has been a significant increase in the Museum's acquisition and cataloguing of 'Hockey Art'. It's amazing what Mike has found on e-bay. The Museum now has a fascinating collection of different pictures/posters and other objects that will make a great display at our next exhibition.



**SHANE SMITH (ON THE R?)**

**RESEARCH AT THE NHM**

We may only be 2 years old but the NHM is already supporting a range of fascinating research projects. Our first collaboration was back in 2012 with a Japanese professor, Shinobu Akimoto, who was based in England for a year and with the NHM's help, completed a study on the origins of mixed hockey. This year, Jo Halpin, a freelance journalist, gained a distinction from De Montfort Uni for a research study entitled 'The Game is the Thing: Amateurism, the English and the 1953 IFWHA Tournament in Folkestone'. This work highlighted the influence of the AEWHA and its amateur ideals on the development of the international women's game up to 1953. Recently, we have started working with Libby Stevens, an undergraduate student from Balliol College, Oxford who is researching the development of women's hockey clubs and the AEWHA in relation to debates on women's sport in the period 1880-1914. Our youngest student to date is Freddie Martin - no, not that Freddie Martin - but a very resourceful 9 year who contacted us to help with his Yr 5 project on the Victorians. He and his mother spent several hours at the museum, collecting stories and images for his project - see photo with Maggie Souyave. Our own Museum volunteers are also engaged in some research projects such as the Wembley Story, hockey in World War I and the influence of the Women's PE colleges on the development of hockey. More of these in future newsletters. If you would like to work with the NHM on a specific aspect of Hockey's history, we'd be happy to support you.

**OLD HOCKEY STICK DESTROYED BY FIRE**

Cedric Atkinson was a well-known character around the Sussex hockey scene. A vice president of Penguin HC and a great pal of our Curator, Cedric was a great character who lived life to the full but sadly he died last year. Being the person he was, he asked for his trusty old Black Widow hockey stick to go with him. So, as we sat in the crematorium, those of who knew could imagine him lying there with his stick beside him. If anyone ever checked Cedric's ashes I wonder how they would explain the presence of mulberry wood ash!

**THE OLDEST HOCKEY CLUB ARCHIVE COMES TO THE MUSEUM**

Surbiton Hockey Club is not quite the oldest club in the world but they do have the oldest and most complete 'club archive' - unless of course you know better! Their minute books go back to 1874 together with copious press cuttings and a complete collection of their club newsletter from its inception in 1928 right up to the present time. Surbiton has now agreed to put these valuable archives into the custody of the National Hockey Museum. NHM Curator Mike Smith said: "It is a tribute to Surbiton HC that they have managed to retain these valuable archives across nearly 140 years and they will be a true gem in our growing collection." Because of the NHM's growing relationship with the Surrey History Centre and the fact that Surbiton is a Surrey club, it is hoped to have this amazing collection professionally archived very promptly.

**1914 ENGLAND TOUR TO NZ & AUSTRALIA**

In the last newsletter, we appealed for help buy a set of autographs of the England women's team who toured Australia in 1914. We can now report that donations were forthcoming and the autographs went on display at the Open Day in October along with a photo of the team (see left) and other memorabilia from this and the 1937 Anglo Scottish Australian tour. Jo Halpin has done some further research on this tour and it appears that there was a real concern in the press that the team was not strong enough to go on such an important Tour (only players who could afford the time and money went) As it turned out, they still won most of their matches and had official receptions wherever they went.



**1914 ENGLAND TOUR TO AUS**