

# East Antrim Hockey Club Centenary Newsletter

## Final Issue, Feb 2003

### Centenary Update

East Antrim Hockey Club's centenary events have now been completed and the Club marches into a new century with a new-found optimism. The past year has been hard-work but everyone is bound to agree that it was worth it.

### CUP FINAL

In March, we hosted the Schools' Burney Cup Final - an 80 year-old contest instigated by our founder, Andrew Burney. Cookstown's Andrew Ferguson picked up the EAHC presented Man of the Match award!



### RECREATION

In April, we staged a recreation of the first ever match against Downpatrick - complete with slicked-down hair (for those who had hair) and sticky-on moustaches.



### ULSTER

Northern Bank stepped in to sponsor the Club in its August event - a match against the Ulster Branch President's XI. The Club were fortunate enough to have ex-international Paul Cooke as a coach for the day though it didn't prevent the team losing 4-0 in front of Alderman Girvan, Mayor of Newtownabbey.

The event was also marked by the unveiling of the Club's new strip - a return to the traditional bottle green shirt!



### TOUR

September's event saw the Club embark on a tour of Glasgow. Two wins in three matches was a great achievement considering the late nights and over-indulgence! The travelling squad also attempted to bond by going blond! Hopefully, further visits to Clydesdale and Uddingston can be arranged in the future.



### COACHING

Marty Sloan and Jimmy Kirkwood gave their support by providing coaching sessions to the 1st XI squad. They were, however, reimbursed handsomely in beer and beer mugs!

### BOOK LAUNCH

In early October, the Club launched a book detailing the history of the Club. "Short Corners, Long Memories" almost went to the top of the best seller charts on [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk), but thankfully... a few copies still remain.

Stephen Swann and Jim Strange started the book project almost 2 years before it hit the shop

shelves and managed to secure enough revenue through advertisements to cover the production costs.

### EXILES

October saw a young (ish) Club team take on an old (ish) ex-members team. A gripping match saw the Exiles change their entire team 3 times - with the obvious fitness benefit! A 4-3 win for the old boys was of minor consequence. Watching Paul Acheson marauding down the left wing, Wilson Archbold thundering the ball out of defence and Maurice Forsythe "rolling" on to the pitch ensured a spectacle that may never be repeated.



### DINNER

The final event of the year was a great success. Almost 130 people turned up in all their finery to the Dunadry Hotel & Country Club for a Centenary Dinner-Dance. Quality speeches from Messrs. Reade, Long and Acheson were performed in front of the Club's guest of honour - Dilys Stewart, the daughter of Andy Burney.



Here's looking forward to the bi-centennial celebrations!!!