

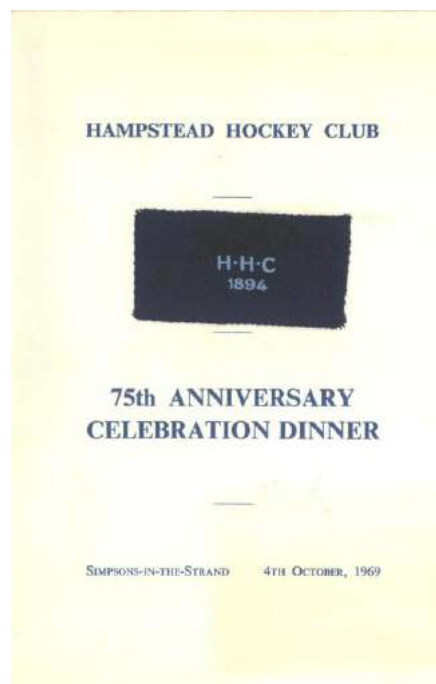
## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Hampstead Hockey Club celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the start of the 1969/70 season, having seceded from Hampstead Cricket Club in 1894.

The decision to celebrate in 1969 was taken after some deliberation, given the two hiatuses in the Club's history. P C Kay, the Club's President, pointed out that most hockey clubs regard their anniversaries as something really important and worth celebrating. "Hampstead feels that its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary calls for special recognition.... The Club was twenty-five years old in April 1919, a time when there was very little to celebrate. The fiftieth anniversary, in April 1944, would have taken place some 55 days before D-Day: while in 1954, when we were sixty years old, the club had only just started its journey back to the position it had held in London hockey from 1900 to 1939, and the whole future was extremely uncertain".

The General Committee took the opportunity to hold a 'Senior Officers' celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary much nearer the actual birthday date than the official programme. This was held at The Olde Swan Hotel in Thames Ditton on 16 May 1969 under the chairmanship of past President, Jeremy Potter. Amongst those attending were Colin Greenhalgh (then General Secretary) Richard Shaw (his successor) Richard Clarke (captain of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI) Roy Salisbury, Bob Tom and future Club Presidents Peter Boizot and Guy Mayers.

It had also been agreed to hold a number of games, followed by an Anniversary Dinner at Simpsons-in-the-Strand on Saturday 4 October 1969



The Hockey Association had agreed to raise a representative XI. The opening matches in the newly formed London League had been played in the previous week. League hockey was new to the London area. There were uncertainties over the possible adverse effects and, in particular, players' temperaments and whether play might become more

aggressive. Hampstead's opening game against Hounslow had been watched with close attention.

Writing in the *Evening Standard*, on 3 October 1969, Richard Lynton had commented upon the position encountered by Mike Doughty, who had been asked to raise a Hockey Association team to face the Hampstead 1<sup>st</sup> XI in the headline match of the weekend.

### **RED TAPE BEGINS TO TIE UP HOCKEY**

*The tyranny of red tape which smothers initiative and enterprise in so many directions is intruding now upon hockey. There was time when as a player paid his subscription to the club of his choice and the club its dues to the Hockey Association etc one and all could get on with the game without hindrance. Not any longer, as Mike Doughty, former Surrey and England outside left has been finding out.*

*He agreed to raise a representative Hockey Association XI to play the Hampstead Club tomorrow (3.15pm) in celebration of their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Doughty found distinguished players who at first accepted this invitation to the Hampstead match, crying off one after another. The inevitable excuse: "my club want me for a league match or to practice for a league match".*

*The grip of clubs on their players is going to tighten, make no mistake. There is already talk of players having to be registered to prevent poaching by one club or county on the preserves of a rival in their league or cup.*

*But Doughty, by reason of his long connection with the game and personal popularity, was able to raise a team adequate for the purpose.*

*Team*

*D D Archer (Enfield); J N Busk (Cheam) P J Svehlik (Cambridge University Wanderers); C J Atkinson (Alderley Edge) I L Clarke (Bromley) T W Price (Surbiton); G J Wilkinson (Guildford) R K Lynn (Polytechnic) S R Cliel (United Banks) C A Akers (Broxbourne) M O Doughty (Old Kingstonians).*

A useful summary of the day's events was supplied by *Hockey News* in its November 1969 Edition

### **THEY DINED AND THEY WINED AND SOME WERE VERY LATE TO BED!**

HAMPSTEAD HC did not celebrate their 25th anniversary or their 50th for reasons beyond their control<sup>1</sup> but they made up for it when their 75th anniversary came round on 4 October. From curtain-up at the cool, cool hour of 10.45 until tea was brewing, pavilion and pitches at Hornsey echoed to the smack and crack of almost non-stop hockey.

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<sup>1</sup> The end of World War 1 in the case of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the ongoing World War 2 in the case of the 50<sup>th</sup>

After that there was dining and wining and much good company at Simpsons-in-the-Strand, where the roast beef should convince anyone that Old England had something to boast about. So too had Old Hampstead and Young Hampstead, as Sir John Wolfenden made abundantly clear in proposing the toast of the evening: *Hampstead Hockey Club*. Mr R J Potter, welcoming the guests, poked a little fun at the hemlines of the Old Members' XI which, he said, were "lower than they make them now". The President Mr P C Kay, a model chairman, had the last word and some were very late to bed!

It was the third, fourth and the fifth XI's, aided and abetted by certain Spaniards, who set the ball rolling in what was thoughtfully described as a Barrel Tournament. It was not all together clear whether this referred to the prize, a pint of beer or to some of the other fine figures on display.

### THE BARREL

At all events, the barrel rolled predictably: the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI beat the 4<sup>th</sup> XI. The 4<sup>th</sup> XI and the 5<sup>th</sup> XI beat the Spaniards, the jolly boys of the Sunday side and the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI beat the 5<sup>th</sup> XI 1-0 in the final. The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI rolled out the barrel without a hitch and all were the best of friends.

Next on the stage were the President's XI led in person by P C (Sandy) Kay. They included two past presidents of Hampstead, R J Potter and R L Milsted, W N Livingstone, an Olympic player of 1960 vintage, a Scottish international I A C Hayward and a school of county players. Old heads proved more potent than young shoulders and the Presidents' party defeated the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI by one Mallinson goal to nil.



#### *Teams*

**Hampstead 2<sup>nd</sup> XI:** G R Hitch; G H Rutherford (capt) J M Tallon; N Sonley P R Bowden P M Rutherford; D R Randall Z Muller L C Ingvarson D Vautier K K Seedher

**President's XI:** D J Austin-Jones; P C Kay R J Potter; R L Milsted J N Bartlett W N Livingstone; P D Bell N A F Cardoza R J C Mallinson J L Matthews Lane I A C Hayward

**Umpires:** D S Baker (SCHUA) and D C Smyth

## MATCH OF THE DAY

In the main match of the day, a Hockey Association XI, watched by their president, Mr R Y Fison, the aforementioned past-presidents, vice-presidents and other old stagers, pulled their socks up just in time to force a 2-2 draw with the Hampstead 1<sup>st</sup> XI. The pitch was dry and cracked and distinctly tricky as a result of the Indian Summer we have enjoyed so much and Hampstead made the best of it in the first half, Spicer and Randle giving them a 2-0 lead.

Late in the second half the HA XI, captained by Ivan Clark, decided the time had come to take matters into his own hands. Since his forwards were not scoring goals, he would show them, and he did. Another old hand, Rex Lynn, who still has that pretty touch, which made him such an attractive player to watch when he was playing for England, followed suit. His was a timely parting shot, leaving Hampstead no time to hit back.

### *Teams*

**Hampstead:** D E Ratcliffe; R K Seedher. M B Spicer S P Lunn C J Black R Cake; D Randall R W Clarke (capt) G W Phillips S J Oliver D N Jennings

**HA XI:** D D Archer\*; J N Busk P J Svehlik\*; C J Atkinson I L Clark\* (capt) T W Price; G J Wilkinson K R Lynn\* S R Cliel C A Akers M O Doughty\*

**Umpires:** N Miroy\* and M L Pecker (SCHUA)

*\*international*

Another outlook on the weekend was supplied by a special correspondent of the Sunday Telegraph, on 5 October 1969.

## THAT OLD GLORY

The ground at Hampstead Hockey Club was thick with Blues – Oxford and Cambridge - internationals past and present and the sweet scent of old glory as the members mustered yesterday to honour the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this flourishing club.

The President, P C Kay rallied his Old Members to put the young men of the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI in their place by a goal to nil. Truth to tell, the Old Members were not all that old, notably Mallinson, who scored their goal, Cardoza and Bartlett and Livingstone, who must have been just babies of the side and very healthy at that.

There was an older vintage, ably represented by Milsted, who was in his prime before most of his opponents had seen the light, He will surely remember what I fancy must be positively his last appearance and he will remember it most in the morning.



A little later the Present were in a fair way to outdo the Past when Hampstead 1<sup>st</sup> XI led the team sent to try them by the Hockey Association by 2 goals to nil.

For this game the club reverted to an orthodox five-forward formation. It suited them a good deal better, I thought, than the four-forward game they played the week before<sup>2</sup>. The right side triangle of Clarke, Lunn and Randall worked the standard flanking moves with some success. Spicer popped the first shot in from a penalty corner, Randall the second and, with a bit of luck, there might have been a third by Hampstead in the second half.

But at the critical point, Clarke, an old campaigner, rallied the Hockey Association XI by his personal example and after suffering a penalty for offside scored their first goal. Lynn, though slower than of old, still has the same sure touch, controlling the ball well on a somewhat fiery surface and it was he who scored the parting goal, so that all retired content.



Later, the chief guest of the Club, Sir John Wolfenden, sent his thanks to Sandy Kay. Sir John is perhaps best well known for the chairmanship of a committee of 15 that led to the Report of the Departmental Committee on Homosexual Offences and

<sup>2</sup> In the first ever London League fixture, against Hounslow that Hounslow won 7-1



Prostitution (better known as the Wolfenden Report) published on 4 September 1957 after a succession of well-known men were convicted of homosexual offences. John Wolfenden had previously been headmaster of Uppingham and Shrewsbury and in 1950 became Vice Chancellor of the University of Reading. He later became Director of the British Museum.



THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
LONDON, W.C.1.

6th October, 1969

P. C. Kay, Esq.,  
Flat B.,  
38, Holland Park,  
LONDON, W.11.

My dear Kay,

That really was a splendid party, and I am most grateful to you for inviting me to participate in it. I have not the least doubt that the Hampstead Hockey Club will survive another seventy-five years.

Thank you also for your admirable briefing beforehand. I am afraid I did not make full use of it; but if I had not had it the result would have been even worse.

I hope you did not mind my leaving rather early. You obviously had commitments with the chaps, and it was clearly a 'Club' evening, so it seemed good that I should evaporate.

Thank you very much indeed for a most enjoyable evening.

Yours very sincerely,

*John Wolfenden*